

# THEATER

## TOURING ARTIST PERFORMANCES

### Academy Theatre

The Academy Theatre for youth produces original work for young audiences. Its Tour Team of select professional actors from diverse racial and cultural backgrounds takes an imaginative and scholarly approach to generating plays that accurately reflect the challenges of youth today. Actors researched subject matter with students, teachers, parents and psychologists, then used improvisation to explore the socio-economic patterns that contribute to such problems as teen pregnancy, race relations, peer pressure, conflicts and substance abuse. A booking includes a specially designed drama workshop for four classrooms of 35 students each. These workshops are a valuable tool for eliciting a response from the students and making them aware of their own creative energies.

*It's Mine, I Had It First* addresses respect for one's neighbor, decision-making and sharing. Audience limit: 300 (grades pre-K-2)

*When I Feel Angry* addresses the complex issues of resolving conflicts from sibling rivalry to relationships with adults. Children learn about empathy, the consequences of anger and ways to recognize and control one's anger. Audience limit: 350 (grades 3-5)

*Mixin' at the Mall* is an exciting and interactive play that uses students' natural inclinations to encourage a fight to demonstrate how bystanders can ignite or diffuse an explosive situation. Audience limit: 450 (grades 6-8)

*Baby Blues*, an acclaimed play, was developed for students and parents to create a higher level of awareness about teen pregnancy. Audience limit: 450 (grades middle and high school)

*Bullies & Bystanders* explores how bullies are created, how students become victims and what the responsibilities of bystanders are in preventing violence. Audience limit: 450 (grades middle and high school)

*Bullies & Bystanders 2* defines the meaning of accountability and encourages students to examine their own tolerance for violence. Audience limit: 450 (grades middle and high school)

### American Indian Education Program

Presented by the Santa Barbara County Education Office's American Indian Education Program, *American Indian Peoples • Past & Present* offers a wide range of presentations to suit classroom or specific assembly needs. Presentations include information about past and present Indian leaders, cultural displays, a Chumash *tomol* and Indian spirituality and life. Bookings must be scheduled at least 30 days prior to the presentation. Audience limit: 150

*Standing Tall for Indian People* is a dynamic program presented by three Native American women who give a personal view of Native American life today. They share their knowledge of the current use of artifacts, tools, clothing and beadwork. This program is specifically designed for small groups of 20 to 100 students. Booking requires a 30-day notice.

### Angela Lloyd - Story, Song, Poem, Chant

"She is a combination of Mary Poppins, Maria Von Trapp and Tinkerbell." Angela Lloyd tells stories in English and Spanish, with music, rhythm and poetry. A consummate artist on the washboard, she also plays the autoharp, baritone ukulele, spoons and bells. Angela tells folktales from the oral tradition, the best in children's literature and her own experience. Since earning her MFA, she has crisscrossed the country in performance. Highly sought after as a featured storyteller at regional and national festivals, she also teaches in school residencies and tutorials. Angela's work meets the California State Framework for the Visual and Performing Arts.

In *A Quilt of Poetry, Story and Music*, a stunning handmade quilt of two open hands evokes the magical connection between words and music. Using the metaphor of quilting, Angela stitches stories, songs and poems from the best oral and literary traditions. A visual feast, the "sunbrella" swirls overhead and a washboard transforms into a musical instrument. (grades K-8, bilingual format available for grades K-2) Audience limit: 350 students

In *The Butterfly Kleenex*, "A moment ago I had a thousand legs and now I'm wearing a dress!" This transformation tale is planted in a garden of poems, songs and stories to

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remind us we are always growing. Angela has a delightful ease with her audience as her humor expresses timeless wisdom. (grades K-8) Audience limit: 350

*Books Fall Open, You Fall In!* is a whimsical concoction of poetry, story and song that invites schoolchildren along with their families to delight in the human experience together through living literature. This performance encourages family reading nights at home and provides specific take-home tools to support this new or renewed family tradition. Audience limit: 300

*Leaving Home to Find Home* is the theme in this collection of poetry, song and traditional/true stories. Students, especially theater and English students, are invited to similarly find their own voice and develop their own style as they try out drama skills and the possibilities in performing the spoken word. (grades 6-12) Audience limit: 140

## Blue Moon Players

The Blue Moon Players celebrate diversity through the talents of local performing artists with and without disabilities. This theater group is an outreach program of Arts for Humanity! (AH!). Its innovative and inspiring performances support creativity and inclusion under the direction of Karsen Lee Gould, M.A., C.D.T.

*Isle of Silk*, an enchanting story of the global village, is a timeless tale of friendship and compassion. This original piece blends theater and dance, imaginative props and costumes, and beautiful world music.

## Blue Palm

Blue Palm is an internationally acclaimed theater company founded by husband-and-wife team Jackie Planeix and Tom Crocker. Their unique blend of dance and stylishly crafted verbal humor garnered immediate attention worldwide. Before founding the company in Switzerland, Jackie and Tom toured the world as soloists with the renowned Béjart Ballet and the Grand Théâtre de Genève.

*The Five Senses* mixes humor, theater and dance in an inspired look at perception. Scientific information about the senses is cleverly woven into this gleeful, theatrical experience and encourages creative problem solving. The duo's interdisciplinary approach inspires students' multiple intelligences

*Childhood* offers a poetic, hilarious look at the world of youthful dreams, fears and hopes. Two angels become children, forgetting where they came from, and a girl, lost in play and oblivious to time, is startled to discover that her playmate has grown up and become a man. *Childhood* is an uplifting ode to the limitless possibilities of youthful imaginations.

## BOXTALES Theatre Company

BOXTALES Theatre Company, serving Santa Barbara County schools since 1994, is nationally recognized for highly energetic, interactive and curriculum-oriented presentations of world mythology and folklore. BOXTALES presents original productions utilizing storytelling, mask work, live music and theatrical movement. All Boxtales shows address the California Department of Education content standards.

In the latest production, the bilingual *The Popol Vuh—A Mayan Heroes' Journey* explores the creation myth of the Quiche Maya people of Central America. It tells the story of the Hero Twins and their journey to the underworld where they are tested, eventually clearing the path for human beings to arrive on earth.

In this collection of trickster tales from around the world, *Silly Rabbit: Tricksters are for Kids!* inspires self-reliance and creative problem-solving on a humorous and magical journey with wily creatures who teach us folk wisdom, morals and life lessons.

*Prince Rama & the Monkey King* is the story of Sita, who is abducted by a monkey king, and Rama of Ayodhya's journey to win back his wife and defeat the powers of darkness in the world. Filled with virtue, values and morality lived out in a challenging and complex world, this entertaining curriculum-based show is now more relevant than ever.

In *The Odyssey*, Greek hero Odysseus tells of his 10-year journey home from the Trojan War. His encounters with Poseidon, Athena, Zeus, Cyclops and the Sirens,

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and his many other adventures are presented in the classic BOXTALES style.

*Iron John* is a dynamic production based on a Brothers Grimm fairy tale about a youth who uses a golden key to open up the vital creativity needed for the trials of life. It is parable of a young man's trek into adulthood through meaningful rites of passage.

*Leyendas de Duende, Magical Tales of Latin America*, is a bilingual show that explores stories, myths and folklore from Mexico, Central and South Americas as well as Afro-Cuban and Afro-Brazilian rhythms and songs. Perfect for *El Día de los Muertos*.

In-School Theatre Residency workshops in the BOXTALES method for students build character, develop self-esteem, unlock imagination and broaden students' awareness of the world through theater! These one- to four-day (or longer) workshops are offered with a performance for Santa Barbara-area schools.

## Bully Dudes

Keith Berger is one of the most skilled mime artists in the world today and is a member of the famed mime theatre company, The Chameleons. David Prather is a solo performing artist known for his razor sharp wit and mesmerizing oratorical presence onstage. He stars in the popular and truly engaging, *Poetry Jam*.

In the *The Bully Dudes! ...and what to do about them*, Berger and Prather team up to deliver a one-two punch in this exceptionally informative program. Adding humor and thought-provoking insights to the very serious subject of bullying, the pair enacts a series of scintillating vignettes such as the *Robot Bully Dude* and the *Annoying Name-Calling Dude*. Students learn some very useful skills in dealing with bullies as well as some of the pitfalls of becoming a bully themselves. They'll also explore the less talked about, but equally important, subject of being a witness or bystander to bullying.

