

JANUARY 2012

Holiday Strings Rang at Tualatin Heritage Center December 23rd

WRITTEN BY: JANET CREASY

Approaching the small, well-positioned Tualatin Heritage Center on Sweek Drive, I entered the ambiance with my family including Mum and Dad in tow who very much wanted to witness their granddaughter in concert. Maren Flores warmly welcomed us and showed us to our seats and I looked forward to basking in the sound of music.

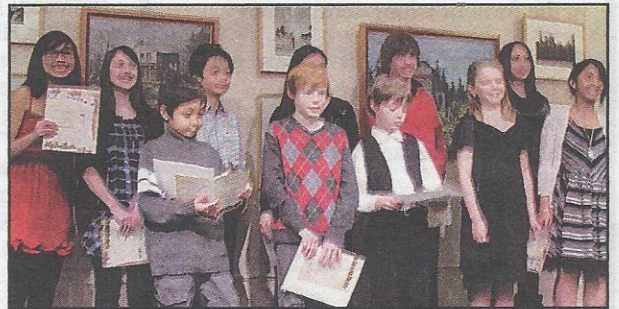
Community members gathered together to celebrate holiday sounds with strings at the Tualatin Heritage Center on December 23rd at 4pm. Comprised of youth led by Rodel Flores, a professional violinist and orchestra conductor, the recital was well received and had an air of holiday excitement and gratitude. Traditional works were played honoring Bach, Brahms, and Seitz as well as Holiday gems such as Away in a Manger, Silent Night and Deck the Halls. A special treat was the performance of Vivaldi's Winter Concerto with Rodel on the violin and his 16 year old daughter Amanda on the piano.



Among his many accolades here in the US and in his hometown of the Philippines, he is always willing to give back. This concert was one of the many ways in which he does so: providing an outlet for the students to share their growing gift to the community around them.

A model resident of change right here in our community sharing his vision. Rodel is accepting new students as well as orchestra streaming opportunities. For more information, please call go to <http://www.violinistrodelflores.com/>.

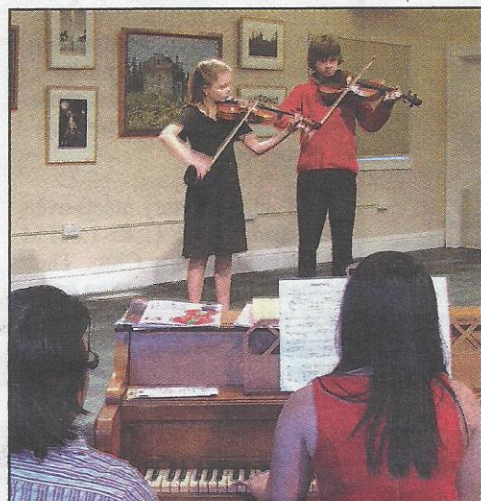
As a parent to one of these students, I often revel in what I see and hear as my daughter Ava works with Rodel. There is an air of professionalism, yes, but the fact that he truly molds his teaching to each student is evident. Often my daughter exits her weekly lessons with a smile on her face and wondering how the time flew by so quickly because the process involved much laughter and fun, all the while instilling key methods of musical learning that inspire and motivate. "My goals are to get the best of what my students can be, not only musically but as a person, to play violin at a high standard of performance and to play music true to myself and the composer's intentions," he said.



Following the performance my father in law said "Good stuff." I think that says it all.



Janet Creasy is a self employed marketing and networking professional. She lives in Lake Oswego with her husband and two kids.



Mr. Flores is an accomplished conductor and violinist who has made it his life's mission to elevate the level of string and chamber music education and performance.