
GIFTED AND TALENTED EDUCATION
Eaton Elementary School Newsletter
OCTOBER 2009

Open House for Gifted Student Families

Organized by Scholar Search Associates and co-hosted by the Education Program for Gifted Youth (EPGY) at Stanford University

Sunday, November 15, 2009, 1:00-6:00 p.m. at Stanford University

- Bringing together gifted and talented students and their families and providing information on educational opportunities open to them.
- Featuring panel and roundtable discussions, exhibits, activities, and presentations about summer programs, independent boarding and day schools, online programs, scholarships and financial aid.

Admission to the Open House is free of charge.

For more information, contact Patsy Kumekawa at 1-860-664-3586 or ssa@scholarsearchassoc.com or go to:

http://www.scholarsearchassoc.com/programs-enr/events/EPGY/EPGY_openhouse.htm

CAG Legislative Update

Source: California Association for the Gifted (<http://www.cagifted.org>)

Budget Update Teri Burns – School Innovations & Advocacy

The Legislature has finally gone home for the year—more or less! We will still have hearings of the Education Committees throughout the fall to discuss the Governor's proposed reforms to qualify California for federal Race To The Top funds. Those proposals are embodied in SBx5 1 (Romero) and include proposals that will be of interest to CAG regarding linking student performance data directly to teachers for evaluations. SB 19 (Simitian) that does only that part is now on the Governor's desk for signature, but SBx5 1 contains other provisions as well.

The Legislature has held firm on all attempts to weaken the categorical flexibility that they put in place with the recent budget. Sentiment among all staff is that they want to see at least one year of operation under this proposal before they even consider pulling any programs out. They want real data on what schools are doing about serving

all of the targeted populations with flexible funds. We will be looking for information from CAG and CDE about what districts are doing to continue service for gifted students.

The budget scenario continues to look grim for this year and next. Tax revenues are coming in weaker than projected and another \$5 billion shortfall is now projected for next year's budget. This may or may not mean more cuts for education. Our saving grace is the need to maintain a minimum 'maintenance of effort' funding for education to receive most federal funds. More likely is another deferral of payments from the state, forcing on districts the need to borrow operating funds and pay interest thereon.

We continue to work with Senator Steinberg and Assemblywoman Huber on linking gifted kids to the dropout issue. I testified on behalf of CAG at the first of Huber's hearings on the dropout problem early this month and am working with her staff to highlight the needs of gifted children specifically and at length at a future hearing.

There is also some interest on behalf of some in the CTE community for linking up with CAG to push for more applied learning courses. We are exploring their intentions there before sending that through committees for review.

Currently the Governor has several hundred bills on his desk to sign or veto by October 11th. Most are relatively narrow and technical in nature. I anticipate next year's continued limited resources will dictate similarly few substantive measures introduced.

AB 8 (Brownley) establishing an education finance working group to completely review and recommend changes to the school funding system is among those he is considering. CAG will certainly want to be involved in those efforts if and when the group convenes.

We will continue to pursue SB 100 (Correa) as a talking point about gifted education in the year ahead, but the budget and school funding in general will again be the key focus on everyone's mind when the Governor's January Budget comes out at the start of the year.

NAGC Legislative Update

Source: National Association for Gifted Children (<http://www.nagc.org>)

Funding For The Javits Gifted & Talented Students Education Act

Funding for the Javits Act in fiscal year 2010 is nearly secured. The Senate appropriations committee included \$7.46 million for the program in the bill it approved on July 30. The bill must now go to the full Senate for its approval.

In the House of Representatives, a final fiscal year 2010 Labor/HHS/Education bill has been approved that included the same level of funding--\$7.46 million—for the program. Funding won't be finalized until after the full Senate approves its bill and the House and Senate work out differences in funding levels in other programs in their separate bills, which may take well into the fall. The funding level is sufficient to continue the National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented as well as the competitive grants. There is not enough money, however, to provide for statewide grants.

