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# Tribune Herald

Thursday, June 2, 2016

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## Hakalau Point on the agen

County to discuss possible purchase of 9-acre site, but owner still eyeing its deve

**By TOM CALLIS**  
*Hawaii Tribune-Herald*

Should Hawaii County  
 buy Hakalau Point?

The County Council's  
 Finance Committee will  
 get a chance to weigh in on  
 the future of the site today  
 as it considers a resolution

authorizing  
 the purchase  
 of the nearly  
 9-acre property,  
 a former home  
 to the Hakalau  
 Plantation Co.

But a deal  
 requires a willing seller.  
 Property owner Steve



**SHROPSHIRE**

Shropshire, who is mov-  
 ing forward with a planned  
 development, said he is  
 willing to part with the  
 property if the county also  
 buys 87 acres he owns in the  
 Hakalau gulch for a com-  
 bined price of \$4.25 million.

He said that price would  
 recoup money invested in

the properties and his pro-  
 posed Hakalau Plantation  
 Community development.

"I'm open-minded,"  
 Shropshire said, adding  
 he respects some Hakalau  
 residents' wish to pre-  
 serve the land as a park.

"I think everyone  
 should be allowed to

follow their dr  
 But he said  
 of money and  
 in the project,  
 like to see it th

The develop  
 include 11 hor  
 new commerc

**See HAKALA**

# Island Beat

Your weekend guide to East Hawaii

June  
02  
2016



*Theater festival*  
Celebrate Hawaiian, p2



*Color & beauty*  
Orchid show, p5

## HPAF returns

.....  
INSIDE • p6





Violinist Chee-Yun performs with students.

Courtesy photos



A singer practices during a voice lesson.



Stephen Sondheim's "Into the Woods" wrapped up the 2015 HPAF season.

# Gifted & talented

## Hawaii Performing Arts Festival returns with stellar lineup

By **KATIE YOUNG YAMANAKA**  
Special to the *Tribune-Herald*

The stage is set for the nostalgic hits of Frank Sinatra and Judy Garland, arias from famous operas, lively cabaret, masterful musical theater and chamber music like you've never heard before — all part of the 2016 Hawaii Performing Arts Festival.

Each summer, HPAF selects a group of aspiring musicians from around the world to participate in this monthlong study and performance program on the Big Island with accomplished professional performers, directors and teachers.

The Big Island community gets to enjoy the product of this intensive study through a multitude of special events and

concerts during the month of July.

Now in its 12th season, this year's HPAF runs from July 1-31 and will feature at least 25 concerts throughout Hawaii Island at nearly a dozen different venues, including two new events at the Palace Theater in Hilo.

Many concerts sell out and several events are free of charge, making the festival accessible to everyone.

"We have such a diverse schedule for the month," HPAF executive director Genette Freeman says. "Our very first performance, 'An Evening at the Stork Club,' is an original production we wrote. It's a little different from most of what we do."

Adds HPAF artistic director Val Underwood, "The Stork Club was the consummate New York nightclub from the '30s through the '60s. All the big nightclub

singers would perform there. We are creating the same atmosphere with this event, featuring great American songs from singers like Frank Sinatra and Judy Garland."

The performers are singers who used to be HPAF students and have gone on to pursue professional careers. Guests are encouraged to dress up in 1940s or 1950s style, Underwood says, to add to the "supper club theater atmosphere."

Another popular event is "Opera on the Rocks" at the Hapuna Prince Hotel.

"At this event, we perform a sampler of some of the most well-known operatic arias in the world," Freeman says.

"Opera on the Rocks" brings opera into a less formal setting, explains Underwood.

See HPAF Page 8



Courtesy photo

Students from the 2015 Junior Strings shown with instructors.

## HPAF From page 7

Opera lovers enjoy it, but so do those who have never experienced opera before.

"People can drink and have a good time and enjoy some great moments from opera in a fun setting," he says. "We do arias that people will be familiar with or have heard of before."

