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**You're invited**  
**Holiday Lunch**

Thursday, Dec. 15, 12-1:30 p.m.  
at Ucluelet Community Centre

door prizes  
delicious food  
good conversation

Event hosted by Westcoast Community Resources Society with help from several local volunteers and businesses  
Sponsored by Ucluelet Co-Op



You're at home here.

**CO-OP**

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**LIVE CHRISTMAS TREES**

5 FT -	\$45.00
6 FT -	\$54.00
7 FT -	\$63.00
8 FT -	\$72.00

GINGERBREAD HOUSE KIT 17.99

We've got everything you need to get into the spirit. LIVE TREES, Gingerbread houses, advent calendars, and poinsettias, oh my!!

ENTERTAINMENT



Young performers from across the West Coast are excited to delight audiences again as the West Coast Glee program is ready for its first live productions since 2019. (Westerly file photo)

# Glee program ready for triumphant return

ANDREW BAILEY  
andrew.bailey@westerlynews.ca

The West Coast's Glee Kids are set to rock a live audience for the first time since 2019.

Courtney Johnson co-founded the Glee program in 2012 and said she was thrilled to see the community's enthusiasm had not wilted during the COVID-19 hiatus. In fact, absence seems to have made local hearts grow even fonder of the program.

"We didn't know if it would ever come back. I didn't know if there would be an interest when we decided to do it again," Johnson told the Westerly News. "I spent 2.5 years of my life wondering if this was something I could ever do again or if the interest was lost and the fact that the interest was overwhelming makes me so happy that it actually moves me to tears when I think about it."

Over 50 kids from ages 5-14 will be performing Johnson's original script, *How The Grinch Stole The Nightmare before Christmas* on Dec. 9 and Dec. 10 at the Ucluelet Community Centre. Doors open at 6 p.m. both nights with the shows starting at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are available in advance at Image West Gallery in Ucluelet and will be available at the door.

"It's taking two classics and mashing them together. It's Halloween and Christmas. What's not to like?" Johnson said. "For The characters of Halloween Town and the Characters of Christmas Town, everything's become too commercialized, so Cindy Lou from Christmas Town and Sally from Halloween Town end up meeting up and teaching their friends the true meaning of the holidays."

Johnson said audiences will be amazed by the West Coast's young, local talent.

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**Notice of Annual General Meeting**

**PACIFIC RIM FISH AND GAME**

Saturday, December 3rd, 2022

Call to order at 11:00 am

Pacific Rim Fish and Game Rifle Range

Agenda items include:

- Presentation of financial statements
- Election of directors

All members are encouraged to attend

Refreshments will be provided | Fun Shoot to follow meeting  
Bring your rifles and ammo

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## FEATURED EVENT OF THE WEEK



### JINGLE OUTDOOR MARKET Friday, Dec. 2 from 4pm to 9pm

Local artisans will be selling their hand-made creations, everything from jewelry, paintings, candles, photographs, clothing, baking, preserves – and all in time for the holidays! Come mingle with the locals and cap off your Jingle Into Christmas weekend at this festive craft fair! Location: Parking lot of Clayoquot Community Theatre.

## WHAT'S ON

### EVENTS

#### FRI. DEC. 2

◆ **JINGLE INTO CHRISTMAS:** Join in this fun Tofino holiday tradition, rain or shine: it's Jingle into Christmas! Walk the beaches, then walk around town and meet Tofino merchants and entrepreneurs. Participating shops stay open late.

#### SUN. DEC. 4

◆ **ECSTATIC DANCE:** Stay warm this winter and dance! Join Jamie Lee for a fun and inclusive ecstatic dance session from 10:30am to 11:45am at the Tofino Community Hall. Everyone welcome! Kid-friendly.

◆ **BIG BEACH CINEMA:** 'Fantastic Mr. Fox' (PG). Show at 2:30pm at the Ucluelet Community Centre. Adults \$6, Kids/Seniors \$4.