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### Carol Baginski - Mimodrama

The *Mimodrama* performance is both entertaining and educational. The very nature of mime and the format of the presentation require audience participation and active imagination. The program includes a short performance of a mechanical figure, an exploration of mime characters, the vocabulary of mime and a mime play accompanied by musicians. This combination of acting with a musical dimension brings to life the true essence of classical mime.

### Chameleons

The Chameleons are Keith Berger and Sharon Diskin, two of the foremost performers of mime and movement-based theater in the world today. They have performed their critically acclaimed programs throughout 24 countries across five continents, charming and delighting over a million children and adults. Using a combination of classical pantomime illusions, sound effects, music and even the spoken word, The Chameleons transcend any one genre to create a total theatrical experience that is unforgettable for both young and old.

*Mime over Matter* is the duo's spellbinding collection of short mime plays. This program has been received enthusiastically by hundreds of young audiences. It includes such favorites as *Life Cycle*, *Margaret and Fred*, *Umbrellas* and, of course, *The Escalator*.

*Adventures in Space* is an exciting presentation in which the duo combines mime, astronomy and the spirit of friendship to tell an incredible story of outer space adventure. Two school-age characters, inspired by the scientific facts they learn in class, embark on a journey of imagination and discovery.

*The Wonder of Words* combines the magical actions of mime with the wonder of words to tell a story about a box of nouns mysteriously missing from the famous Wordheimer Museum. Numbus the Mime finds clues among the verbs and adjectives and, assisted by the audience, puts them together to solve the mystery. The one-person performance imparts the three major building blocks of sentence construction: nouns, adjectives and verbs. These parts of speech are

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dramatized and become clear to even the youngest in the audience, leaving a lasting learning imprint through the association between action-pictures and words.

## Covenant Players

Covenant Players is an international repertory theater company, offering assembly performances and workshops designed to teach drama and life skills all at the same time. Schools may select the theme, or the focus, of the program, which is developed in a session combining one-act plays and student participation. Plays on character education, bullying, substance abuse and hundreds more themes are available. Drama exercises following the plays get students actively processing what they are seeing, hearing and doing. Theater arts workshops that teach acting skills and basic play analysis are also offered. Students will develop teamwork, gain personal self-confidence and increase their oral presentation skills. Covenant Players is a fun and educational live theater experience for students of all ages.

## Daniel Slosberg - Fiddling with History

Musician Daniel Slosberg performs as Pierre Cruzatte and Dr. William Beaness for schools, libraries, organizations and historical sites throughout the country. He appeared at numerous Lewis & Clark Bicentennial commemorations, including the 2003 opening event at the University of Virginia, and events in Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and North Dakota. In 2004, he received the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation's Meritorious Achievement Award for "outstanding contributions in bringing to this nation a greater awareness and appreciation of the Lewis and Clark Expedition."

*Pierre Cruzatte: A Musical Journey along the Lewis & Clark Trail* tells the story of the historic expedition through its main boatman and most esteemed musician. Playing fiddle, jaw harp, bones, spoons and other instruments of the time, Slosberg portrays Pierre Cruzatte in an unforgettable musical voyage, stopping along the way for humorous and moving stories about the journey and Cruzatte's critical contributions. (grades k-8)

*Dr. Beaness & The Star-Spangled Banner* chronicles Dr. William Beaness, the Maryland physician whose troubles with the British military during the War of 1812 ultimately led Francis Scott Key to write what became our national anthem. He tells the anthem's whole story from its melody's origin in 1776 through its composition in 1814 to its ultimate adoption over 100 years later. (grades 3-8)

## David Novak - A Telling Experience

David Novak is a highly theatrical storyteller. "In him, the Brothers Grimm and Carl Jung meet Monty Python!" Winner of the 2002 *Circle of Excellence* from the National Storytelling Network, Novak has been featured many times at the National Storytelling Festival.

*First Books: Stories in hands and string* demonstrates how storytellers make books with finger plays, shoestrings and cat's cradles. It includes Novak's popular string figure retelling of *Jack and the Beanstalk* (grades k-6)

*No Matter How Small* is formula tales and finger plays especially selected for young audiences. "The Little Ant" spans a range of characters in search of the "real bully" and discovers that "no matter how great, no matter how small, what is done by one makes a difference to all." (grades k-3)

Did we get stories from stones? Writing from birds? Composition from caterpillars? *They Came From Out Of Doors: Stories from nature* explains how people learned to tell stories from observations in the natural world. (grades 3-6)

For thousands of years, our ancestors gathered to tell stories beside the fire. Today, we can get a feeling for the long traditions of storytelling by creating a storytellers' fire in *The Storytellers' Fire: World Folktales*. (grades k-12)

*A Teller's Carols* presents Novak's innovative treatment of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. (grades k-12)

*Greek to Me* is classic Greek myths told with originality and insight, including Theseus and the Minotaur, in which Novak weaves the tale with a 35-foot bungee cord and six courageous volunteers. (grades 5-12)

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### David Prather

David Prather, actor, has regaled audiences in Southern California for two decades. He is the popular host of the Los Angeles Philharmonic's SummerSounds at the Hollywood Bowl and the annual Holiday Sing-Along at Walt Disney Concert Hall. A respected arts educator for the Music Center of Los Angeles County, Prather's shows offer a unique blend of entertainment and educational content.

His newest show, *Star Spangled Poetry*, is a theatrical presentation of stellar poetry that celebrates America: the poem that inspired our national anthem, "Casey at the Bat," Paul Revere's famous midnight ride, and Woody Guthrie's "This Land is Your Land." Even the Statue of Liberty puts in an appearance in this patriotic parade of poetry! (grades 3-6)

*John and Juan* is a lively romp through the history of California. John, a native Californian, and Juan, a recent immigrant, discover a common heritage as they humorously recreate famous characters and historic moments in California's rich past—conquistadores, the missions and native people, the Gold Rush, cowboys and vaqueros. (grades k-12)

*Poetry Jam* is a high-energy performance designed to stimulate an interest in poetry and language. The show draws from Shel Silverstein and Jack Prelutsky to A.A. Milne and Mother Goose. Upper grades are introduced to classics such as "The Jabberwocky" and "Casey at the Bat." Extensive audience participation, humor, pratfalls and props turn this performance into an action-packed JAM!

### Diane Ferlatte - Storyteller

Style and wit, New Orleans charm and worldwide travels have made Diane Ferlatte one of the most popular storytellers in the land. She has wowed audiences on six continents as she brings her performances to life through stories, songs, sign language, humor and audience participation. While many of her stories and songs have African-American roots, she loves to tell stories that hold truths touching upon our common humanity. Erik Pearson accompanies on banjo and guitar.

Ferlatte has been honored with a Grammy nomination and multiple Parents' Choice, American Library Association, iParenting Media, Storytelling World, and National Parenting Publications awards.

*Wickety Wback, Brer Rabbit is Back* is a show of stories and songs that honors African American slaves. They loved telling Brer Rabbit tales because the stories of a small and powerless rabbit, who was usually able to outsmart and persevere against the larger animals, gave them hope and a model for surviving in their own desperate situation. (grades K-12)

*We Were There* brings to life the historical stories of ordinary African Americans who did extraordinary things. These stories show how unknown, everyday people who had courage in difficult situations had a huge impact on history. They show how African Americans have contributed to and affected American life. (grades K-12)

*Have I Got a Story to Tell* consists of Diane's favorite stories as she brings folktales, myths, legends, fables, and personal and historical stories to life. Each show is different as she sculpts a special performance for each audience. (grades K-12)

*Aesop, Alive and Well*, is devoted entirely to the fables of Aesop. Stories within a story, Diane tells the story of Aesop as she also tells five of his fables. Of course, Diane adapts the fables in her own style, adding music and song, as she enriches the characters. (grades K-12)

*The Dream of a King* honors Martin Luther King Jr. and his legacy with stories and songs from the Civil Rights struggle—from Jim Crow to "This Land is Your Land." Diane also presents stories that exemplify Dr. King's principles and values. (grades K-12)

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## Duffy Hudson

Duffy Hudson is an actor, director, writer, teacher and filmmaker. He has performed in hundreds of plays, on and off Broadway, and has directed over 300 theatrical pieces, including workshop productions with Brooke Shields, Jessica Lange, Don Johnson, Tatum O'Neal and Marlo Thomas. Currently, he co-owns Cincinnatus Motion Picture, a film company that has produced commercials, industrial long forms and its first feature film "Tattered Angel".

