

## ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT

P R E - C O N C E R T

**Redneck  
Buffet****January 17th  
4pm to 7pm****at Coyote Jack's  
upstairs in  
Western  
Financial Place.****Featured items  
include Barbequed  
Chicken & Ribs, Baked  
Mac and Cheese,  
Sweet Potato Fries,  
Baked Beans, Roasted  
seasoned veggies,  
Salad Bar and  
Desserts. \$13.95  
per person. For  
Reservations Call  
250-489-4146****Coyote Jack's  
BAR & GRILL™****Love, passion, simplicity: Lopez in concert***Renowned guitarist playing the Key City  
Theatre in Cranbrook, Saturday, Jan. 25.***SUBMITTED**

Oscar Lopez, one of Canada's greatest guitarists, will be performing at the Key City Theatre on January 25 at 7:30 pm.

Known for his intimate live performances, Oscar offers a unique flavour of Latin music that incorporates a mix of jazz, blues and pop.

Born in Santiago, Chile to a middle-class family, Oscar was exposed to a wide variety of music from a young age. By age nine he began to experiment with different musical instruments, trying the violin, the mandolin and finally settling on the guitar.

A "street learner" Oscar had no formal musical training and developed his craft by performing with his father, neighbours and friends at the local Pentecostal Church.

By age 12 Oscar had taken a job at a local manufacturer making car antennas. The monotony of the job had a strong impact on Oscar who began to dedicate himself to his musical career. By 17 he was playing professionally and getting his

first taste of stardom with Chilean pop group The Grace of the King.

In 1979, at 25 Oscar left Chile, which was labouring under the repression of the Pinochet regime, and joined his sister in Winnipeg.

Eventually making his home in Calgary, Oscar dedicated himself to his music — releasing 11 albums over a 23 year span. Professionally he achieved great success with seven Juno Award nominations, winning best instrumental album in both 2002 and 2005 for his albums "Armando's Fire" and "My Destiny". Additionally, Oscar is a two-time recipient of the Hispanic Excellence Award and has been recognized as Instrumentalist of the Year by the Prairie Music Awards.

But the road to success was not without its bumps for Oscar. From 2001 to 2004 he battled major depression sidelining him from performing live and producing new music.

Since breaking through his bout with depression, Oscar Lopez has rededicated himself



Oscar Lopez plays Cranbrook Saturday, Jan. 25

to his music and now lives by the mantra "love, passion, simplicity". His live performances are an invitation to a very personal interaction between him and the audience.

"My music is an extension

of my soul and life experiences," Lopez explains. "My albums are the product of this internal and external collaboration. I revel in the thrill of watching an album take form."

A focus on excellence.  
A commitment to the future.

**Supporting B.C.'s young athletes**

Teck is proud to be the title sponsor of Cross Country B.C.'s skier development program. Through our partnership with Cross Country B.C., we are supporting excellence in sport and providing youth with experiences that will help prepare them for the future.

Come out and support these skiers at the Teck Kootenay Cup 3 & 4 on Jan 18-19, 2014 at the Kimberley Nordic Centre. For start times and more information, visit [www.kimberleynordic.org](http://www.kimberleynordic.org)

For more information on Cross Country B.C.'s skier development program go to [www.crosscountrybc.ca](http://www.crosscountrybc.ca)

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