

Redlands Bowl announces Summer Music Festival lineup

By Michel Nolan , The Sun



Fireworks finale featuring the Redlands Symphony Orchestra at the Redlands Bowl. File photo

Afro-Colombian group Herencia di Timbiqui performs at the Redlands Bowl Aug. 2. Courtesy photo

It must be spring fever.

Although we need the rain, we're already wanting to do summer things — like spending an evening under the stars, enjoying an awesome show at the Redlands Bowl.

The venerable Bowl, now in its 93rd summer season, is at the heart of Redlands, bringing a kaleidoscope of world-class performing arts to local audiences.

This year's entertainment is no exception. The eclectic series of performances ranges from the hang-onto-your seats Rhythmic Circus to the Big Band music of Benny Goodman; from award-winning trumpeter/vocalist Bria Skonberg to Broadway favorite "Oklahoma!," the summer's musical production.

Nathan Prince, who directs and co-produces the show with Steve Simons, is excited about "Oklahoma!" and looking forward to bringing the location and time period of the musical to the Bowl.



“We want people to come and be transported back to the time when people lived simply — with values and love for family,” said Price.

The musical often sets the energy for the season, said Executive Director Beverly Noerr.

“Every season is our best — it’s my favorite when I’m in it,” Noerr said.

For 2016, the Redlands Bowl Summer Music Festival has again stayed true to its mission — presenting top-notch international talent while staying classically based.

This summer will feature three symphony performances conducted by Maestro Frank Paul Fetta,

The season begins June 24 and runs Tuesdays, Fridays and selected other dates through Aug. 19.

“We want the Bowl presenting beautiful music for generations to come,” said Jan Hudson, board president of the Redlands Community Music Association, presenters of the Redlands Bowl.

“While we preserve our history, we also look ahead to be more forward-thinking,” said Hudson, who is starting her second year as president.

“The generations mean a lot to me — young people on dates, families with young children, seniors enjoying the nostalgia,” she said. “I have a passion for the Bowl and the community.”

The Redlands Community Music Association announced the 2016 season Thursday night during its annual dinner at the Redlands Country Club.

Once again, the dinner and entertainment were extraordinary.

Young vocalists Emily Lopez, Tai Dooley, Jordan Goodsell and Johnny Fletcher sang a selection of songs from Rodgers and Hammerstein, wowing the audience.

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And then we met this year’s “Heroes of the Arts,” Jeff Apmadoc and Ken Tuttle, who received the prestigious award in appreciation for their years of musical contributions in the community as teachers and longtime supporters of the arts.

This year’s season opens with Maestro Fetta conducting the San Bernardino Symphony in a “Gershwin Spectacular” June 24, with Winners of the 2016 Young Artists Auditions performing June 28, followed by the Navy Band Southwest July 1.

Other performances include:

- July 8: “An Evening of Bernstein & Sondheim” with Frank Fetta
- July 12: “A Tribute to Benny Goodman Live at Carnegie Hall”
- July 15-16: Rhythmic Circus, funk band
- July 19: M-Pact, a cappella group
- July 22: Redlands Symphony, “Strings with Zing”
- July 26: “Oklahoma!” dress rehearsal
- July 28, 29, 30, 31: Musical, “Oklahoma!” produced and directed by Nathan Prince and Steve Simons

- Aug. 2: Herencia di Timbiqui, Afro-Colombian band
- Aug. 5: James Garner's Tribute to Johnny Cash
- Aug. 9: Bria Skonberg, trumpeter/singer
- Aug. 12: Evening of Opera
- Aug. 16: Kahulanui, Grammy Award nominees, traditional Hawaiian music and Big Band Swing
- Aug. 19: Redlands Symphony: Symphonic Fireworks finale

Shows are at 8 p.m. Tuesday and Friday evenings with selected Saturdays and Sundays.

In keeping with founder Grace Stewart Mullen's vision, no admission is ever charged for performances. A freewill donation is taken at intermission.

We're going to need at least another 93 years of the Bowl.