In Hudson's *Albert Einstein Show*, Albert Einstein explains the theory of relativity, in a fun, exciting way. No science required. Learn about the speed of light, time travel, gravity and space-time. What is  $E=mc^2$  anyway? This show will excite students and adults alike to look at the workings of the universe with new eyes.

Edgar Allan Poe rises from his mysterious death to tell his life story in Hudson's *Edgar Allan Poe Show*. Using Poe's life and literature — *Annabel Lee*, *The Raven* and *The Tell-Tale Heart*, Hudson provides a unique, in-depth theatrical experience of one of America's best-known and enigmatic personalities.

*A Christmas Carol: The Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Yet to Come* are characters we have come to love and welcome into our homes and hearts. Join us as Hudson, without the aid of props or costumes while playing all 46 characters, brings this magical tale to life. (75 minutes)

In the *Dr. Seuss Show*, join Hudson in this fast paced romp through the most loved and classic works of Dr. Seuss. Watch your favorite, beloved classics performed in this unique and lively show including: "Green Eggs & Ham," "Horton Hears a Who," "The Sneeches," "Oh, the Places You'll Go," among others.

## ED N' AL

Internationally acclaimed physical theatre duo, The Chameleons, has created a charming new program starring Peter Kors and Sam Robinson. Both actors are teaching artists with the Music Center in Los Angeles and the Orange County Performing Arts Center (OCPAC). Kors has performed at the Mark Taper

Forum and The San Francisco Opera, on national television and in feature films. Robinson, also an active director, has graced the stage across the United States, Canada and England where he studied acting at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts.

In *Be A Pal with Ed N' Al*, Ed and Al think so highly of their friendship they created a show about what great pals they are. The only problem is something goes completely bonkers every time they are about to begin the show. Using snappy dialogue, physical comedy, mime and music, the pals take us on the sometimes hilarious, sometimes poignant, journey of what it means to be a friend.

## Elaine Murray - Kinetic Storyteller/Educator

An entire cast of characters in a highly theatrical, kinetic solo performance of folk tales and personal stories! Elaine Murray has performed at the Australian Storytelling Festival and was chosen to perform in the prestigious All Regions concert of the National Storytelling Conference in 2008 and 2010. She has a degree in social work, is certified in English as a Second Language (ELL) and a member of YES (Youth and Educators in Storytelling). Diane is the Pacific Regional Director of the National Storytelling Network.

*Animal Stories: A to Zoo* is for the young at heart. Watch and listen to animal characters brought to life in tales with meaningful morals. (grades K-6)

*ARTSpark! Stories to Ignite the Imagination* introduces students, through story, to the variety of cross-influences in the fine and performing arts — a post-performance art workshop. (grades 4-8)

*Mandarins, Maoris, Moons and Monkeys* is a collection of stories from Asia and the Pacific Rim. (grades 4-8)

*A Trip on the 4 Winds* is an ever-growing body of work that provides a view into the richness of stories from cultures around the world. (grades K-12)

*Ugh! Bugs!* introduces some of the wonders of the insect world through colorful, moving tales. (grades K-6)

*Stories in Stone, Bone and Soil* is a collection of stories that have been found or referenced in findings from

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archeological digs—a great launching point for history and science lessons. (grades K-12)

*A Light in the Dark: Stories on Keeping Safe* teaches children to identify unsafe environments and situations and provide them with tools and skills to keep them out of harm's way. This assembly includes a post-performance discussion. (grades K-6)

*E-Bully! ME Bully: Stories to Help, Nurture and Heal* is a performance workshop that presents bullying with its cast of characters, such as the taunted victim and the silent onlookers. Because storytelling engages our minds, hearts and imaginations, it has endured as the oldest of educational and therapeutic tools. (grades K-6)

*Marco Polo: "I Have Told You Only Half of What I Have Seen"* is a look at the journeys of this great explorer as he speaks from his Genoese prison at the end of his world travels. (grades 5-12)

*Teen Warriors and Goddesses: Our Youth at Risk* is a collection of stories on such teen issues as conflict resolution, self-esteem and even young love! (grades 9-12)

Performances may have an audience of up to 600 students and are available year-round.

Muray provides school residency workshops on storytelling for literacy for students and a professional development workshop in storytelling for educators.

## Ensemble Storybook Theatre

Unleash live theater in your school! Ensemble's Storybook Theatre has toured the Central Coast since 1988. Please contact the Ensemble Theatre office for information about new productions scheduled for the spring season. As always, stories involve students and teach useful lessons along the way.

## Faustwork Mask Theatre

Since 1986, Faustwork Mask Theatre has performed worldwide at a variety of venues, including the Sydney Opera House, Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los

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Angeles, Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, Maui Arts and Cultural Center in Hawaii and schools, festivals and theaters too numerous to count throughout 48 states.

*The Mask Messenger* offers curriculum tie-ins of history, theater, art, emotional intelligence and life skills. The show is a mix of monologue, physical comedy and theater—a tour de force solo performance that humorously explores the artistic, cultural and psychological uses of masks throughout history. In vignettes ranging from comic to poignant to bizarre, this performance expands the concept of masks to include body language, makeup, jewelry and the many faces we all wear daily. There are oversized silent masks, half-masked characters that speak and masks worn on top of the head, creating the illusion of crawling creatures. (grades K-12)

## Geri Keams - Navajo Storyteller

Geri Keams is a Navajo storyteller who was born and raised in the Painted Desert in Northern Arizona. She is from the Streak-of-Black-Forest clan. Geri's grandmother, a rug weaver and storyteller, inspired her to keep the storytelling tradition alive. Geri has performed throughout the world, spinning tales of Trickster Coyote and Spider Woman. She has performed at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington D.C. and the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, TN. She has consulted for films and television, including the Tony Hillerman mystery series produced by Robert Redford on PBS.

*Songs & Stories of My People* is a 45-minute program filled with legends of many Native American tribes and chanting with native drum. Geri wears her beautiful traditional attire. This program is ideal for November/Thanksgiving and Native American celebrations.

## Imago - The Theatre Mask Ensemble

Over the last 16 years Imago, The Theatre Mask Ensemble, has received international acclaim by sharing with hundreds of thousands of people the unique art

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form of mime/mask theater. During its international tours the company has appeared on national television, choreographed mask theater for performing arts companies and taught people of all ages about movement, theater and stage illusion

*Magic of Masks* brings to life frogs, lizards, orbs and Slinkies. Performers don masks on the entire human body. Is up down? Is forward backward? Playful amphibians, larger-than-life beings and whimsical anthropomorphic creatures will amaze all ages.

## Jesse Smith - Cowboy Poet

In the cowboy tradition of poetry writing, Jesse Smith shares his poems (humorous to serious) about how he discerns the passing scene. Jesse is the real thing — a cowboy who writes poetry. Students and teachers will appreciate his willingness to explain the skills of being a cowboy as he shares his saddle and tools of the trade.

## Jim Gamble Puppet Productions

Widely recognized for innovative puppetry, Jim Gamble and company present unique productions blending familiar musical themes with colorful puppet characters. The programs have delighted and educated audiences in dozens of countries and across the United States. They are touring artists for the California Arts Council, Los Angeles Music Center, Orange County Performing Arts Center, Young Audiences of Northern California and dozens of arts councils in several states. The company has won the *Parents' Choice*, *National Film Advisory*, *Golden Apple*, *Kids First!* and *Puppeteers of America* awards. International awards include the *Grand Prix* in Russia, Yugoslavia, Italy, Japan and Belarus.

*Carnival of the Animals* is inspired by the musical score by Camille Saint-Saëns. This rod puppet, music education production features the composer as a little boy who creates imaginary animals from familiar objects. His pet cat becomes a Drum Major Lion, while his tinker toys transform into a "tinkertoysaurus."

