

## Free concert to feature young tenors, popular classics



Courtesy photo

"Romanza — The Art of the Tenor" will feature tenors Philip Grant, Todd Jang and Frederik Robert, who will perform at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday at the Gallup High School

By Independent staff

**G**ALLUP — Three young Canadian tenors will perform beloved music from opera, musical theater, and film in a free Gallup Community Concert Association show this week.

"Romanza — The Art of the Tenor" will feature tenors Philip Grant, Todd Jang and Frederik Robert, who will perform at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday at the Gallup High School Kenneth Holloway Performing Arts Center. The public is invited to attend this free concert, which is being underwritten by the Gallup Independent.

Classically trained, the group members' aim is to make classical music more accessible through Romanza's contemporary, upbeat vision. Their repertoire includes popular opera arias, songs from musical

theater, love ballads, pop classics, and Canadian folk songs. With masterful harmonies, the trio sings original arrangements of favorites such as "O Sole Mio," "Nella Fanatasia," "La Donna e Mobile" from "Rigoletto," "Danny Boy," "Granada," "The Impossible Dream" and "Because."

Philip Grant, known for his rich vocal tone and dedication to excellent musicianship, has performed with the Vancouver Opera, Vancouver Philharmonic, and the Prince George Symphony. Todd Jang, originally from Liverpool, England, has performed roles with opera companies across Canada including Vancouver Opera, Calgary Opera, and Edmonton Opera. Frederik Robert, versatile in opera, oratorio, recital work, musical theater and pop, has sung with many companies

across Canada.

Romanza will be accompanied by Emma Rustan on piano, Natalia Zielinski on violin, and Matthew Mobley on double bass.

Two concerts remain in the Gallup Community Concert Association's 2008-2009 series. The concert Feb. 19 will feature Robert Post, a brilliant physical comedian with a theatrical mind. On May 5 the Synergy Brass Quintet will perform works by Handel, Dvorak, Gershwin, Copeland, and Prokofiev. Season tickets for these concerts may be purchased at the door on Thursday or at each concert. An adult membership of \$40 may be shared for up to five admissions and used as well at the Southwest Colorado Concert Association in Cortez, Colo.

Information: 863-3075 or 722-5413.

## Curfew can't cool rockabilly revelry

By Karen Francis  
Diné Bureau

**W**INDOW ROCK — It was two days of straight up rock 'n' roll in Window Rock on Wednesday and Thursday when rockabilly/psychobilly bands All Hallows Eve, Kats of Horror, 12 Step Rebels and headliners The Koffin Kats came to town for Rancid Savage's Devil's Nite show at Day Custom garage.

While the show was shut down on Wednesday night before the headliners could play even one song, the mighty Koffin Kats played a special free show at noon Thursday before heading out to Phoenix to continue their national tour.

Though The Koffin Kats have had some vehicle problems in Florida and Montana, each agreed that the tour has been going very well. The Kats' tour van was getting its tires fixed at the garage before making the trip to Phoenix.

"We know they're next to go," guitarist Tommy Koffin said.

Another thing that each agreed on is that Window Rock fans are "awesome." This is the second time that the Kats — which includes Vic Victor on electrified double bass and lead vox, Koffin on strings and vox, and Eric Walls on drums — have played here.

"Amazing. That's why we felt so bad last night when we got shut down," Koffin said Thursday afternoon. "That's why we gotta do something."

For Victor, he said "It's crazy, it's awesome, it's great. I wish kids were this into everywhere we go. It's awesome to see all the enthusiasm. That's why we like coming back."

"We were so excited last night, and the curfew thing took place. But we were like we can't let these kids down. We gotta come back and make up for it somehow," Victor added.

"You can't ask for a better audience," Walls said.

Before the show was shut down, the atmosphere and music were perfect for Halloween. It's what the rockabilly tunes were meant for — ghoulish costumes and a whole lot of fun.

Though the air was cold on Wednesday night, the audience was fired up from the start — many were dressed up for the costume contest. Cool hair was almost a prerequisite, with the guys sporting greased up 'dos and the girls with multi-hued locks.

As the night progressed, each song was greeted by louder cheers as fans geared up for The Kats.

While the headliners didn't get to play Wednesday night, the opening bands were well worth the admission fee. New Mexico's own 12 Step Rebels, the last band to perform that night, played a song called "Auto Shop Rockin'," which fit the venue.



Cable Hoover/Independent

Another song — "Sleepy Hollow" — brought out the Halloween spirit even more. With the faster songs, the audience indulged in a little slam dancing.