We would not have had this success without the consistent efforts of advocates around the country. Your work over the years to educate Members of Congress has resulted in new supporters who see the value in retaining the sole federal program

addressing the needs of gifted learners. Your efforts also confirm that Congress does respond to constituents. Recall that 50 Representatives and 18 Senators co-signed letters urging their respective appropriations committees to provide at least \$11.25 million for the Javits program. We have more work to do to expand our support, but we have an excellent foundation for future action.

Federal Stimulus Funds Available For Gifted & Talented Services And Programs

Gifted education supporters should be advocating with their local school district leaders to spend a portion of the federal stimulus money to support gifted and talented programs and services. The U.S. Department of Education has begun to distribute funds for K-12 and higher education, and at least two of the funding streams—the State Stabilization Fund and Title I funds—could be used to support gifted education students. Stabilization funds could be used to restore budget cuts and teacher positions, or the funds could be used to expand or create new services. Title I funds could be used to support gifted students from low-income families. Additionally, gifted education advocates should know that \$100 million in stimulus funds will support Teacher Quality Partnership grants in Title II of the Higher Education Act, which will require university teacher preparation programs to increase new teachers' exposure to the needs of gifted and talented students.

HEOA Title II Grants

The deadline for application for The Teacher Quality Partnership Grants under the Higher Education Opportunities Act was July 23, 2009. The grants require all teacher candidates to learn how to meet the learning needs of gifted children. As soon as the grants are awarded, NAGC will provide an update.

In other action related to HEOA, NAGC and the deans of 12 leading schools of education urged the Administration to ensure that institutions of higher education be held accountable for teaching the needs of gifted and talented students in their coursework that all teacher candidates receive. Gifted education advocates successfully added language to HEOA last year that require some record keeping and assurances on the part of teacher preparation programs and states. The letter to the Office of Management and Budget details ways to strengthen the data collection forms developed by the U.S. Department of Education.

THINGS TO DO DURING OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER OF 2009

OCTOBER is . . .

National Book Month

This annual event encourages readers of all ages to enjoy books. Check out some books at the library or buy some at the bookstore and read them this month!

International Dinosaur Month

To celebrate Dinosaur Month, visit the online dinosaur exhibits at the National Museum of Natural History and the American Museum of Natural History. Also, take a look at The Dinosaur National Monument Web site offered by The National Park Service.

<http://paleobiology.si.edu/dinosaurs/>

<http://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/dinosaurs/>

<http://www.nps.gov/history/museum/exhibits/dino/overview.html>

Computer Learning Month

Last year, CompuChild USA said it best: “Computer Learning Month is a time to focus attention on the important role computers, software and other technologies play in our lives, particularly in our children’s learning and their future.”

National Cybersecurity Awareness Month

From the Department of Homeland Security Web site: October marks the sixth annual National Cybersecurity Awareness Month sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security. The theme for National Cybersecurity Awareness Month 2009 is “Our Shared Responsibility” to reinforce the message that all computer users, not just industry and government, have a responsibility to practice good “cyber hygiene” and to protect themselves and their families at home, at work and at school.

For more information, go to:

<http://www.staysafeonline.org>

To read President Obama’s Proclamation, go to:

http://www.whitehouse.gov/the_press_office/Presidential-Proclamation-National-Cybersecurity-Awareness-Month/

Also in OCTOBER . . .

Earth Science Week – October 11-17, 2009

“Understanding Climate” is the theme of this week. To participate in a photography or visual arts contest, go to

<http://www.earthsciweek.org/contests/index.html>

National Chemistry Week – October 18-24, 2009

The theme for this year's National Chemistry Week is "Chemistry—It's Elemental!" To celebrate, check out the Dynamic Periodic Table of Elements at <http://www.ptable.com>

Web Journeys . . .

Phonics:

Starfall

<http://www.starfall.com>

The Starfall reading program is designed to be fun, exciting, and to instill confidence in young children as they learn to read. The reading materials and activities focus on phonemic awareness, systematic phonics, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, and motivation.

Sadlier-Oxford: Phonics Student Online Components

<http://www.sadlier-oxford.com/phonics/student.cfm>

These phonics games are organized by grade level from PreK through 6th.

