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Lamorinda ShortDocs Film Fest moves event date, extends deadline

Submitted by Denise Nomura



Photo provided

Lamorinda Arts Council has extended its entry deadline to March 18 for the 3rd Annual Lamorinda ShortDocs Film Fest, which will now be held at 3 p.m. on April 15 at the Lafayette Li-

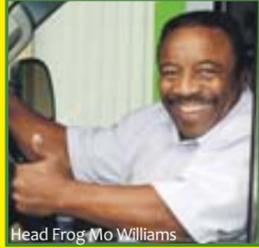
brary Community Hall.

This documentary film festival provides local filmmakers an opportunity to create new works and showcase them at a community screening.

The contest is open to anyone 5 years of age or older who lives, works or attends school in Lafayette, Moraga and Orinda, as well as Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Martinez, and Concord. Film submissions will be judged in one of four categories: elementary school, middle school, high school, and adult. One student-made film will also be selected as an Audience Favorite.

The April 15 community screening will feature selected films and accompanying award presentations. Last year's winners included "Anika's Quincinera" by elementary school student Lukacs Gero, "The Culture of Skateboarding Revealed" by middle school student Jack Nixon and "Behind the Scenes of Campolindo's 'Beauty and the Beast'" by high school student Frenel Francisco. To learn more about the Lamorinda ShortDocs Film Fest competition and to enter go to www.lamorindaarts.org/shortdocs.

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Pacific Chamber Orchestra presents 'Golden Strings,' Feb. 17-18



Pacific Chamber Orchestra concertmaster Igor Veligan Photo provided

Pacific Chamber Orchestra's upcoming concert "Golden Strings," under the direction of Maestro Lawrence Kohl, will feature Mendelssohn's very first exuberant Symphony for Strings, Samuel Barber's heartfelt Adagio for Strings, Elgar's enchanting Serenade for Strings, and Richard Strauss' lyrical Symphony for Strings Op. 2.

"From the 12-year-old Mendelssohn's very first exuberant Symphony for Strings to Samuel Barber's heartfelt Adagio for Strings; from to Elgar's enchanting Serenade for Strings to Richard Strauss' lyrical Symphony for Strings Op. 2, these works demonstrate a deep vibrancy, emotional range and incredible craftsmanship of young composers stretching beyond their teachings, discovering pure shimmering gold for us to all enjoy and profit from," says Kohl.

"It is great from time to time to focus on different sections of the orchestra. A program such as this for string orchestra enables us to further hone the unique

ter of such a fine group of musicians. I like the variety that PCO has for full orchestra and that they can also do smaller works. This is a wonderful program for the audience to enjoy and for the musicians to play," says Veligan, who currently serves as concertmaster of the San Francisco Choral Society Orchestra and Pacific Chamber Orchestra.

Veligan has been also been a guest concertmaster of the Sacramento Philharmonic and principal violist with the Reno Philharmonic. In 2013 Veligan along with pianist Natsuki Fukasawa released a CD titled "Voices of Eastern Europe" featuring violin and piano sonatas by Enescu, Skoryk and Babadjanian. Veligan is a founder and violin/viola teacher at the Young Talents Music School in Sacramento. Many of his students are winners of numerous local and state competitions.

Performances will be at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17 in the Community Hall of the Lafayette Library and Learning Center, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 18 in the Bankhead Theater in Livermore. Tickets are \$10 to \$59 and are available at www.PacificChamberOrchestra.org and additionally for Livermore at the Bankhead Box Office or online at bankheadtheater.org.

The concluding performance of PCO's season is The American Radio Hour, featuring Copland's Appalachian Spring and a premier work by Grammy Award-winning violinist Mads Tolling, April 21 in Lafayette and April 22 in Livermore.

— J. Wake

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