



# Arts in Season

The Arts are Ever in Season

## Along the Arroyos: Who's Involved

**LEND ME A TENOR**, written by Kenneth Ludwig, who also wrote "Moon Over Buffalo" and the book for the musical "Crazy for You", is a farce that revolves around renowned tenor Tito Merelli (Noah King), known to his fans as "Il Stupendo." Tito is scheduled to sing the lead in Othello, at the gala fundraiser for the Cleveland Opera Company. Even before the star leaves his hotel room, everything begins to unravel. When he discovers a "Dear John" letter left by his wife Maria (Leslie Roadarmel), who mistakes an auto-graph-seeking fan hidden in his closet for a secret lover, Merelli is distraught. To calm him, he is accidentally given a double dose of tranquilizers and passes out. Determined the show must go on, Saunders, the company's General Manager (Bruce Kaplan), enlists the aid of his assistant Max (Doug Santana) to impersonate the opera star. Max is succeeding admirably . . . until Merelli

comes to and heads for the stage. What follows is a chain-reaction of chaos, plot twists, innuendos and endless entrances and exits through many doors.

The cast includes Doug Santana, Jennifer Malman, Bruce Kaplan, Brian Olkowski, Noah King, Leslie Roadarmel, Bonnie DeChant, and Shannon Wicker-Mitchell.

**LEND ME A TENOR** is directed by Carol Hovey and produced by JoAnn Loitz. This is the opening Studio Theatre show for the 2008-2009 season under the company's new name, Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre (formerly Pleasanton Playhouse).

Performances are 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays September 19 - October 12, 2008. at the Tri-Valley Rep Studio Theatre, 1048 Serpentine Lane, Suite 309, Pleasanton, California 94566.

Tickets may be purchased on our website at [www.trivalleyrep.com](http://www.trivalleyrep.com) or by phone at 925-462 2121. Ticket prices are \$25 for adults (18-60), \$22 for seniors (60+), and \$20 for juniors (under 18).

**LEND ME A TENOR** is presented with permission from Samuel French, Inc.

Newsletter Cover: Jennifer Malman (Maggie) and Doug Santana (Max) playing in Tri-Valley Repertory's **Lend Me a Tenor**

Photo by Eric Wood

## Valley Dance Theatre Welcomes the Holiday Season with Nutcracker

Valley Dance Theatre, the Tri-Valley's ballet company, will perform its twenty-eighth annual production of Tchaikovsky's beloved *The Nutcracker* at the Bankhead Theater December 13-21, 2008.

Evening performances will take place December 13, 14, 19, and 20, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. Matinees will take place on December 13, 20 and 21 at 2:00 p.m. Last year, Valley Dance Theatre sold out all six public performances and added two for school groups and two for corporate holiday parties.

"There are many other productions called *The Nutcracker* in the Bay Area each holiday season, but several important features set ours apart from them," says Valley Dance Theatre founder Betsy Hausberg. "First, ours is one of very few full-length productions that portrays the complete Tchaikovsky masterpiece with all the splendor of its music and magic. Secondly, our costumes, all originals created for Valley Dance Theatre, are on a par with any other ballet company in the world. Lastly, all seven performances will be accompanied live by the Livermore-Amador Symphony pit orchestra, as are all our productions, which makes for an especially dynamic and memorable experience.

"We invite all our friends and neighbors and out-of-town visitors to celebrate the beauty of the season with us this year at the Bankhead Theater."

All seats to this season's *The Nutcracker* are reserved. Tickets are \$31, \$26 and \$23 for adults and \$17 for students 17 years and

younger. They may be purchased online at [www.livermoreperformingarts.org/tickets](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org/tickets) or by phone at 925-373-6800. Tickets may also be purchased in person at the Theater box office, 2400 First St., Livermore, Monday-Friday from 12 noon-6:00 p.m.