Audience limit: 400 with school auditorium/multi-purpose rooms, fewer with no elevated stage (all performances). Shows are best performed in darkened

venue; artists provide sound and lighting. Productions meet California Content Standards.

## Karen Golden - Storyteller, Musician & More

Award-winning storyteller, author and recording artist Karen Golden takes you on a journey around the world to exotic lands where animals talk and wishes come true, and back in time to her childhood and before her grandparents. Golden's standards-based programs include a variety of stories from different folk traditions as well as real-life adventures, introducing audiences to the diversity and range of this art form. Using her highly engaging style with music played on saxophone, accordion, recorder, nose flute and ocarina, and fun original songs, students experience the richness of language, strengthening their listening, visualization, vocabulary acquisition and comprehension skills.

In *A Walk around the World in Stories and Shoes*, a colorful display of 20 pairs of ethnic shoes forms the backdrop for Golden's performance about folklore and footwear from around the world (grades K-5)

*Stories of Jewish Wisdom* features both old and new Jewish tales. Students will discover the tunes, tastes and traditions of Jewish people from Eastern Europe to the Santa Monica Pier. (grades K-12)

*Stories from Up Your Street and Around the World* is a potpourri of stories from here, there and everywhere. Holiday and theme programs available. (grades K-12)

In *Butterfly Stories from Near and Far*, explore the world of butterflies and moths through folk tales from around the world. Learn about the three butterfly brothers from Germany who tried to keep dry, fly with a blue morpho butterfly in the Amazon forests and eat cabbage with Charlie the Caterpillar. (grades pre-K-5)

In *Story Alive: Workshops for Students*, participants hear stories from the history-social science and language arts curriculum, including folk and true stories. The story art is broken down into the seven essentials of a good story. Students participate in hands-on exercises to explore these seven essentials and gain the skills to tell a complete story. (grades K-8)

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### Kendall Haven - Storyteller

Internationally acclaimed, award-winning author and storyteller Kendall Haven captivates his audience with fanciful, energizing, original stories and high-powered, riveting delivery. His assemblies model effective oral communication, demonstrate powerful story structure and provide high-energy entertainment. He has performed for over 2 million students at 1,500 schools in 42 states and four foreign countries and has written 20 books. Family evening performances are available.

*Telling Tales* allows schools to design their own performances. Kendall has an extensive repertoire of stories appropriate for all grade levels. Performances run from 35 to 75 minutes.

*Write Right for Students workshop* is guaranteed to forever change the way your students write. A session runs for 40 minutes, a whole day or one week. Much of the material comes from Kendall's award-winning books *Write Right!* and *Super Simple Storytelling*. *Write Right for Teachers* is a proven, practical, nuts-and-bolts, hands-on, teacher workshop that is available for one hour or the whole day.

### Kirk Henning - Storyteller

As a storyteller and musician (guitar, harmonica, trumpet) for the past 10 years, Kirk Henning has shared the world of stories with audiences at schools, libraries, bookstores and festivals throughout California. With his lively style, Kirk's collection of personal stories, folktales and songs catalyze the imaginations of young and old alike. He is happy to provide custom programs for schools or performance from the selections below:

*Animal Crackers* features stories and songs from the days when animals could talk and people could understand them.

*Round the World and Back Again* takes students globe-hopping through stories and songs from the African, European, Asian and Latin American traditions.

*Folksy America* shares yarns, tall tales and old-time songs that offer a glimpse into our country's special brand of stories, including those about the intrepid Jack, the fearless Brer Rabbit and other beloved characters.

### Lee Stetson - John Muir Stories

Lee Stetson has performed more than 50 major roles in plays ranging from Shakespeare to Neil Simon.

*The Spirit of John Muir* comes alive with Lee's vivid storytelling. As John Muir, he explores the backcountry looking for glaciers, encounters Ralph Waldo Emerson and discovers a rare kindred spirit, the "Specter of the Brocken" on Half Dome. In these exciting and often witty stories, it becomes clear that it was these joyful encounters with the wilderness that brought Muir the insights that led to his spirited defense of wild lands and wild creatures.

In *Stickeen and Other Fellow Mortals* Lee tells about Muir's encounters with his "fellow mortals" of the animal kingdom. Muir witnessed firsthand the horrifying devastation of wildlife in young America and was among the earliest and most articulate champions of animal rights. In this performance, Muir laments the passing of the passenger pigeon, the Yosemite wild sheep and the California grizzly, and he shares his popular adventure of attempting to cross a storm-tossed glacier in Alaska with the dog Stickeen.

### Letters to Harriet Tubman

Since 1980, Paul Morse Productions has been dedicated to bringing high-quality live theater to audiences of all ages. Its goal is to provide students with an understanding of the cultural and historical elements that determine their own personal and social attitudes and behavior.

*Letters to Harriet Tubman* invites you to journey back to 1902 and sit for a while on the porch with the famous American heroine Harriet Tubman as she reminisces about the exciting adventures of her life. We meet her at age 80, but she takes us back to the days of the Civil War and its aftermath, when she led the "Underground Railroad" that helped former slaves find freedom in the North. A two-character play, Harriet is joined by a guitar-playing neighbor, Jeffrey Taylor Jr. The production is interspersed with lively Civil War songs and African American spirituals including "Go Down Moses," "Steal Away" and "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

*Please do not pay artists directly. The CCP will invoice schools and libraries for artist services.*

## Living History Productions

Living History Productions presents history and humor for audiences of all ages. Actors Don Ancell and Roger Knox dress in period attire to bring American Civil War history to life.

In its newest show, *1776 American Revolutionary History*, Lt. Col. Roger Knox portrays a Colonial American soldier serving under Gen. George Washington. He provides a fast-paced history of our colonial revolution, using narratives, flags, historical artifacts, parchment copies of our Declaration of Independence, Constitution and Bill of Rights, along with a classroom demonstration of a replica revolutionary period drum.

In *Living History of the American Civil War Period (1861-1865)*, Abraham Lincoln presents entertaining glimpses into his life as a Civil War president and a Union soldier relates camp life and soldier hardships through narratives and artifacts. This is an outstanding interactive educational assembly for students of all ages and can be adapted to the 8<sup>th</sup>-grade history curriculum for older students.

No antique firearms are brought onto campus unless there is a specific written request and approval by the school principal. School references are available.

## Living Voices

Living Voices programs combine a one-person performance in synchronization with a video. As the performer tells his story from the viewpoint of a person experiencing a certain time in history, the video shows archival footage of the event and contains the voices of other characters with whom the performer interacts. Programs may be presented in a classroom, library or auditorium, depending on the audience size and available technical equipment. Two to three nearby schools may share the cost of the artist fee if performances are scheduled within the same day.

In its newest show, *Our Revolution* tells the story of the many common citizens who fought to bring the five words — “All men are created equal” — to life...words

that have greater meaning to an African-American soldier in 1776.

In the 1960s, a man named César Chavez changed the lives of Latin American farmworkers, fought for civil rights and battled racism and indecent working conditions. In *La Causa*, experience this chapter of American history as one young woman balances the demands of her family and culture as she fights to see her people free of poverty.

In *The Right to Dream* witness the struggle and sacrifice for civil rights in America. This is a compelling story about growing up as an African American in Mississippi during the 1950s and 1960s. It illuminates the issues of civil rights, leading audiences to understand how the fight against prejudice has shaped our history.

See the world of Anne Frank *Through the Eyes of a Friend*. Witness the pain, loss and hope of young people during the Holocaust. This moving program is a poignant portrait of friendship and survival, brought to life through the eyes of Anne’s “best” friend.

Share the journey of *The New American*, from the turmoil of the old country to the promise of America. Revisit the steamship passage of 1910, the path through Ellis Island and the sweatshops of Manhattan’s lower eastside. Discover hope and find the meaning of liberty.

In *Within the Silence*, witness Americans striving to maintain their patriotism and faith in the country they love. In 1942, Executive Order 9066 imprisoned thousands of loyal Americans. These innocent citizens struggled to maintain their families while incarcerated.