Though these two west side events are well-attended, Underwood says a lot of people have been asking HPAF to expand to the Hilo area.

"This summer, we are making a big effort to do that," he says.

Explains Freeman, "We've always done one concert in Hilo at the Palace Theater, but this year we will present a string concert, an opera ('The Marriage of Figaro') and a musical ('A Little Night Music')."

"Strings at the Hilo Palace," featuring Hawaii Symphony Orchestra

concertmaster Iggy Jang, renowned violinist Chee-Yun, Hilo's own Quack Moore and friends will take place at 7 p.m. July 16.

"As a former violinist myself, I am always excited to have the Hawaii Performing Arts string program at the Palace," says Morgen Bahurinsky, Palace Theater executive director. "Iggy Jang and Chee-Yun are both world-class violinists. Hearing them perform on our stage each year is thrilling for the audience. Quack Moore joins them every year to show off her classical talents on the grand piano that we would otherwise not experience."

"The Marriage of Figaro" opera is at 7 p.m. July 17 and "A Little Night Music," a 1977 musical by Stephen Sondheim, will be presented July 29. Both events are at the Palace Theater. "I think expanding HPAF

programs to offer a taste of opera and other classical music favorites is an excellent way to introduce more people to the type of music we rarely hear in Hilo," Bahurinsky says. "I especially hope their outreach brings in the younger members of our community to introduce them to the beauty of classical music instruments and the timeless thrill of operas performed around the world for centuries. All kinds of musical exposure is so vital to young minds."

Freeman says because HPAF is based in Waimea, staging events in Hilo previously has been difficult.

"It's been daunting to move an entire production from Waimea to Hilo, but I think we've figured it out this year," she says. "We're really excited to bring the Hilo audience out. We've priced our tickets really low. I don't know anywhere else

in the world you can see an opera for \$10. We're just really hoping to make some new friends and expose a lot of people to this quality classical music we present."

Freeman says the festival chooses performances that are well-known, and the "Marriage of Figaro" is one of the top three most popular and most performed operas in the world.

"Our expansion to Hilo is an important factor this year," Underwood says. "It shows that we're growing in many ways. Not only is our geographic outreach growing, but we are also starting to attract people to the island from the mainland for the festival because they can combine a Hawaiian vacation with a performing arts experience."

HPAF has grown into a unique

See HPAF Page 9

**HPAF** From page 8

opportunity for professionals and aspiring musicians alike to learn from and perform alongside top artists in their field.

Students from all over the world are coached as they prepare to participate in HPAF's series of master classes, concerts, recitals and staged productions.

These talented young musicians and singers from the U.S., Canada, Asia, Africa, South America, Europe and Hawaii gather to study and perform with professionals in their field.

"These young professional artists come from all over the world so we find roles that will help their career and give them that performing arts experience," says Freeman of how productions are chosen each year.

"In school, maybe they get to perform once a year. There's nothing like experience in this world. This is why we have so many events in a short time — there is a certain quality for the performers in immersing themselves in it. They come to HPAF and eat, breathe and sleep music. It's intensive, and it produces some amazing results."

Audiences get to see not only these exciting new talents, but also enjoy performances by professional musicians as well.

"The star of our festival is the amazing violinist Chee-Yun," Freeman says.

"She's beautiful,

A choir rehearses.

Courtesy photos



extremely talented and virtuosic. She plays with orchestras and festivals all over the world.

"She attracts a lot of people to the festival along with Iggy Jang, concertmaster for the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra."

With HPAF's extensive lineup, there is an event for every audience.

"There are several events that are good for kids," Freeman adds.

"They always enjoy the string concerts and the opera 'L'enfant et les sortilèges' (The Child and the Spells) is a short introduction into the world of opera for younger ones. We're not all about being stuffy or stuck up. If you don't have a lot of money, come to some

of our free events. Just come as you are and expose yourself to music that's a little different."

No matter if you attend one event or all of them, Underwood promises a good time.