Game Goo: Learning That Sticks

<http://www.earobics.com/gamegoo/goeeyhome.html>

Welcome to our home for fun, stick-with-you educational games that help develop early reading skills identified as important language arts building blocks. Earobics is a K-3 product from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

GenkiEnglish: Phonics

<http://genkienglish.net/phonics.htm>

Move your cursor over the letters in the GenkiEnglish box to hear its sound, and then click on the picture to hear the word containing that letter and sound. There are also phonics games in the seven yellow buttons under the GenkiEnglish box.

Multiplication:

Multiplication.com: Interactive Games

http://www.multiplication.com/interactive_games.htm

There are an amazing number of games on this site to help students learn to multiply.

Multiplication Games For Kids—By KidsNumbers

<http://www.kidsnumbers.com/multiplication.php>

Scroll down to “Let’s Prepare For Multiplication” (on the left) to build the skills needed to succeed in multiplying numbers. On the right, you will find “Let’s Practice Multiplication” games and activities.

MrNussbaum.com – Interactive Multiplication Drills, Games, and Applications

<http://www.mrnussbaum.com/multiplication.htm>

This site features multiplication drills, multiplication games (such as “Defeat the Math Monster,” “Speed Math,” and “World Cup Math”), and draggable multiplication.

Dositey.com: Multiplication

<http://www.dositey.com/muldiv/multip.htm>

These programs are designed to be short, step-by-step, interactive and fun. Be sure to try the “Order of Operations,” “Mystery Picture,” and “Memory” games.

Multiplication Games—Interactive, Free and Fun

http://www.helpingwithmath.com/by_subject/multiplication/mul_games.htm

“Multiplication doesn’t have to be all worksheets, tables, charts, tests and problems. Games are often an excellent way for your child to learn math.” At this site, you will find multiplication games, games for practicing times tables, and “Target The Answer.”

Gamequarium: Multiplication Games

<http://www.gamequarium.com/multiplication.html>

Math is Fun! Try Out Your Multiplication Tables

<http://www.mathsisfun.com/timestable.html>

The 23rd Annual TECH CHALLENGE 2010™

The Tech Challenge is an annual team design challenge for youth in grades 5 through 12. A signature program of The Tech Museum, the challenge introduces and reinforces the scientific process with a hands-on project geared to solve a real-world problem. All this, and it’s FUN!!!

The project-based nature of this program makes it unique from any other science-based program or competition for youth. Open and accessible to anyone in the 5th to 12th grade age range, The Tech Challenge inspires the innovator in EVERYONE.

2010 Challenge: **International Space Station Mission: Space Junk** – Your team’s challenge is to design and create a device that can attach two Hall

Thrusters to an inoperable Satellite so that NASA can force it to de-orbit and burn up upon re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere to help rid our galaxy of it's SPACE JUNK! (Size "D" batteries will be used to represent the thrusters.)

For details about the Challenge, go to:

http://techchallenge.thetech.org/the_challenge.cfm

Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on "Registration is NOW OPEN!" There is still plenty of time to register and many info clinics scheduled.

For a list of key dates and events, go to:

<http://techchallenge.thetech.org/keyDates.cfm>

Once you register for The Tech Challenge, you get a temporary membership to The Tech Museum good through May 3, 2010, so that when you come for any of the preparatory events, you can stay and enjoy the galleries or an IMAX movie FOR FREE!

Hicklebee's

1378 Lincoln Ave., San Jose, (408) 292-8880

Meet the authors . . .

Wednesday, October 21st at 3:00 p.m.: **T. A. Barron** is the author of *Merlin's Dragon*. Barron presents the sequel, *Merlin's Dragon: Doomraga's Revenge*.

Wednesday, October 28th at 3:00 p.m.: **Sharon Robinson**, daughter of Major League Baseball legend Jackie Robinson, presents her latest book, *Testing the Ice: A True Story About Jackie Robinson*.

Sunday, November 1st at 1:00 p.m.: **Dave Barry & Ridley Pearson**, writers of the *Peter Pan* prequels, beginning with *Peter and the Starcatchers*, have written a new book, *Peter and the Sword of Mercy*.