In *Journey from the Dust*, share the story of America’s families confronted by the 1929 stock market crash and the Dust Bowl. Struggling to keep his family together, one young man experiences the loss of his home, the separation of his family and economic prejudice. Travel hundreds of miles from Oklahoma to the Grand Coulee Dam. Discover an American tragedy and the courage to survive.

Share the experiences of an immigrant family in *Northwest Passages*. Old and new cultures, languages and values interact against the backdrop of the dynamically changing Northwest at the turn of the century. Gold, railroad expansion, labor struggles and the World War

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# THEATER

## TOURING ARTIST PERFORMANCES

are events experienced by diverse communities around the world. Discover America's multicultural journey.

In *Island of Hope*, experience the story of Leah, a 10-year-old Russian-Jewish girl who dreams of going to school like her brothers. When her parents plan an escape to America, Leah faces a long and risky journey then must confront her biggest obstacle yet when detained at Ellis Island: What if she is sent back? This is a captivating one-woman performance and talk-back session.

In *Hear My Voice*, witness the fight for women's suffrage. Experience the life of one young woman whose sacrifices earn her a special place in history. This performance re-creates the 70-year battle that established the right to vote for half of America's citizens.

### Magical Moonshine Theatre

Since 1979, the internationally known Magical Moonshine Theatre has been providing youth- and family-oriented puppet and mask performances in California. It has received numerous awards and honors, including three *UNI* awards (the equivalent to an Oscar), and been rated exemplary by the California Arts Council Theatre Panel. Artistic director Michael Nelson studied puppetry with Muppet creator Jim Henson at the International Institute of Puppetry, has taught puppet arts to college-level students, teachers, children and theater professionals, and has directed and performed. The show has been frequently lauded as "...the best assembly program we ever had."

*Animal Folktales of the Americas* is an award-winning series containing many adaptations of traditional animal folk tales told on the American continents. The ever-growing repertoire includes Native American, Latin American, African American and Asian American tales told with puppets, masks, actors and music. Many programs are bilingual (Spanish/English).

### Magician Jim Wilson - Magic Show

Magician Jim Wilson presents a spellbinding magic show in *You Can Do It!* a dynamic motivational assembly. He teaches students how to improve their ability to learn in school and how to accomplish those dreams that may seem just out of reach. Students will learn how to break down goals into bite-size bits, how to visualize the achievement of a goal, the benefit of having a mentor/teacher and the importance of an encouraging support team. Jim has performed more than 400 shows in California and knows how to hold the attention of an audience. His enthusiasm for this message will enable students to absorb ideas that can be used throughout their lives.

### Marc Levitt - Storyteller

Marc Levitt is an internationally known writer/performer/educator and author of the Corwin Press Book, *Putting Everyday Life on the Page*. He has worked throughout the United States and in more than 45 countries. In addition to his performances and teacher and parent workshops, he has produced and hosted nationally distributed radio shows and was the only recipient of the New Genres Award from the Rhode Island Council for the Arts and the Tom Roberts Award for the creative use of the humanities from the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities. Mr. Levitt performs primarily original stories that can be used to teach 'writing from what you know' and the celebration of non-violence and diversity.

*Tales from a Childhood* is lively, age-appropriate stories about the trials and tribulations of "growing up" including stories of getting lost, bullies, sibling rivalry and 'wild' dogs. (grades K-12)

*Stories to Celebrate Diversity and Non-Violence* are primarily original stories to help students reflect on why diversity and non-violent supportive culture is good for everyone.

Stories of Righteous Gentiles and Freedom Riders are true stories that celebrate those who chose to be involved and not to be the bystander.

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*Tales from an October Moon* features award-winning and original spooky tales based in New England. (grades 3-9)

Mr. Levitt offers several workshop topics, including writing, health, diversity and site-specific education.

## Michael Katz - Storyteller

Michael Katz has been telling stories for more than 20 years throughout the U.S. His most noted venues include Disney Concert Hall and the Los Angeles Getty Center. Co-founder of the nationally known BOXTALES Theatre Company and host of "Katz Pajamas" radio program (KCBX 89.5 FM), Katz is known for his highly animated storytelling and special talent for engaging children of all ages. He has such a wealth of stories that you can have the same assembly program twice and he won't repeat a story! (grades K-8)

*See Me, Hear Me* inspires children with folk tales and original stories that teach them compassion for themselves and others, a perfect and powerful tool to address the topic of bullies and bullying.

*Do the Right Thing* explores the consequences and morals learned from making good and bad choices through multicultural folk tales and original stories, perfect for Red Ribbon week or any time of the year.

*Multicultural Folk Tales* brings together folk tales and myths from around the world: Asia, Africa, Europe, North America.... Pick the place and Katz will share the tale.

*Ghost Stories* captivates the imagination with giggles and goose bumps in age-appropriate tellings of eerie legends, ghost stories and jump tales guaranteed to make young audiences laugh and shiver.

*I Read it in a Book* excites students about reading. Through Katz's captivating storytelling of tales he's found in books, he shares the joy of searching for good books, reading them and discovering the wonderful worlds of storytelling, education and imagination.

*Jewish Folktales* features folk tales and original stories from the rich and hilarious Jewish storytelling tradition.

In *United States of Stories*, take an exciting tour of the U.S. through stories of different regions and cultures in a rollicking, hilarious and poignant collection of our American patchwork of tales.

*What's in a Story* is an entertaining program designed to expose children to the full spectrum of the art of storytelling. Enjoy the wide variety of story types including myth, folk tale, fairy tale, original story and personal narrative.

In addition to assembly programs, Katz offers his popular storytelling workshops. When two Santa Barbara North County schools book performances on the same day, a 20% discount will apply to the fee throughout the school

## Milbre Burch - Storyteller

An internationally known performer, a published poet, an award-winning recording artist and an acclaimed teacher of her craft, Milbre Burch is a storyteller in every sense of the word. She has worked for state arts councils in South Carolina, Rhode Island, Georgia, California, Utah and North Carolina, and for local, public and private arts councils nationwide, including the Lincoln Center Institute in New York, the Los Angeles Music Center on Tour and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Milbre has appeared at the National Storytelling Festival numerous times and won a "storytelling Oscar," the *Circle of Excellence* award, from the National Storytelling Network in 1999.

Her performances include *Making the Heart Whole Again: Stories of Peace and Justice and Reconciliation from A(fghanistan) to Z(imbabwe)* (grades K-12); *Girl Power! Empowering Stories for Everyone* (grades K-12); *Tricksters, S/Heroes and Fools — Tales of Clever Animals, Heroic Men and Women, and Foolish Creatures on Two Legs and Four* (grades K-12); *Prince and Princess: Seeking the Gold Within* (grades K-12); *Transformations: Fairy Tales and Fantasy Stories* (grades 9-12); and *Haunted Moon: Tales Both Humorous and Horrifying* (grades 9-12).

Workshops include: *Once Upon a Time is Now: Story-listening, Storytelling & Story-making in the Classroom* and *First Things First: Orality into Literacy: Making Sand Tray Stories*.

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# THEATER

## TOURING ARTIST PERFORMANCES

### Nina Ryne - Stories & Songs

Captivating her audience with energy and enthusiasm, singer, songwriter and storyteller Nina Ryne has performed for over 15,000 children in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties. She has toured throughout California and New York, and has recorded *It's Our World* a CD of traditional and original children's music. Trained in acting and singing in New York and England, Nina has performed professionally since 1980. She integrates movement, storytelling and music in multicultural performances to emphasize diversity and respect for people, and our natural environment.

*Stories & Songs from Around the World* presents multicultural songs and stories in a theatrical, interactive style. Songs accompanied by guitar are in Spanish, French, Russian and American Sign Language. Children are selected from the audience to act out a folktale. Through songs and stories, children gain an understanding and respect for those of various abilities and diverse cultural backgrounds.

In *Eastern European Songs and Stories*, Nina is dressed in traditional Czechoslovakian costume once worn by her mother and grandmother and uses Russian nesting dolls to illustrate how folklore is handed down through the generations. Children participate in stories and songs accompanied by guitar. This captivating performance inspires children to appreciate their own heritage.

