



A New Beginning Day of the Dead

Page 40



Science elective debuts at Newark Junior High

Page 14



All aboard the Haunted Railroad

Page 39

What's Happening

TRI-CITY VOICE

SERVING FREMONT, HAYWARD, MILPITAS, NEWARK, SUNOL AND UNION CITY

"Accurate, Fair & Honest"

The newspaper for the new millennium

510-494-1999

tricityvoice@aol.com

www.tricityvoice.com

October 15, 2013

Vol. 12 No. 42

Fremont Symphony Orchestra launches 50th season

SUBMITTED BY LEE FOSTER

When the Fremont Symphony opens its 50th Season on October 19th, there will be more to celebrate than a golden anniversary. It will be a celebration of the diversity of a community that united to save the orchestra they call their own.

Throughout the previous year at Fremont Symphony, Resident Conductor and Music Director Gregory Van Sudmeier along with Executive Director Lee Foster took time to meet with the many patrons, schools, donors and diverse community groups of Fremont and listen to what they wanted out of their own professional symphony orchestra.

"The 49th season was a year for asking questions and figuring out who we were and determining the relevance of who we wanted to be, and what the community wanted us to be," says Executive Director Lee Foster.

"We continued to ask the community what they were most proud of. We were particularly moved by the answers that we heard, one being this idea of unity. Time after time people told us how diverse Fremont truly is. It was always said with such a sense of pride,



which is why we decided to call the first concert of the season World Tour: Unity to celebrate our 50th season and the diversity and unity of Fremont." Armed with this new knowledge and the true orchestral voice of Fremont in their minds, Sudmeier and Foster open the season with something the people wanted to see, a one-night-only performance about unity.

"The one thing that will heal our world is the celebration of what unifies us. There is nothing quite like joining together to experience the amazing power and incredible beauty in symphonic music, a beauty that demonstrates the true unity of the human spirit," says Sudmeier. "Hearing music from so many countries all in one concert is a testimony to the fact that we all share the spark of creativity and are indeed one in spirit."

When asked about what drove Sudmeier to pair such unique artists as Hecheng Liu with Hillbarn Theatre's Ragtime chorus or the beauty of Tchaikovsky, he replied with a smile, "A Chinese prairie song from Outer Mongolia can be surprisingly similar to the emotional brilliance of Italian master Giacomo Puccini. The global human struggles for equality can be represented in the American musical 'Ragtime,' and the eternal hope for a time when loving equality is finally realized as expressed in monumental Russian music."

Sudmeier is no stranger to the many different genres of music. From his beginnings as a conductor at Chabot College, Sudmeier has covered the gamut of music knowledge, working not only with symphony orchestra but also with Skywalker Sound, multi-plat-

continued on page 6