#### MON. DEC. 5

◆ **MOVIE NIGHT:** 'Three Thousand Years of Longing' (2022. Fantasy/Romance. 1h4 8m) Doors at 7:15 p.m. in the Clayoquot Theatre. Tix \$10 cash.

### ONGOING

◆ **TOFINO BIBLE FELLOWSHIP INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHURCH**  
Sundays 10:30am at the Tofino Community Hall multi-purpose room. All welcome! Call Melody: 250-725-2447 for more.

◆ **COMMUNITY LUNCH** Thursdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Coastal Community Services Hub at the UCC. Good food, good times!

◆ **TOFINO GALLERY OF CONTEMPORARY ART (behind Rhino Coffee)**  
Celebrating local and regional contemporary art. Admission is free and they are open Wed-Sun 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

◆ **TOFINO CLAYOQUOT HERITAGE MUSEUM** has a new 'Stubbs Island' exhibit on display. Admission is by donation and they are open daily from 11 a.m. to 4:30pm.

◆ **DROP-IN PICKLEBALL:** Mon and Fri, 10am at the Seaplane Base Rec Hall in Ucluelet. Mon, Wed, Sat, 9am at the Tofino tennis courts (or community hall if it's raining)

To submit your activities, e-mail: [office@westerlynews.ca](mailto:office@westerlynews.ca) or drop by: #102-1801 Bay St, Ucluelet. We accept your Arts & Entertainment, Service Group, Non-Profit Organization, Church, Library, Fundraiser, Open to the Public Notices on a first come, first served basis.

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# Glee kids ready to rock

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"You should be amazed at what these kids can do because they amaze me everyday... It's always amazing to see what they can pull off," she said. "Also, they are your community members. They might be little community members, but they're community members. Support your community... It's a community event, it brings people together and you get to watch what your next generation is doing and that is really important."

The cast has been rehearsing in Tofino and Ucluelet since early September.

"They're great kids," Johnson said. "I've said it before and I'll say it again, one of the great things about this program is that people won't believe how their kids are when they're not around them... There's a shift to them and a change for them when they start to see how everything is coming together. They really become something different. They become more confident, they become centred, they become happier and they really work together, which is really great."

She added this is the first year the Glee has held rehearsals in Tofino and she hopes to expand the program to host productions in Tofino for the first time in the near future.

"A sustainable production in the two communities is something that's a bit of a dream of mine," she said. "It's one of the most important things in the whole wide world to me. I absolutely love what I do. It's a calling to me to teach these kids and to help them find their voice, however that may be, whether they're a singer, a dancer or a little actor," she said.

*"It's a community event, it brings people together and you get to watch what your next generation is doing and that is really important.."*

– Courtney Johnson

"Or, if it's just something that they take with them and get other skills from."

Anyone interested in supporting the Glee program should keep their eyes peeled for fundraisers being held at Image West Gallery throughout December and donations can be made directly to the program by reaching out to Johnson at 250-266-2077.

"Every little bit helps," Johnson said. "To donate to this program and to keep it going is something that's really important. There really isn't a lot like this out here... I want every single kid to have fun, to have a joyful experience, to know that they matter, that they are seen and that they feel happy and they feel comfortable because I know that what they have to show people is important to them. They want to show you what they are doing and what they have learned."

She added she feels well supported by the community, particularly the program's volunteers and the district's parks and recreation team.

"They're incredibly helpful," she said. "I do not want people to think that I do not see that. Every little bit of help that is given is seen and greatly, greatly appreciated."

# WAVE OF THE WEEK

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**The WICKANINNISH INN**  
Tofino, Canada

Check out our new podcast!  
[wickinn.com/podcast](http://wickinn.com/podcast)

Shoulda Waited Long Beach

Send your favourite wave photos to [nora.omalley@westerlynews.ca](mailto:nora.omalley@westerlynews.ca) for a chance to be featured!

**Westerly News**

Photo: Andy Heritage