Barnes & Noble Events for Children

At the store at 3600 Stevens Creek Blvd., San Jose (408) 984-3495:

Weekly storytimes are held Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. for children in preschool, Fridays at 7:00 p.m. (a one-hour pajama storytime for the whole family) for children ages 5-10, and Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. for children ages 3-8.

At the store at 1600 Saratoga Avenue, Westgate Shopping Center (408) 370-0444:

Storytimes are held Mondays at 11 a.m.

San Jose Museum of Art

Housed in a unique hybrid of the old and new, the San Jose Museum of Art is a stunning blend of the historic and the contemporary: an 1892 National and California Registered Historic landmark and a sleek 1991 New Wing. Founded in 1969, the Museum is now a major cultural and educational resource for the entire Bay Area and West Coast.

With a mission to promote an awareness, appreciation and understanding

of 20th- and 21st-century art in the diverse audiences of the Bay Area, the San Jose Museum of Art presents a full range of exhibitions with a focus on contemporary art--the visionary pulse of our society--including painting, sculpture, installations, photography, video, and new media.

Special Exhibit (through December 13, 2009): **Alexander Calder: Color in Motion** – Alexander Calder (trained as an engineer) challenged the long-held notion that sculpture was static and monumental. His inventive, colorful, animated “mobiles” epitomize the innovative, optimistic spirit of early-twentieth century modernism. In all of Calder’s mobiles, his objective was not to represent or refer to nature, but to capture its dynamic actions and unpredictable, living systems. This exhibition will include mobiles, jewelry, and works on paper drawn from Bay Area collections, including the holdings of several of the Museum’s founders and longtime supporters.

Special Exhibit (through February 28, 2010): **Ansel Adams: Early Works** – Ansel Adams—photographer, musician, naturalist, explorer, critic and teacher—was a giant in the field of landscape photography and a native Californian. This exhibition focuses on the masterful, small-scale prints made by Adams from the 1920s to the 1950s. During this time, Adams’ printing style evolved from his soft-focus, warm-toned, painterly “Parmelian prints” of the 1920s; through the sharp-focused photography of the f/64 school that he co-founded with Edward Weston and Imogen Cunningham in the 1930s; to the cooler, higher-contrast approach he embraced thereafter.

Special Exhibit (through February 7, 2010): **Variations on a Theme** is an expansive presentation of works by 30-40 contemporary artists, most based in California, organized in thematic groupings. This exhibition presents work in all media, ranging from painting to ceramics to digital landscapes.

Imagination stations, created for visitors of all ages, are interpretive areas designed to foster participatory learning about exhibitions in the galleries. Also, don’t miss the **Eye Openers Gallery Games for Families** to use while in the galleries.

Special: Museum of Art on the Web! – For interviews with the artists and a look at their work, go to <http://www.sjmusart.org/podcast/aotw>
See *SJMA Interactive* at <http://www.sjmusart.org/interactive> for audio and video content produced by the San Jose Museum of Art for several of its exhibitions. You can see still more at <http://www.youtube.com/sanjosemuseumofart>

Gallery tours available every day at 12:30 and 2:30 p.m.

Located at 110 S. Market St., San Jose.

Open Tues.-Sun., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (CLOSED Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day.)

Admission: Adults, \$8.00; Students and Seniors, \$5.00; San Jose Library Cardholders, \$2.00 discount; Children under 6, FREE; and SJMA members, FREE.

For more information call (408) 271-6840. [For 24-hour recorded information, call (408) 294-2787.] <http://www.sjmusart.org>

Lawrence Hall of Science

U.C. Berkeley's public science center is filled with experiences that put you in the shoes of the scientist. Touch a tarantula, measure earthquakes, surf the Internet, solve mysteries using science and explore topics from atoms to zoology. See a giant DNA molecule, life-size whale sculpture, and giant redwood trees.

