

Life in LAMORINDA

You Know it's Spring When our Parks Grow Eggs!

By Lee Borrowman

... continued from page 1

Orinda will hold its annual Spring Egg Hunt on Thursday, March 29 at 11:00am in the Orinda Community Center Park. Remember to bring your own basket!

To cap the season, Lafayette's A Day of Bunny Fun will take place on Saturday, April 7, 11:00am-12:30pm.

Tickets are on sale at the Lafayette Community Center for \$7 in advance, or buy them the day of the event for \$9. For more information call 284-2232

Photos by Andy Scheck

Photos by Andy Scheck



Claire Mallela meets the Eggstravaganza Bunny



Girl Scout Laura Gustafson paints the faces of Gianna and Isabella Capozzi



Sophie Fischer pauses to check out her collection



Grandma Sandy provides a lap for tired egg-hunters Alyssa and Julia Coats

Gold Coast Chamber Players: Topics in Tempo

By Sarah Henningsen

With songs like This Is Why I'm Hot and Fergalicious currently gracing the music charts, it is rare to see high school students enamored with classical music.

The Gold Coast Chamber Players, in contrast, see the power of music everyday.

Through the new program Topics in Tempo, the Gold Coast group strives to promote and inspire an understanding of chamber music

among youth by bringing classical masterpieces to Lamorinda schools.

Pamela Freund, the artistic director, and Tony Striplen, the project developer of the Gold Coast Chamber Players, explained the focus of Topics in Tempo: "Our mission is to showcase Chamber music as a relevant art form in today's world. We want to make it accessible without watering it down, showing kids that

chamber music is not an antiquated art form. We also want to offer a lively and new spin on academic subjects in order to offer students a new way into the subject material."

The Gold Coast Chamber Players successfully debuted Topics in Tempo at Campolindo and Acalanes in early March. Prior to the presentation, students in the chorale and band departments were instructed to read and

analyze The Sunset. This revolutionary poem by Percy Bysshe Shelley forms the text of Ottorino Respighi's Il Tramonto, a piece selected from the Gold Coast's Illuminations concert on March 3rd. The next day, students discussed the poem's meaning and performed it using "Reader's Theater", a technique that actors often look to when trying to interpret an artistic piece.

Following the educational portion of Topics in Tempo, the Chamber Players performed Il Tramonto. Kendall Gladen, who is currently an Adler Fellow with the San Francisco Opera, served as the mezzo-soprano soloist for the song. Choir teacher Jim Toland commented on one of her performances: "There are about 100 boys in the class and they were so quiet you could have heard a pin drop. They were mesmerized. It was a thrill to hear her sing."

Four other instrumentalists provided the core music of Il Tramonto. Freund played viola while Robin Sharp and Julie Kim doubled as violinists for the performance. Eric Gaenslen added the low notes of the cello throughout the lengthy piece.

The introduction of Topics in Tempo was an overwhelming success. According to a post-program survey taken by all students involved, "96% of the students were either more likely to attend a chamber music concert in the future or would continue to attend as they already did."

With the Bentley private school as a new performance venue, the Gold Coast Cham-



Gold Coast Artistic Director Pamela Freund, students Jake Omick, Julian Cadotto, Libby McKenzie and Miriam Anderson perform a verse from Il Tramonto.

ber Players look forward to a new season filled with classical entertainment for the local community. On May 12th, the group will perform works ranging from Rameau to Takemitsu in a "ravishing program of enchanting and sensual music" called Magic Flute. San Francisco Opera musician Julie McKenzie will guest star as flutist for the show. The Gold Coast Cham-

ber Players will perform their Visions of America concert on June 3rd at Bentley, incorporating several pieces from the Topics in Tempo program into the show's repertoire. Tickets can be ordered in advance either through the Gold Coast website, www.gcplayers.org, or by phone through the Willows Box Office, 925-798-1300.

Are you ready for Spring?
The Shelby Sexton Salon can make you blossom!



COLOR SPECIALIST | HAIR CUT & DESIGN | EXCLUSIVE KERASTASE® TREATMENTS
WEDDING & SPECIAL EVENTS | CUSTOMIZED HAIR & MAKE-UP | HAIR EXTENSIONS
CUSTOM WIG & HAIR PIECES | THERMO HAIR RELAXING | BROW DESIGN & LASH TINT
CUSTOM & SEASONAL FACIALS | VITAMIN-INFUSED FACIALS | MASSAGE SERVICES

Mention this ad to receive a Free Kerastase® Treatment or 10% off your next cut & color!

33 LAFAYETTE CIRCLE (in La Fiesta Square), LAFAYETTE • 925.962.1900

THT
TOWN HALL THEATRE
COMPANY of Lafayette

Located at
3535 School St
Lafayette 94549
On the corner of School St
and Moraga Road
WWW.THTC.ORG

THE MADDEST COMEDY OF THEM ALL!

LEND ME A
TENOR
Ken Ludwig

"Uproarious! Hysterical!"
-USA Today

MAR 22 - APR 21
For Tickets (925) 283-1557
Box Office open 3pm - 6pm, Tuesday - Saturday



Billy Perlstein
Realtor Associate

Don't you wish all Realtors
treated their clients like Royalty?

Prudential
California Realty
51 Moraga Way
Orinda, CA 94563

billy.perlstein@prurealty.com • www.prurealty.com/theperlsteins

Call for a
FREE
Market
Analysis

383-1477