### Olga Loya - Latin-American Stories

Olga Loya is a nationally recognized performer, award-winning author, teacher and keynote speaker. She performs a large repertoire of family and personal stories with the goal of exploring the struggles and complexity of being bicultural—a Mexican-American in the United States. She uses a dramatic mix of Spanish and English to share traditional tales from Latin America. Loya also tells stories from around the world: Africa, India, Asia, the Antilles and Europe. She uses a variety of performance styles, including improvisation, movement and dance, song and instruments. Loya performs for the Music Center of Los Angeles County as well as the Santa Cruz Cultural Center.

*Stories from Latin America* celebrate the magic of *los*

*cuentos* (stories) with folk tales about self image and learning our own strength, personal stories about discovering one's own culture and myths from long ago that help us understand the present. Learn about the Latino culture as you learn about yourself. (grades K-12)

*Let's Work Together* explores the power of community, people working together and peace. Listen to folk tales, myths, legends and personal stories from around the world with an emphasis on Latin American stories. (grades K-12)

Latin American culture is passed on through personal stories about family and life, stories about community, stories about taking responsibility and stories about building character. In *Singing and Dancing Through Stories*, celebrate with dance and song as you hear folk tales, personal stories and myths. (grades K-12)

*Native People of the Americas* is folk tales, myths, legends of native people from the United States, Mexico and Central America told with drums and participation.

*History Alive* tells the story of Juana Briones, a *Californio* who lived from 1802 to 1889. In a dramatic, historically accurate monologue, Loya uses her storytelling skills to bring Juana Briones to life, answering questions as the woman and then as a *Californio* scholar. A special 30-minute show is available for primary students. (Due to stage set and costumes, performances at three schools must be booked.)

*The Trickster in Us All* features personal trickster stories and folklore from all over the world about the wily hero, trickster coyote, raven, Anansi and more. (grades K-12)

*Scary Stories* recounts tales of *La Llorona* (The Wailing Woman), flying skeletons, goblins and a ghost story or two. (grades 4-12)

*Surprises of the Heart* incorporates racism, self-acceptance, forgiveness and redemption in several stories. The feature is a short story of a mother who takes in the boy who killed her son. This is a multidisciplinary performance with music, folk tales, songs and a monologue. (grades 6-12)

Loya offers a variety of storytelling workshops—Spanish, English or bilingual—that highlight culture, adult and student literacy, storytelling basics and storytelling through games.

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## PCPA Theaterfest Outreach Tour

The Actor's Ensemble of PCPA Theaterfest brings the experience of professional live theater to schools through its Education and Outreach Tour. The tour provides performances for all grades and a specialty workshop for older students. Both offerings include question-and-answer sessions. Study guides are available on the group's web site.

*Luis and the Great Field Trip Adventure* is a new musical. Luis may love being the star player on his baseball team, but he hates doing his homework. He just doesn't see the point of "learning about science and stuff" when winning at sports is much more important to him. If his grades don't improve, he's in danger of being kicked off the team. When his class goes on a science field trip to Nojoqui Falls, Luis is quick to stray from the path, and his survival skills are put to the test when he becomes the target of two ancient tree spirits. But when they endow him with the ability to understand the voices of woodland animals, Luis quickly learns the importance of knowledge and the dangers of ignorance. (grades K-6)

Think you know what really happened to the Three Little Pigs? In the story you think you know may be based on a sensationalized news story! In *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* Mr. Alexander T. Wolf will finally get his day in court and twelve of your students will be selected to sit on the jury. They will decide Mr. Wolf's innocence or guilt in the case of *The People vs. A. Wolf*. The events of that fateful day—otherwise known as the "Three Little Pigs Incident"—will be revealed step-by-step and new evidence will be presented to the jury. Your school can have a front row seat to the Fairytale Trial of the Century, as they hear Wolf's side of the story. (grades K-6) Available February 2011 – May 2012

*My Life=Art* is a unique interactive theater experience in two phases. Phase 1 begins in the fall with writing workshops for students. From this, the accounts of the students' lives are then distilled into a fully produced play with dialogue, and music. Phase 2, is the finished piece performed by PCPA's conservatory students for the entire school population in the spring. This is unlike any other theatre piece you've ever seen. It can play an important part in the development of students' verbal

and written language skills as well as provide a richly rewarding and creative experience. (grades 7-12)  
Available October 2011 – May 2012

## Peanut Butter & Jam Storytelling

Carol Milligan will encourage your students to read, think and imagine as she combines theater and storytelling. She introduces the audience to stories and folklore, which can be found in readily available books. The books come to life as Carol transforms into a variety of quirky, amusing and endearing characters. A typical 45-minute show includes four stories, songs and audience participation. Students' imaginations are awakened, and she encourages them to read the folklore on which she bases her tales, and then make up their own versions of the stories at home.

Her performances include *Lazy Jack*, by Michael Milligan, *Skinnybones* by Barbara Park, *The Gunnywolf* by A. Delaney and *The Gruffalo* by Julia Donaldson. Other stories are available for any size audience.

## Poetry Alive!

Since 1984 Poetry Alive! has been presenting high-energy poetry shows for audience members aged eight to 80. In order to bring poetry from the page to the stage, the group presents verse as theater, transforming the poems into scripts and the audience members into fellow actors. The result is a non-stop tour-de-force of words with a twist of sorrow and a dash of silliness—and every emotion in between! This performance is an interactive experience that will get the audience excited about poetry and the spoken word. Two-person actor teams will present the site's choice of format, including assemblies, classroom follow-ups and teacher workshops. The team performs 15 to 20 poems. Suggested 350 maximum audience. (grades K-12)

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# THEATER

## TOURING ARTIST PERFORMANCES

### Rochel G. Coleman - Azilee's Porch Productions

Actor, storyteller, and poet Rochel Garner Coleman is a veteran of theater and television. Whether he is telling a story or performing one of his original works, Rochel brings stories to life for students. In turn, his audience is swept into a world of imagination, colored with the "stuff of life." From folktales collected in travels throughout the world to stories of his own experience, Rochel combines his talents to create stories that educate, enlighten, empower and entertain.

*Airmen — The Right to Fly: The Story of the Tuskegee Airmen* introduces young audiences to Charles H. Debow Jr., a poor African American young man with dreams of flying airplanes. As Debow, Rochel, whose aviator gear becomes more elaborate as the pilot moves up in rank, tells a story drawn from research and personal stories of living Tuskegee Airmen and weaves into its fabric their formula for success during a time marked with the tension of Jim Crow segregation.

*Shadowball: The Story of "Cool Papa" Bell and Black Baseball* recreates the life and times of James Thomas "Cool Papa" Bell and the men of the Negro Leagues who strived to overcome perception and economics. Dressed in a uniform of the time, Rochel brings to life a changing America through the journeys of a baseball player on the road.

*I, Nat Love: The Story of Deadwood Dick* brings together the journey of the African American cowboy and the history of the American West. Dressed in cowboy attire of the period, Rochel recreates the life and times of Nat Love, a.k.a. Deadwood Dick, in stories based on Nat's autobiography, which recounts a world where "There is a man's life to be lived, a man's work to be done, and when death is to be met, one goes out to meet it like a man."

*In Many Thousand Gone: Stories of the Underground Railroad*, Rochel recreates the lives and times of the men, women and children who waged a courageous struggle against slavery. With historical research, archival documents and oral histories, he weaves together a tapestry of experiences that became the root of African American culture in the United States.

*Stories for a Harvest Moon* features regional stories for fall and harvest.

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*I Too, Am America* — the last line of a poem by Langston Hughes in which he writes about inclusion — is a celebration of stories drawn from African, African American and Caribbean oral traditions. The journey begins with Hughes, goes over the Atlantic to Africa, discusses the triangle trade in the Caribbean and comes back to the shores of the United States with stories from the African American tradition.

### Roger Kikuchi-Yngojo of Eth-Noh-Tec

Roger Kikuchi-Yngojo of Eth-Noh-Tec is a delightful storyteller, whimsical and magical as he draws from an extensive repertoire of Asian myths and folk tales. He weaves music and drama into the retelling of Asian stories, bringing their valuable lessons and positive messages to life. His company, Eth-Noh-Tec, has performed throughout the country and internationally, and is recognized by schools, libraries, festivals, storytelling peers and professional organizations.

