

PRESS RELEASE

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RE: Sunriver Music Festival

PHOTO: Photos available

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## Maestro Michael Gesme Brings Educational and Entertaining Music Appreciation Classes to Sunriver

Central Oregon Symphony's Maestro Michael Gesme returns to Sunriver again this fall to teach four music appreciation classes. The Sunriver Music Festival and the Friends of the Sunriver Library are jointly hosting these classes as a community outreach for music lovers of all ages.

Maestro Gesme's educational and entertaining classes will present the **Elements of Music** including Sound, Harmony, Melody, Rhythm and Form and how these elements shape our music today and throughout history.

The four classes will be held on Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm on October 7, October 14, October 21 and October 28. Each class includes outlined discussion, music samples and enlightening stories.

The class topics will include information on what is musical sound and the sonic concepts behind different instruments and their varied color; the nature and development of melody (the tune), harmony (the accompaniment) and rhythm throughout music history; and the formal aspects of music, (i.e. how music is put together to form the pieces that we listen to). All of these elements of music can be used to describe any kind of music, not just classical, and thus there is something for everyone regardless of your musical tastes!

"This is the fourth year that we have offered music appreciation classes taught by Michael Gesme," explains Pam Beezley of the Sunriver Music Festival. "Last year, each class was completely full. We were amazed by the number of Sunriver and Bend residents, music students, and music teachers that attended each class."

### Sunriver Music Festival Music Appreciation Classes

Taught by: Maestro Michael Gesme  
COCC Associate Professor of Fine Arts /  
Central Oregon Symphony's Artistic  
Director and Conductor

Dates: Wed - Oct 7, 14, 21, 28

Time: 6:00pm - 7:30pm

Location: Sunriver Library

*Classes are free and open to the public.  
Donations are requested.*

Pam Beezley adds, "Michael is very knowledgeable about this material and has a fun, witty sense of humor. Each class was packed with great information. The class time just flew and we all left the classes gaining more knowledge about music history, composers and styles, with a number of funny stories inserted throughout the class."

In addition to Maestro Gesme's leadership as the Artistic Director and Conductor of the Central Oregon Symphony, he is an Associate Professor in the Fine Arts Department at Central Oregon Community College teaching Music Theory and Understanding Music. He also serves as Music Director and Conductor of the Linfield Chamber Orchestra in McMinnville, Oregon. Michael Gesme received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, where he founded the Luther College Chamber Orchestra, and a Masters of Music Degree in Orchestral Conducting from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Michael and his wife, Janet, are involved in a number of music education programs and donate hours of time to the arts community.

These free evening classes will be offered on Wednesday evenings at the Sunriver Library starting October 7 and running through October 28.

Time: Wed evenings @ 6:00pm - 7:30pm

Dates: Oct 7, 14, 21, 28

Location: Sunriver Library

Classes are free and open to the public. Donations are requested to cover Maestro Gesme's costs.

For more information about these classes, upcoming concert tickets or Sunriver Music Festival membership, call the Sunriver Music Festival Ticket Office at 541-593-9310 or email at [tickets@sunrivermusic.org](mailto:tickets@sunrivermusic.org). Concert and membership information are also available at [www.sunrivermusic.org](http://www.sunrivermusic.org).