

South Whidbey Record

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Fiddle festival serves up a musical smorgasbord

by Frazier Mann

Special to the Record

Two young South Whidbey fiddlers will have the chance of a lifetime to meet and learn from some of the greatest fiddle players in the world.

Kerry Mann, 10, and Katy Campbell, 11, will be attending the annual Festival of American Fiddle Tunes held at Fort Worden State Park in Port Townsend. This year marks the greatest gathering of fiddlers ever in the history of folk violin.

Participants will spend a week in residence, living and breathing fiddle music while learning technique and repertoire from master fiddlers. Old traditions are passed on and new interpretations of traditional music are developed.



Kerry Mann and Katy Campbell will attend the annual Centrum fiddle camp at Fort Worden.

Katie and Kerry started playing violin six years ago with instructor Linda Good. They began in the Suzuki violin program which encourages children to begin at an early age. Both girls learned how to make violin playing fun even though it requires discipline and practice. Now they play for their own enjoyment - something that every parent of a music student longs for. They often swap new tunes the same way they used to

swap doll clothes.

Kerry continues to study with Linda Good and the Suzuki program which focuses on classical music and technique.

Katie became interested in Scottish music and dance during the homeschooling studies of her family heritage. Her interest turned into a passion last year, however, after hearing a performance by 20-year-old Hanneke Cassel, the Scottish National Fiddle Champion.