*Asia Fantasia* is a fun-filled program of Asian folk tales, music and theatrical renditions of time-honored tales. Kikuchi-Yngojo's magic spell of storytelling will capture the imagination of all ages as he shares the myths and tales of Japan, India, China and more! Available Feb. 17-20, 2010.

### San Francisco Shakespeare Festival

In addition to presenting Free Shakespeare in the Park since 1985, the San Francisco Shakespeare Festival has toured throughout the state since 1988. These professional productions use Shakespeare's original text edited to an action-packed hour of theater, with a cast of five professional actors in costume, a set, props and especially composed recorded music. It concludes with actors entertaining questions from the audience. A comprehensive study guide is included; California State standards-based lesson plans provide helpful ideas for teaching the play to all grade levels, with performance exercises; discussions of plot, themes and character; language exploration and theatrical vocabulary.

*Macbeth*, Shakespeare's gripping tale of misguided ambition and its tragic consequences, will thrill your students! A trio of mysterious witches predicts Macbeth

will become king...but at what cost? He's tormented by the realization that violence begets violence and misused power leads to corruption and disaster. Major plot points and well-known speeches are all included.

An optional PLAYSHOP enhances your students' understanding of drama, language and Shakespeare with an interactive one-hour session (pre- or post-show) with the cast.

## SBT: The Santa Barbara Theatre

SBT: The Santa Barbara Theatre is an Actors' Equity Association theatre company now in its fifth season. In residence at the Lobero Theatre in Santa Barbara, this regional professional company produces plays across the range of the theatrical canon, from contemporary two-character dramas to fully staged musical productions.

So you think stage acting is fun? In *Journey to the Never Land*, follow the second star to the right, there's no missing the Never Land, home of Peter Pan. You may meet a mermaid, plank-walk with a pirate or play with the Lost Boys. You'll learn some secrets about J.M. Barrie's Peter Pan and hear real child actors from an acting conservatory talk about working in a professional production.

Assemblies consist of a 30-minute presentation with a 20-minute question-and-answer period with the actors.

## Santa Barbara Children's Theatre

Santa Barbara Children's Theatre offers quality productions utilizing local talent and artists for the Santa Barbara community as well as Ventura and San Luis Obispo counties. We give young people the opportunity to experience transformative theater, both as an observer and a participant. SBCT's aim is to explore theater with young people as audience members, mentor young actors and encourage the power of their imaginations.

In *Mr. and Mrs. WordSweeper: Celebrating Silverstein*, visit the eclectic kitchen of the WordSweeper household as Mr. and Mrs. WordSweeper unpack their groceries

only to find that everywhere they look a Shel Silverstein poem pops up! Hear many of your favorite poems enacted by the eccentric couple.

Sometimes old people don't hear so well. So when 11-year-old Kevin Bartholomew asked his grandmother for hockey tickets, he gets opera tickets instead! Join Kevin in *Do I Need Earplugs or What!* as he tries his best to get out of going to the opera, only to find that once he's there, it's not so bad! Available October 3-14

In *The Twelve Dancing Princesses*, it's all about the shoes! If 12 daughters weren't bad enough, their need for new shoes throws the king into a tizzy. How they wear out so many shoes so often — that's the mystery — and it will take a crafty prince to solve it. Available April 2012

## Santa Barbara Zoo - Theatre Gone Wild!

The Santa Barbara Zoo is proud to present *Theatre Gone Wild!* Conservation always takes center stage with the traveling troupe, and students learn about animals and their habitats through theater. These rare and delightful presentations feature a teenage cast of three to five wild actors, stunning costumes, amusing masks and even an insect or two. Professional educators chose the scripts for these fun-filled educational plays that complement the California Science Standards.

*Theatre Gone Wild!* transports school audiences to the local pond where *Two Caterpillars and a Frog* learn that growing up is hard to do, an *Insect Club* that is for insects only and meets *Zooperman* or *Zooperwoman* who help us discover how to make a good home for our pets.

# THEATER

## TOURING ARTIST PERFORMANCES

### Shakespeare Santa Barbara

Shakespeare Santa Barbara dedicated to performing and teaching Shakespeare to the residents and visitors of Santa Barbara County. They perform each summer for the public, a professional production of one of Shakespeare's plays. They conduct a Shakespeare Summer Camp at Elings Park for children age 7-12. For schools, they offer two programs:

*What Shakes?* incorporates theatre games, role playing and interaction with the actors to create a fun and imaginative introduction to Shakespeare's plays and Elizabethan language. (grades 4-6)

*Bringing Shakespeare to Life!* takes excerpts from Shakespeare's greatest plays combined with tips, ideas and examples to make 400-year-old language exciting and relevant for today's students. (grades 7-12)

### Sha Sha Higby

Legendary international performance artist Sha Sha Higby approaches dance through the medium of sculpture. She is an "icon" in her generation for establishing the sculptural object as a body costume that can be integrated with theater and dance to create its own poetic plot in solo performance.

Internationally renowned for her evocative and haunting performances, Higby is influenced by her studies in Asia, Noh Theater, Butoh, shadow puppets and Indonesian dance. She studied in Japan for two years, Indonesia for five years under a Fulbright scholarship and India under an Indo-American Fellowship.

In Higby's programs, students learn from other cultures and how mask, costume and puppetry can totally transform them. They also learn about the construction of these fantastic masks and costume structures.

In *Hands-on Demo*, Higby presents a 45- to 60-minute slideshow, sharing her work and background. The audience sees her costumes up close and some students are chosen to be dressed and transformed in the costumes so they can experience the process. (grades 4-12)

*Folds of Tea and Gold* is a journey to rescue a puppet living inside a golden nut. A question-and-answer period with the artist follows. (grades 7-12)

*The Glass Jungle* reflects Higby's recent travels to Myanmar and Thailand and a visit to a glass-blowing factory where huge glass bulbs are made into the eyes of the Buddha. This costume is a moving temple. A question-and-answer session with the artist follows. (grades 7-12)

### Silent Echoes Mime Theater

It is a fast-moving, hands-on performance consisting of comedy/drama pieces appropriately suited for all age groups. Stories portray everyday human interactions that actively entice the audience to use its imagination. In addition, guided onstage audience participation becomes an integral part of the performance to further enhance the theater experience.

In *Please Sir... Take Mine*, it is not difficult in these days of conflict not to see how a simple disagreement can escalate into a major confrontation, which often leads to the absurd.

In *Batter Up!* let's all join in the Great American Pastime while we play ball. Ready? Batter up!

*Black Elk's Prayer* spotlights the powerful words of the Sioux medicine man, Black Elk, which are revealed through struggle within the four directions: north, south, east and west.

*The Circle Game* asks how many times have we begun our day with the alarm clock? The routine continues day after day until we finally realize: It's time to get off!

In *Isolation*, search and awareness occurs. Is something there? Oh! Nothing is there...just like always. I AM alone and I MUST continue on. So, what does an amoeba feel? Does it ever know it is not alone?

*Dracula*, this mysterious, intriguing character has the ability to fly at will and live eternally as long as no one drives a stake through his heart! Women fall prey to this seductive, powerful man. Our Dracula, however, is

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meek, gentle and even somewhat innocent. And there the adventure begins. Hide your crucifixes.

*The Five Elements* is based on a figure originally choreographed by Etienne Decroux over 50 years ago. His student Marcel Marceau developed it further over the past 30 years and Silent Echoes has continued this ongoing exploration. In our rendition, the five elements of fire, air, earth, water and metal become a study of man's relationship with the world around him.

In *Mr. Cool*, the need for contentment, acceptance and fulfillment is common to everyone, no matter what your age. Often we reach outside ourselves instead of searching within. The choices we make produce the results we get. These choices can support us or they can hinder us. Do you want to be...Mr. Cool? Don't smoke!

In *Dancing with a Dragon*, a wizard has an encounter with a powerful, fierce dragon.

In *The Space Mission*, man seeks adventure into unknown galaxies. Small problems become major obstacles as he must deal with the problem of no gravity. Finally, he must save himself from being lost forever in outer space.

In *The Summit*, a forced perspective is used to portray the challenge of mountain climbing and its potential perils. The mountain serves as a metaphor for our daily challenges and reminds us to always keep a sense of humor.