"People who come to our programs who have never been to a classical music production before end up coming back year after year," he says. "What we do is exciting. Seeing it in these small venues is also exciting instead of being in a massive theater. This way, it's up close and personal."

**SCHEDULE**

• For a complete Hawaii Performing Arts schedule, see page 11.



Iggy Jang conducts a performance.

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 Directed by: **Andrew Wakefield**

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*SF Chronicle: "It's a passionate advocate for its viewpoint, and that makes for compelling viewing."*

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# Hawaii Performing Arts Festival Schedule of Events

## "An Evening at the Stork Club"

7 p.m. July 1, Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel Coast Grille. This event features nostalgic hits in a 1940s nightclub setting. Cash bar and dinner/pupu available for purchase. Tickets are \$65.

## "The Art of Song I"

7 p.m. July 6, HPA Davies Chapel in Waimea. The "Marriage of Figaro" cast presents an evening of art song masterpieces. Free.

## Great Performances at Davies Chapel

7 p.m. July 8, HPA Davies Chapel in Waimea. HPAF's faculty of renowned performers are featured in this concert of opera and chamber music. Free.

## Chee-Yun and Friends

2 p.m. July 9, Four Seasons Resort Hualalai Ballroom. Chee-Yun and Friends will perform Vivaldi's "Four Seasons." Tickets are \$65 general admission; \$100 ticket includes reserved upfront seating, plus meet and greet at Keolu at Hualalai post-concert, Q&A with Chee-Yun and Iggy Jang. Pupu and wine included. Limited to 75 reserved seats.

## HPAF Strings

12:30 p.m. July 10, United Methodist Church in Honokaa. Iggy Jang brings his string program to perform in concert. Free.

## "Opera on the Rocks"

4 p.m. July 10, Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel's Coast Grille. HPAF is taking opera



"An Evening at the Stork Club."

Photo: SARAH ANDERSON

out of the opera house and into the bar. Hear your favorite arias in this fun and casual setting. Tickets are \$65 general admission, cash bar and pupu are available for purchase.

## HPAF Jr. Strings, "Short and Sweet"

12:30 p.m. July 12, St. James Episcopal Church in Waimea. HPAF's youngest students perform in this midday concert that is a favorite year after year.

## "The Art of Song II"

7 p.m. July 12, HPA Davies Chapel in Waimea. The cast of "L'enfant et les sortilèges" (The Child and the Spells) presents an evening of art song masterpieces. Free.

## "Le Nozze di Figaro"

(The Marriage of Figaro) by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
7 p.m. July 13 and 15, HPA campus in Waimea; and 7 p.m. July 14, Palace Theater in Hilo. One of the most popular, most performed operas of all time hits the stage in three performances in two Big Island locales. Waimea shows are \$25 general admission; the Hilo performance is \$15 at the box office.

## HPAF Strings with Gary Washburn

7 p.m. July 14, People's Theatre in Honokaa. Local and international artists collaborate in an evening of classical and jazz music. Tickets are \$25 general admission.

## Strings at the Hilo Palace with Quack Moore

7 p.m. July 16, Palace Theater. Iggy Jang, Quack Moore and friends, featuring Chee-Yun, will perform Vivaldi's timeless "Four Seasons." Tickets are \$20 through the HPAF website or through the Palace Theater box office, 934-7010.

## "Le Nozze di Figaro"

(The Marriage of Figaro) at the Palace  
7 p.m. July 17, Palace Theater in Hilo. One of the most popular, most performed operas of all time by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is coming to the Hilo stage. Tickets are \$10 through the HPAF website or through the Palace Theater box office, 934-7010.

## "L'enfant et les sortilèges"

(The Child and the Spells)  
7 p.m. July 21 and 22, HPA Davies Chapel in Waimea, and 4 p.m. July 24, Sheraton Keauhou in

South Kona. Maurice Ravel's phantasmagorical opera captures the experience of an impish youth whose toys spring to life. Waimea performances are free to the public. Sheraton Keauhou tickets are \$40 upfront seating, \$25 general admission, kids 11 and younger are free.