The high spirits of the crowd caused the lead singer of 12 Step Rebels to say to the fans, Las Vegas is probably a cool city and all but they probably don't rock like you!" The Rebels were of course playing Sin City the very next day.

Another song played by the Rebels was "Til Death Do Us Part." One of the last songs the rockin' band played it dedicated to The Koffin Kats, "because they are cat people and we are dog people!"

And what rockabilly band could go without covering a song from the great Johnny Cash? 12 Step Rebels closed its set with an encore performance covering Cash's "Delia's Gone."

On Thursday afternoon, fans and families dropped by during lunch to see The Koffin Kats too-cool-for-school free performance. Beginning at 12:20 p.m., the Kats played an hour-long set for an audience of about 60 people.

The Kats' macabre lyrics once again brought out the Halloween mood, even if it was blindingly sunny. Victor's tattoo along his abdomen proclaimed "Partytime" and it soon was as the Kats played song after song to cheers from the fans.

Despite the hot sun beating down on them, it was obvious that the guys were having fun and enjoyed playing for the Window Rock crowd. They had high energy during the performance. Victor lifted his silver bass over his head a number of times, at one time even holding it with one hand and playing at the same time. Now that's a performance.

The song "Hit List" got the crowd moving. Other songs the Kats played were "If I



Cable Hoover/Independent

**TOP:** The band The Koffin Kats perform at Day Customs, Thursday, in Window Rock. The band returned for an afternoon show after their Wednesday night concert was shut down by the Navajo Nation Police. **ABOVE:** The 12 Step Rebels perform for a cheering crowd Wednesday night at Day Customs.

Return," "Bad Apple," and "Koffin Kat Rock." For "Public Suicide," Koffin and Victor traded instruments and rocked it.

With a final lift of Victor's bass, the show was over and The Kats said they will be back to Window Rock again.

### Local music calendar

#### Saturday

■ **Gallup, 7-9 p.m.:** Coal Street Blues Band, Coal Street Pub, 303 W. Coal; Info: (505) 722-0117.

■ **Gallup, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.:** Country Western Dance; The dance will feature the music of The Thunders and a Halloween costume contest.; Held at Yazzie's Activity Hall, located on Crestview Road.

#### Thursday

■ **Gallup, 7-9 p.m.:** Pat Burnham ... Spinning smooth vinyl mixes, Coal Street Pub, 303 W. Coal; Info: (505) 722-0117.

#### Friday

■ **Gallup, 7-9 p.m.:** Jennifer Feddes ... sings Nora James, Alicia Keys, Coal Street Pub, 303 W. Coal; Info: (505) 722-0117.

#### Nov. 8

■ **Gallup, 7-9 p.m.:** Mother Road Strings Band ... roots music at its best, Coal Street Pub, 303 W. Coal; Info: (505) 722-0117.

## Red Rock String Ensemble to present free classical concert

By Elizabeth Hardin-Burrola  
Staff writer

**G**ALLUP — The music of Schubert, Mozart, and Schumann will be featured in a free concert this week.

The Red Rock String Ensemble and Friends will perform in concert at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 7, at the First United Methodist Church, 1800 Red Rock Drive.

The Red Rock String Ensemble was formed several years ago by classically trained local musicians who were interested in providing concerts for the Gallup community. Members of the ensemble have changed through the

years as musicians have moved in and out of the community. Current members include Bill Krzymowski (violin, viola), Susie Fronterotta (violin), Tara Lucio (violin), Heather Haveman (viola), Doug Mason (cello), Kathy Mezoff (harpichord), and Erin Black (piano).

Guest musicians for Friday's concert will include Luis Alberto (violin), Mario Marcal (violin), Edward Haskins (cello), Russ Woods (horn), Lindsay Mapes (flute), and Mark Woestehoff (guitar). Alberto, Marcal, and Haskins are graduate students at the University of New Mexico. Woods is a band teacher in Raton; Black, a local elementary school teacher, has a degree in sacred music; and

Woestehoff, who has a master's degree in guitar, is the vice principal at Wingate High School.

The concert program will feature "Canon and Gigue in D major" by Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706), "Quartet for flute, guitar, viola and cello" by Franz Schubert (1797-1828), "Quintet for horn and strings in E flat major, K.407" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791), and "Piano Quartet in E flat major, Op. 47" by Robert Schumann (1810-1856).

The public is invited to attend the free concert, which is being underwritten the Rosebrough Law Firm, Dr. Dean Yannias, Dr. Eileen Biunno, and Gallup Vision Source.