Founded in Livermore in 1980, Valley Dance Theatre's repertoire includes such classics as Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* and *Sleeping Beauty*, Prokofiev's *Romeo & Juliet* and *Peter and the Wolf*, Stravinsky's *Firebird*, Saint-Saens' *Carnival of the Animals*, and other original works. Valley Dance Theatre is a licensed, nonprofit arts organization which also operates an affiliated school of dance, offering ballet classes for ages 3 years through adult and boys' classes and summer ballet camps for young children. More information is available online at [www.valleydancetheatre.com](http://www.valleydancetheatre.com).

## In Celebration of the Arts:

### Valley Concert Chorale's Music in the Schools program offers new musical tale of mystery and song

For the past 18 years, Valley Concert Chorale's educational outreach program, Music in the Schools, has brought live musical performances to over 5,000 elementary students in the Tri-Valley each year through its original plays. Once again, the Music in the Schools troupe of Chorale members has created a new tale that will be performed at school assemblies over the next two years called "The Mystery of the Missing Lunches."

"This new musical takes place at Mytown Elementary School where there has been a number of lunches stolen from

students' backpacks," explains Bobby Jensen, the musical's creator. "A student named Mikey works to solve the mystery with help from a very surprising source. Set to the style of a musical melodrama, with familiar pop and classical tunes, students will see how Mikey helps bring the thief to justice and teaches him that stealing and bullying is never acceptable."

The Music in the Schools troupe consists of about ten members from the Valley Concert Chorale as well as volunteers from the community. They make their own costumes, props, beautiful sets created by local water color artist and Chorale member Carolyn Ramsey, and write the lyrics to the familiar tunes. Past shows have included Genie Reena's Magical Musical Misadventures, The Reluctant Dragon, Hansel and Gretel, Tom Sawyer, Beethoven and the Contrary Time Machine, and the popular Granny Awards. In addition to sharing music with students, each musical also teaches valuable lessons.

"The Pleasanton schools have a Character Education program that teaches students about how to be good citizens and we think this new musical fits nicely with that theme," says troupe member and school coordinator Pam Grove. "And as always, we strive to expose children to a live performance showcasing colorful costumes, engaging music and good singing."

The performance lasts about one half hour and contains a lot of action and singing. A few students are invited onto the stage to participate, and the audience joins the cast in singing a song.

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Shows cost \$300, which includes two performances so that the upper and lower grades can have separate assemblies. PCAC offers a grant program so that schools can request matching funds to help offset the school's cost of the performance. Funding for Music in the Schools has generally come from individuals and corporations.

Schools that are interested in having the troupe perform at an assembly should contact Pam Grove at (925) 462-4205. For more information about Valley Concert Chorale, visit [www.valleyconcertchorale.org](http://www.valleyconcertchorale.org).



Doug Santana (Max), Bruce Kaplan (Saunders), Leslie Roadarmel (Maria), Noah King (Tito)





# Arts in Season

## Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council



Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council  
P.O. Box 1298  
Pleasanton CA 94566



Yes, I accept your invitation to join and/or support PCAC and the Arts in Pleasanton.

Membership per year (2008-2009).....\$35.00

We would like to make a tax deductible donation of:

Silver Contributor.....\$50.00

Gold Contributor.....\$100.00

Platinum Contributor.....\$250.00

Other.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Make check payable to PCAC and send to: PCAC, P.O. Box 1298, Pleasanton 94566

For more information call Margene Rivera (925) 931-1111.

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### Editorial Policy and Newsletter Purpose:

The purpose of this newsletter is to celebrate and advance: (1) the arts in the Pleasanton community and its environs, (2) PCAC's role in promoting and supporting the arts, (3) the role of other arts groups in so doing, and (4) the ways in which the arts enrich, nourish, and build community.

We welcome articles celebrating the accomplishment and/or programs of your arts group. We make no guarantee that such submissions will be published and reserve the right to edit articles. If you wish to promote or advertise a program, please send your "calendar items" to Gerry Hedstrom at [info@pleasantonarts.org](mailto:info@pleasantonarts.org). He will post them on the PCAC web site at [www.pleasantonarts.org](http://www.pleasantonarts.org).