## Blue Dragon Cabaret with Phil Kadet

7 p.m. July 19, Blue Dragon Restaurant and Coastal Cuisine in Waimea. New York City and Paris-based pianist Phil Kadet showcases the cast from "A Little Night Music" in a lively performance. Tickets are \$50 general admission. Cash bar and dinner are available for purchase.

## Iggy, Chee-Yun and Friends

7:30 p.m. July 22 at the Doris Duke Theater at the Honolulu Museum of Art. HPAF Strings extend its musical experience to Honolulu audiences at this performance. Tickets are \$25 through the Doris Duke Theater.

Call 532-8768 or

purchase tickets at the door on the day of the performance.

## "A Little Night Music"

7:30 p.m. July 29, Palace Theater in Hilo. On a magical midsummer night, lovers old and new are swept up in a dizzying whirl of romance in Stephen Sondheim's 1977 musical that includes the popular song, "Send in the Clowns." Tickets are \$10, available at the HPAF website or through the Palace Theater box office, 934-7010.

## "A Little Night Music"

2 p.m. July 31, Kahilu Theater in Waimea. On a magical midsummer night, lovers old and new are swept up in a dizzying whirl of romance in Stephen Sondheim's 1977 musical that includes the popular song, "Send in the Clowns." Tickets are \$10-\$40, available at the Kahilu Theater box office, 885-8688 or at [www.kahilutheatre.org](http://www.kahilutheatre.org).

For more information, visit the HPAF website at [www.hawaiiperformingartsfestival.org](http://www.hawaiiperformingartsfestival.org).

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Val Underwood Artistic Director		JULY 2016						RED = free admission
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
							<b>An Evening at the Stork Club</b> 7 pm. Hapuna Prince Hotel, Coast Grille Kohala Coast	
	HOLIDAY		<b>The Art of Song</b> 7 pm Davies Chapel HPA campus Waimea		<b>Great Performances</b> 7 pm Davies Chapel HPA campus Waimea	<b>An Evening at the Stork Club</b> 7 pm Palace Theater Hilo		
<b>HPAF Strings</b> 12:30 pm, UM Church, Honoka'a  <b>Opera on the Rocks</b> 4 pm, Hapuna Prince, Coast Grille Kohala Coast		<b>HPAF Jr Strings</b> 12:30 pm, St James Church, Waimea  <b>The Art of Song II</b> 7 pm Davies Chapel HPA campus Waimea	<b>The Marriage of Figaro</b> 7 pm, Gates Center HPA campus Waimea	<b>HPAF Strings with Gary Washburn</b> 7 pm People's Theater Honoka'a	<b>The Marriage of Figaro</b> 7 pm, Gates Center HPA campus Waimea	<b>Strings at the Hilo Palace Theatre</b> with Iggy Jang, Quack Moore and friends 7 pm, Hilo		
<b>The Marriage of Figaro</b> 7 pm Palace Theater, Hilo  <b>String Finale</b> 2 pm Davies Chapel HPA campus Waimea		<b>Blue Dragon Cabaret with Phil Kadet</b> 7 pm Kawaihae		<b>L'Enfant et les sortilèges</b> 7 pm Davies Chapel HPA campus Waimea	<b>L'Enfant et les sortilèges</b> 7 pm Davies Chapel HPA Campus Waimea  <b>Chee-Yun &amp; Friends Honolulu</b>			
<b>L'Enfant et les sortilèges</b> 4 pm Sheraton Keauhou Kona					<b>A Little Night Music</b> 7:30 pm Palace Theater, Hilo			
<b>A Little Night Music</b> 2 pm Kahilu Theater Waimea								

For details and tickets, go to: [HawaiiPerformingArtsFestival.org](http://HawaiiPerformingArtsFestival.org)  
or phone: (808) 333-7378