*Aloof* portrays the classic mime illusions of weight and counterpoint through interaction with a mischievous balloon.

Silent Echoes' workshops inspire students to create characters through acting exercises and learned movement skills. The process is structured to encourage individual expression and create a positive experience onstage.

## Steve Crouch - Storyteller

Steve Crouch weaves together a variety of stories: Native American tales, environmental stories, rural farm tales and multicultural stories from around the world. Steve brings laughter, imagination and a sense of having shared something special with one's own community. Programs for a young audience have a lively pace with fun, interactive stories. Programs for an older audience feature stories of intrigue and mystery. Steve's stories also focus on tolerance, acceptance, kindness and respect, which are excellent for junior and senior high students.

## Story Theatre

Story Theatre is a synergy of three art forms: mime, music and oral tradition. Steve Crouch is an accomplished storyteller with more than 10 years of professional storytelling throughout the western United States. Master musician Grady Houser infuses fluidity with an irresistible mixture of guitar, flute and drums. The delightful, innovative and well-known mime Fran Dukehart paints pictures in space, as taught by her mentors in the *Greatest Show on Earth*. Story Theatre engages the audience by incorporating storytelling and poetry that is entertaining and informative. The company customizes programs that address individual needs and interests.

*Water Theater* is a colorful commissioned work that teaches the precious nature of water and how we all can learn to conserve it.

*The Elders' Stories* are found in world cultures and depict the grey hero and heroine who have wit and wisdom that youngsters can identify.

*Acceptance, Kindness & Tolerance Programs* offers many ways that each of us can learn to be accepting of others and ourselves.

# THEATER

## TOURING ARTIST PERFORMANCES

### Stroud Puppets

The Stroud Puppets is a professional puppet troupe formed in 1975 that specializes in quality educational programs for children. It intertwines music, painting, sculpture and theater into a magical encounter for the senses. The troupe offers a 15-minute educational extension to its regular 30-minute performance at no charge, offering a variety of fun and entertaining performances with themes including positive behavior, classical music and language arts. They address the *California State Framework for Visual and Performing Arts*.

*Ocean Fantasy* is a beautiful display of ocean creatures performing music and stories with an ocean theme. It includes a unique version of *Little Red Riding Hood*, a herd of sea horses singing "Don't Fence Me In," a twistin' octopus and more.

*Jungle Antics* is a delightful array of stories and songs performed by jungle animals. It includes a 6-foot boa constrictor singing "I've Got a Crush on You," and a frog quartet singing "At the Hop," along with stories and songs that all ages really enjoy.

*How the Puppets Won the West* is a knee-slapping, good ole' time for all, including "The Song of the Screaming Cowboy," "I Love the Rainy Nights," an original melodrama and much more.

*Music, Music Everywhere* introduces classical and classic music in an entertaining way. This program includes a classical guitar-playing cowboy, a 6-foot, mezzo-soprano, opera-singing boa constrictor, a saxophone-playing cat and musical versions of *Little Red Riding Hood* and *Little Bunny Foo Foo*.

*Grandpa Jake's Basement* features Calvin and his grandpa, Jake, relaying traditional stories and folktales. Characters from classic favorites like *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Little Bunny Foo Foo*, *Nightmare in My Closet* and *Little Girl and the Gunny Wolf* come to life to involve the audience in their adventures.

*Kindness Kritters* features Danielle Dignity, Robert Respect, the Caped Kindness Crusader and a cast of Kindness Kritters teaching kids how easy and rewarding it can be to commit a random act of kindness every day. Stories and songs include "The Kindness

Flowed All Around," "It's Cool to Be Kind," "The Lion and the Mouse" and much more.

*Christmas* is an enjoyable mix of traditional and not-so-traditional Christmas music and stories. This program changes from year to year.

### Traveling Lantern

Two actors with simple props, costumes and sets create classic stories and the lives of famous artists from Ancient Greece to modern times. They draw children into an interactive theater experience to excite their minds and tickle their imaginations. Performances are sure to enthrall students and teachers alike. A 10% discount is offered for two single shows performed on the same day at two nearby venues. Please visit the artist's web site for current show offerings.

In *Greek Mythology* stories of gods and heroes from ancient Greece are woven into a hilarious adventure story of Homer's great, great, great grandson.

*A Christmas Carol* is a vivid and riveting retelling of the classic Charles Dickens story for young and old to enjoy. The miser, Scrooge, redeems himself after a long and compelling nightmare and in the end his heartwarming transformation touches us all. (grades K-8) Available in the fall

### We Tell Stories

Folklore, literature and mythology from a myriad of times and cultures come alive when We Tell Stories comes to town. Since 1981 this multi-ethnic, story-acting troupe has carried its innovative trunk shows throughout California and the U.S., reaching over 3.8 million people. An extensive repertoire and extemporaneous style adapt to any audience. Audience participation is an integral part of every show and ordinary objects are used in extraordinary ways. Everyone should go home saying, "I could do that!"

With *Let Them Eat Books* (great literature by great authors), reading becomes an active rather than a passive endeavor as the works of Aesop, Sandburg, Poe, Carroll, Thurber, Twain and others come to life onstage. The presentation focuses on the elements of poetry and

*Please do not pay artists directly. The CCP will invoice schools and libraries for artist services.*

# THEATER

prose, and how words affect the imagination. (all grades)

*Proud to be Me* (a multicultural show) features stories from several very different cultures that revolve around the themes of self-esteem, self-acceptance and respect for each other. (grades 3–adult)

In *Earth Tales* (tales from ancient cultures), life and death, the earth and its inhabitants, ecology and the environment are intertwined in stories from the early inhabitants of this world. (grades 3–adult)

In *Choosing My Way* (a multicultural show), young audiences learn the importance of staying true to oneself and making responsible life choices through stories from different cultures. (grades 3–adult)

Whether performed bilingually or totally in Spanish, a richness of heritage, a love of the language and the essence of family values ring through *Cuentos de la Familia (Stories of the Family)*, whose tales are indigenous to Latino culture. (all ages)

*The Spirit of Black Folklore* revolves around themes of friendship, pride and ingenuity in folk tales and literature from African and African-American cultures. (grades 3–adult)

In *Feast from the East* (Asian folktales), understand through their stories, what is shared and what distinguishes the myriad of Eastern, Mid-Eastern and Pacific Rim cultures. (all ages)

*The Season of Giving (Stories for the winter holidays)* regales youngsters with frolicking stories from the mythological darkness of winter to Christmas and Chanukah, the Festival of Lights. (all ages)

## Will & Company

Will & Company, a non-profit multicultural theater ensemble, presents 45-minute adaptations of Shakespeare and other classics. Each production features five fully costumed actors who can adapt to any performance space and a question-and-answer session. All shows are highly interactive and include 10 students from the audience in the production.

*The Odyssey*, as narrated by Zeus, is the classic tale of Odysseus' 20-year journey. This entertaining

introduction to Greek mythology starts with Eris and the Golden Apple and includes the Trojan Horse, Helen of Troy, the Sirens and their enchanting song, and the comic monster, Cyclops. This family show delights audiences with the imaginative use of actors and puppets. (grades K–12)

*A Christmas Carol* is a humorous and touching tale by one of England's most-loved author, Charles Dickens. It delights students, young and old, with the story of Scrooge as he learns the true meaning of giving and the value of friendship. Bah, humbug! (grades K–12)

## Will Hornyak - Storyteller

From American tall tales and native myths to Mexican fables, Russian fairy tales and beyond, Will Hornyak ("storyteller par excellence!"-*The Oregonian* newspaper) weaves a wide web of engaging, participatory, and beautifully crafted stories. Young audiences of Oregon and Southwest Washington chose Will as the 2004 Sunburst Artist of the Year. He teaches storytelling at Oregon's Marylhurst University and performs throughout the United States.

*World Voices* is folktales, fairy tales, participation stories and tall tales from around the world.

*Celtic Journeys* features Irish and Scottish folktales and legends.

Listen to the earliest stories of North America in *Coyote Tales and Native American Myths*.

*The Story of Medio Pollito* shares bi-lingual English and Spanish stories.

*Living Streams* offers stories for healthy watersheds, habitats and wildlife.

*Schools and libraries are required to report to CCP all scheduled services using the form provided.*