Special Exhibit (October 3, 2009-January 3, 2010): *Facing Mars* – What if you could travel to Mars? Would you be prepared for a long space journey and an inhospitable landscape? What will you eat on your three-year journey? What will happen to your body in microgravity? How will you get along living with the rest of the crew? Can you protect yourself from radiation and Martian dust storms? If Mars has any signs of life, could you recognize them? In *Facing Mars*, your readiness to be a space traveler will be tested in over two dozen simulations of space travel.

Take the Challenges:

- Design and test your own rocket.
- Get dizzy in a spinning chair.
- Build a maze for a Mars robotic rover.
- Walk in simulated Martian gravity.

Going to Mars will take ingenuity, teamwork, and imagination. Come to think of it, so does living right here on Earth! Challenge yourself in the *Facing Mars* exhibit and see if you've got the right stuff.

Ongoing exhibits include:

Science on a Sphere (SOS)® - See the Earth from space—without ever leaving the ground! Get an astronaut's-eye-view of Earth's surface as it changes minute to minute, by the hour, through the seasons, and over the years. You won't need a spacecraft to see it happen at Science on a Sphere. Science on a Sphere creates stunning visual effects from real scientific data, and displays them on a six-foot-diameter globe. Three-dimensional video projectors show visitors such effects as the expanding wave pattern of a devastating tsunami, massive storms forming and moving over Earth's oceans and landmasses, and night lights around the globe that reveal our planet's most densely populated areas. Suspended from the ceiling, the animated sphere seems to float in space—just as an astronaut would see the Earth. Images of our planet's weather patterns, climate change, ocean temperature, and more on the giant globe help visitors of all ages understand complex environmental processes that affect everyone on our planet. Science on a Sphere was developed by Researchers at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

Forces That Shape the Bay – Add the outdoors to your LHS visit. This science park is an exploration of the ever-changing geology of San Francisco Bay. Hands-on activities in plate tectonics, water, erosion, and mountain building

reveal how natural

forces have shaped and reshaped our own backyard. Focus our telescopes on the

Farallon Islands, and find out why Los Angeles and San Francisco could one day be neighbors. In addition, facilitated BayLab activities get beneath the surface of topics like plant and animal life in the Bay, bird migration, landforms, rocks, and sand. BayLab activities take place at 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 1:30 p.m. For a broader understanding of San Francisco Bay, include an audio tour in your visit. Native Americans recount the life of their ancestors, and scientists who study the Bay talk about their work. The audio tour has both English and Spanish versions and can be used by groups and individuals.

NanoZone – Enter the *NanoZone* and find out how geckos climb up walls and hang from ceilings. This groundbreaking exhibit explores the science of the very, very, very small. At the newest hands-on station, try out our gecko “paws,” and discover the amazing, nanoscale adaptation that helps geckos cling to all kinds of surfaces. Additional hands-on activities, interactive stations, and computer games introduce you to a field of science that may have tremendous impact on your life and even your career choices.

- Measure yourself in nanometers to get a sense of the nanoscale.
- Find out how nanotechnology can be applied to real-life needs.
- Who are the researchers changing science today and for tomorrow?

Real Astronomy Experience – Operate a remote-control telescope in Perth,

Australia where the 17-hour time difference allows our daytime visitors to view a night sky. Search this real-time sky on your own; or use activities from our virtual sky programs to learn more about planets, stars, and other cosmic phenomena.

Animal Discovery Room – Hold gentle animals, explore your sense of touch, find out how animals protect themselves, and discover more about yourself and other organisms. Among the animals that live here are chinchillas, corn snakes, doves, gopher snakes, legless lizards, leopard geckos, rats, and tree frogs. During the hours the Room is open, LHS staff members are available to answer your questions. Open weekends and holidays 1:30-4:30 p.m.

The Idea Lab – Basic science, math, and technology are at work in these playful and creative activities. Make and play your own cardboard kazoo to see how vibrating air changes sound. Study flight with paper copters and hoop gliders. Watch two pictures become one with Thaumatrope. Create tangram designs, origami, even the UC Berkeley Campanile.

