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'Women in Music' Day made official

By Pippa Fisher



Lafayette Mayor Mike Anderson and Pam Freund-Striplen. Photo Pippa Fisher

The Lafayette City Council enjoyed a short musical treat from Pam Freund-Striplen on Monday, Feb. 27 as she gave a brief preview from "Threads", her upcoming concerts with the Gold Coast Chamber Players, which features female composers throughout history.

Mayor Mike Anderson recognized Striplen and the Gold Coast Players for all their efforts since they were formed back in 1999.

Originally playing in private homes the group gradually expanded to venues throughout Contra Costa County. The chamber group feature internationally renowned musicians and draws many of its core members from the San Francisco Symphony, Opera and Ballet Orchestras. Currently they consider the Lafayette Library and Learning Center to be home.

"Threads" is a vibrant program inspired by Susan Groag Bell, a historian in women's studies and an advocate for gender equality. The council recognized the concept behind "Threads" which they said would bring the issue of gender equality onto the concert stage, presenting music by women who had to breakthrough societal prejudices of their appropriate roles to create music that has left a major imprint on their time in history.

The council also recognized the Players for nearly two decades of educational outreach work within the Lamorinda public schools.

Awarding Striplen the proclamation, Anderson declared on behalf of the Lafayette City Council, March 5, 2017 to be "Women in Music Day" in the city of Lafayette.

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