All articles about celebrating the programs or accomplishments of your arts group should be sent to Dave Wright at [dawright@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dawright@sbcglobal.net).

The Pleasanton Cultural Arts Council is committed to the belief —that the arts nurture the spirit of those in our communities. —that the arts are an essential part of a healthy and equitable society to which those of all ages and backgrounds should have access. —that we should promote, create, and support arts institutions, experiences, facilities, and opportunities for the enrichment of those in Pleasanton and in the Tri-Valley.

### PCAC Board Members

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Newsletter:  
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ebmaster Robin Sigmann

### Upstream: What's Upcoming in the Arts

Sat. Sept. 27 at 8 PM,  
**A DeLovely Evening with "The Jesters"**  
at the Amador Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd.  
Pleasanton. Tickets: \$50. Fundraiser for  
Senior Support of Tri-Valley.  
Info: 931-3444 &  
[www.pleasanton.ca.us/community/civic-arts-presents.html](http://www.pleasanton.ca.us/community/civic-arts-presents.html)

Fri. Oct. 3 at 8 PM,  
**The Smother's Brothers.**  
at Bankhead Theater, 2400 1st St.,  
Livermore. Tickets \$95-125.  
Info/tickets:  
[www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

Sat. Oct 4 at 8 PM,  
**Percussion Group Cincinnati,**  
presented by Del Valle Fine Arts at  
Bankhead Theater, 2400 1st St.,  
Livermore. Info/tickets:  
[www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

Sat. & Sun. Oct. 4, 5, **Make-Your-Own Movie, 2-Day Video Contest.**  
Movie makers of all talent levels are encouraged to film and edit an 8-minute or shorter video for the 2nd Annual 2-Day Big Read Video Competition. Secret required elements to be announced at Towne Center Books, 555 Main St, Pleasanton at 7 PM, Fri. Oct. 3rd. Submit finished DVD by Fri. at 7 PM to be eligible for great prizes. Sponsor: Pleasanton Public Library. Info: 931-3405

Running through Sun. Oct. 5th,  
open Wed-Sun, 11:00 AM-4:00 PM,  
**Imagination Expressed,**  
Pleasanton Art League Showcased at the  
Museum on Main, 603 Main St.,  
Pleasanton. Artwork avail. for sale.  
Info: 846-4138 or 846-6382

Sun. Oct. 5,  
**Discussion of "The Great Gatsby"**  
at 2 PM at Pleasanton Library, 400 Old  
Bernal Ave, Pleasanton. Discussion led by  
Dr. Catherine Eagan, Gatsby specialist from  
Las Positas College. **Free.**  
Info: 931-3405

Wed. Oct. 8 at 7 PM,  
**"The Untouchables,"**  
at Veteran's Memorial Hall, Corner Main  
& Old Bernal Sts., Pleasanton, "Dollar  
Night at the Movies" sponsored by  
Pleasanton Downtown Association.  
Info: 931-3405

Fri. & Sat. Oct 10, 11, at 7 PM (doors  
open); 8 PM music starts:  
**"Pops Goes to the Movies,"**  
with the **Livermore-Amador Symphony**  
at the Barn, 3131 Pacific Ave. Livermore.  
All seats reserved at \$20 each. Reserve  
tickets by calling 925-447-4924.  
Info: [www.livamsymph.org](http://www.livamsymph.org)

Oct 10, 11, 12, 15, 17, 18, 19 at 8PM,  
**"The Barber of Seville"**  
by Valley Opera in Bankhead Theater,  
2400 1st St., Livermore  
Cost: \$39-\$59; Students: \$31. Info/tickets:  
[www.LivermoreValleyOpera.com](http://www.LivermoreValleyOpera.com)

Sat. Oct. 11, 11AM-5 PM,  
**ArtWalk Livermore,**  
over 100 artists exhibiting outside and  
inside shops downtown, with tasting  
rooms, restaurants. Starts at Bankhead  
Theater, 2400 1st St., Livermore. **Free.**  
Info: [www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

