

The Fifth Annual Redwood Coast Whale & Jazz Festival Focuses on Women and Youth Thursday, April 5 through Sunday, April 8



In addition to the festival events held at Gualala Arts Center, this event co-produced by Gualala Arts and the Redwood "Mendonoma" Coast Chamber of Commerce, also includes "Poetry & Jazz," with guest Bay Area Poet **Q.R. Hand Jr.**, and other fine poets accompanied by a Jazz Ensemble on April 5 at Point Arena CityArt. Back by popular demand, Jazz pianist **Susan Sutton** returns to St. Orres Dining Room with jazz guitarist **Terry Simcik** for "Dinner & Jazz" on April 6. The **Tipsy Gypsy Trio**, a jazz trio with special surprise guests, rounds out the weekend with "Sunset & Jazz," Sunday, April 8 at Sea Ranch Lodge.



At the Gualala Arts Center festival fun begins on Saturday April 7, with the Fifth Annual Chowder Challenge & Jazz Concert, from 12 noon to 3 p.m. This event is fun for all ages as chefs from local restaurants and individuals vie for the title of "Best Chowder" in two categories – Traditional New England Clam the Seafood Open Class with judging by a celebrity panel, plus the "People's Choice" and "Most Tasted Chowder" voting by the attendees. There will also be a tasting of Mendocino and Sonoma County fine wines and microbrews. Returning by popular demand is **Barnebey's Hot Four** of Sonoma County playing traditional New Orleans style jazz. This formidable combo consists of **Tom Barnebey**, cornet and trombone; **Carl Lunsford**, banjo and guitar (formerly with Turk Murphy's famous S.F. band); **Marty Eagers**, string bass and ragtime piano, and **Robert Young**

on reeds and cornet. While the Hot Four jazz concert itself is free to the public, a \$20 admission fee to the Chowder Challenge event includes a Whale & Jazz Festival logo glass, plus fifteen tasting tickets. Additional tickets may be purchased separately for \$1 each.

This year, Saturday night's Main Event at Gualala Arts Center focuses on Women and Youth with the Montclair Women's Jazz Ensemble – six musicians selected from the Montclair Women's Big Band of Montclair, California. This group can play tenderly on poignant ballads and also swing mightily on blues and standards. The ensemble includes **Ellen Seeling** (director/trumpet), **Jean Fineberg** (tenor sax), **Mad Duran** (alto sax), **Lori Stotko** (piano), **Jan Martinelli** (bass), and **Mohini Rustagi** (drums). Joining the group will be jazz vocalist **Rhonda Benin** and special guest will be 11-year-old jazz flute sensation, **Elena Pinderhughes**. Festival Music Coordinator and KTDE 100.5 FM personality, **Fred Adler**, will emcee the concert. Doors open to the Jacob Foyer at 6:30 p.m. and the house opens at 7 p.m. for non-reserved, cabaret-style seating before the 7:30 p.m. curtain. Regular admission is \$30 in advance, \$35 on the day of event. Before the concert, and during intermission, fine wines and microbrews, plus the acclaimed martini bar, as well as gourmet savory and sweet *tapas* plates by Gualala Arts' Culinary Arts Guild will be served in the foyer.



Advance sale tickets for the events at Gualala Arts Center are available now. Call 707-884-1138 (MC/VI accepted) or visit local outlets: Gualala Arts Center, The Dolphin Gallery, Violet's Boutique, and Four-Eyed Frog Books. Main Event concerts usually sell out, so advance ticket purchase is highly recommended! For full details of all festival events including lineup, photos, and bios of the artists, lodging packages and more, please call the Redwood Coast Chamber of Commerce at 800-778-5252 or locally 707-884-1080 or visit the websites at GualalaArts.org or whaleandjazzfestival.com.

Chamber Music Concert by the Kirkwood Ensemble Sunday, March 18 at 4 p.m.

The Gualala Arts Chamber Music Series is pleased to present the Kirkwood Ensemble – a violin, cello, and piano trio – in a performance that is certain to delight and entertain. The concert will include Beethoven's Trio Op.1 No. 1 in E Flat Major, Dvorak's Trio Op. 65 in F Minor, and Café Music by Paul Schoenfeld. The three musicians are Dawn Harms, violin, Victoria Ehrlich, cello, and Roxanne Michaelian, piano. These three outstanding chamber-music players will bring a most-welcome early spring performance to Gualala. The Kirkwood Ensemble takes its name from the Music at Kirkwood Music Festival, a music education and training program at Kirkwood, near South Lake Tahoe, where developing musicians learn from an outstanding faculty in a beautiful Sierra setting.

Tickets are \$20 for advance purchases, or \$25 on the day of the concert. Children and young people ages 7 through 17 are admitted free. Advance tickets are available at the Gualala Arts Center or at the Dolphin Gallery in Gualala. For advance credit card purchases by telephone, call the Arts Center office at 707-884-1138. For further information visit the website GualalaArts.org. Those unable to furnish their own transportation may call the office to request rides to the concert.