

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR



Consul General of the Russian Federation Vladimir Vinokurov visiting the Kashaya Strawberry Festival.

### You never know where a conversation may go...

People ask me all the time, "How do you do it?" Well, I don't --**WE** do!

It seems to me that most of the magic around here starts with an idea, which then moves into a conversation. If that conversation seems to have merit and energy behind it, the ripple effect starts happening. Before you know it...volunteers, donors, staff, artists, board members and the community are all working together towards a common goal: *"Promoting public interest and participation in the arts."* Gualala Arts has had this mission now for over 50 years.

A couple years ago, Fred Adler and I had a conversation about a new series he was thinking about creating. From that conversation the Global Harmony Series emerged – "Encouraging global harmony by sharing cultures through the arts."

The series started evolving. Here's where that conversation has led:

- World music from the Rupa and the April Fishes
- Honoring the dead with Día de los Muertos
- Celebrating Diwali: Festival of Lights with a dinner, dance performance and fashion show of traditional saris
- Traditional Scottish & Irish Celtic music performed by Willson & McKee
- Sand mandala created by Tibetan Buddhist monks
- "Bell Ringing in the Empty Sky" brought together the shakuhachi, bells, poetry, dance and vocals

and a world premier performance from composer Marty Regan

- Performance by Yang Jing Shizuka, pipa virtuoso and composer from China
- Dinner at Six hosted a Fort Ross Dinner that brought together the Kashaya Pomo and the Russian people to break bread and sit at the same dinner table for the first time in 200 years
- The world famous KRONOS Quartet performing a special Earth Day Concert
- Russia's Liquid Theater performing a US premier of their award-winning "Antidot."

Whew....

Now we have the opportunity to extent our reach and literally go global by helping our local Kashaya tribe visit Russia and see their artifacts from the period of the Fort Ross settlement, which have been residing in Russia for close to 200 years. Not only will they be able to see these artifacts, but the hope is that they can more accurately catalog them. In order to support this adventure and cultural sharing, Gualala Arts is hosting an evening of Russian & Kashaya Culture Sharing on June 30th. We would love your support for this global arts mission.



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David 'Sus' Susalla  
Executive Director  
Gualala Arts, Inc.