Thurs. Oct 16 at 7 PM  
**"Spirits,"** event of Ed Kinney Lecture  
Series by **Teri Carlson**  
at Lynnewood Methodist Church, 4444  
Black Ave, Pleasanton.  
Cost: \$10 donation; \$5 for members.  
Reservations: 462-2766.  
Info: [www.museumonmain.org](http://www.museumonmain.org)

Oct 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26 at 8 PM;  
Sundays at 2 PM  
**"The Legend of Sleepy Hollow"**  
by Civic Arts Stage Co. at Amador Theater,  
1155 Santa Rita Rd., Pleasanton.  
Adults: \$14, \$18 & \$20; Children 12 and  
under: \$8, & \$12 & \$16. Info: 931-3444 and  
[www.pleasanton.ca.us/community/civic-arts-presents.html](http://www.pleasanton.ca.us/community/civic-arts-presents.html)

Fri. Oct 24 at 7 PM & Sat. Oct 25 at 2 PM,  
**Children's Theater Show, "Flashback,"**  
in Rm 601, presented by Las Positas  
students at Las Positas College, 3033  
Collier Canyon Rd., Livermore. **Free.**  
Info: 424-1100 or  
[www.laspositascollege.edu/performingarts](http://www.laspositascollege.edu/performingarts)

Oct. 24- Nov. 9: Fri. & Sat. at 8 PM and  
Sun. at 2 PM,  
**"Miss Saigon,"**  
presented by Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre  
at the Bankhead Theater, 2400 1st St.,  
Livermore. Info./tickets:  
[www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

Sat. Oct. 25 from 7 PM- 10 PM  
**Don Neely's Royal Society Jazz Sextet  
a dance party at Veterans Hall,**  
corner Main and Old Bernal Sts., the final  
event in the Public Library's "Great  
Gatsby" programs. Tickets: \$10; Seniors  
\$5, available at Pleasanton Library,  
400 Old Bernal Ave, Pleasanton, and at  
Towne Center Books, 555 Main St,  
Pleasanton. Info: 931-3405

Sun. Nov. 2 from 1-3 PM,  
**Veterans' Day Celebration, with  
Pleasanton Community Concert Band**  
at Veterans Park, Peters and Division  
Sts., Pleasanton. **Free.** Info: 846-5897 or  
[www.pleasantonband.org](http://www.pleasantonband.org)

Fri. & Sat., Nov. 14, 15, 21, 22 at 8 PM  
& Sun. Nov. 23 at 2PM **Shakespeare In  
Hollywood, Ken Ludwig's comic farce**  
performed by Las Positas students in the  
Los Positas College Theater, 3033 Collier  
Canyon Rd., Livermore.  
\$10 General; \$7 Students/Seniors  
Info: 424-1100 or see  
[www.laspositascollege.edu/performingarts](http://www.laspositascollege.edu/performingarts)

Sat. Nov. 15 at 8 PM,  
**Felici Piano Trio,**  
presented by **Del Valle Fine Arts**  
in the Bankhead Theater, 2400  
1st St., Livermore. Info./tickets:  
[www.livermoreperformingarts.org](http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org)

Sun. Nov. 16 from 2-3 PM,  
**Family Band Concert by Pleasanton  
Community Concert Band** at Amador  
Theater, 1155 Santa Rita Rd, Pleasanton.  
**Free.** Info: 846-5897 or  
[www.pleasantonband.org](http://www.pleasantonband.org)

Nov. 21, 22, 23, at 8 PM Fri. & Sat;  
Also at 2 PM Sat. and Sun.,  
**Anton Chekhov's The Seagull,**  
performed by **Shakespeare's Associates** at  
Bankhead Theater, 2400 1st St.,  
Livermore. Tickets: \$30-\$45.  
Info: 443-2273 or  
[www.ShakespearesAssociates.org](http://www.ShakespearesAssociates.org)