KidsLab – Put your arms around our new colorful, larger-than-life (if you're a kid) blocks and shapes. Stack 'em, connect 'em, roll on 'em! These Play+Soft furnishings and a companion mirror labyrinth and mirror kaleidoscope are the latest additions to the KidsLab. Visitors 6 and younger have this multisensory play area all to themselves. It includes the popular Gravity Wall, a puppet theater, and the Gravity Well.

Mastodon (Gomphotherium simpsoni) – During the time this mastodon lived in the East Bay—about nine million years ago—volcanoes still rumbled in Berkeley, and tectonic forces had not yet pushed Mt. Diablo up. Mastodon herds thrived in a forested valley, which today is Contra Costa County. This fossil skeleton, excavated from Mt.

Diablo’s southern slope, is from the permanent collection of UC’s Museum of Paleontology (UCMP).

Math Around the World – Play the world’s most popular math games, including Hex, Kalah, Game Sticks, and Shongo Networks. Get a taste by playing a math game or activity online. Go to <http://www.lawrencehallofscience.org>, and do a search for Tower of Hanoi.

Math Rules – Simple and colorful objects are used to complete interesting challenges in mathematics. These engrossing activities involve predicting, sorting, comparing, weighing, and counting.

Holt Planetarium – Experience the “Best Planetarium in the World,” according to *The Planetarium* magazine. Planetarium tickets are \$4.00 and are sold at the Information Desk on a first-come, first-served basis. (The cost of the ticket is in addition to the museum admission fee.) Many programs are recommended for ages 8 and up. Children under the age of 6 will not be admitted to the planetarium, except for programs listed for ages 4-8.

From October 10, 2009-January 2010 (Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays and special holiday weeks):

12:45 p.m. – “A Sky Full of Stars” – ages 4-8 with adult – What’s in the sky? We use our friendly planetarium as a time machine to speed through a day—sunrise to sunset—observing the sky and seeing how the Sun’s position changes throughout the day. Once night falls, the audience can stargaze at the Big Dipper and imagine pictures in the stars. What can *you* see in a sky full of stars?

1:45 p.m. – “A Sky Full of Stars” – ages 4-8 with adult – See description above.

2:45 p.m. – “Red Planet Mars” – ages 8 to adult – The Red Planet has always held mysteries for us, even from the most ancient of times. To unravel some of these secrets, learn how to spot Mars in the night sky. Then study Mars through a telescope before learning how space probes have updated—and changed—what we know about our planetary neighbor. With missions operating on and around Mars right now—and more to come—there is a lot to discover!

3:45 p.m. – “Red Planet Mars” – ages 8 to adult – See description above.

Saturday Night Stargazing

First and third Saturdays of each month—weather permitting—8:00-10:00 p.m. – See the Moon, planets, star clusters, galaxies, and more through astronomical telescopes. Ask questions and talk with amateur astronomers. Learn how to use a star map to find constellations. Share in the wonder of the

universe.

LHS is located on the U.C. Berkeley campus off Grizzly Peak Blvd.
Open daily 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (Closed Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day)

Adult admission \$12.00; seniors/ages 7-18 \$9.00; ages 3-6 \$6.00; ages 2 & under FREE. For more information, call 1-510-642-5132.

<http://www.lawrencehallofscience.org>

Minolta Planetarium (at De Anza College)

Come join us at the Planetarium and journey to the stars via our Infinium S Star projector and experience our full dome digital star shows under our 50-foot dome! See the universe in a whole new light! Show format: High definition 360-degree full dome video and taped audio narration.

Saturday Family **Astronomy** Evenings:

All shows are about one hour in length and include “The Sky Tonight,” a tour of the current night sky.

October 10 – 5:00 p.m. – “Zula Patrol: Under the Weather” – Preschool-Kindergarten – The stalwart heroes of the Zula Patrol are on an expedition collecting samples of weather on planet Zula for scientist Multo’s research—using their loyal pet Gorga’s ability to collect and bottle all kinds of weather. But when the Zula gang inadvertently hurts Gorga’s feelings, he decides to leave Zula and find another planet to live on. Interplanetary villain, Dark Truder tricks Gorga into stealing the weather from other planets—part of his latest scheme to rule the Universe. The Zula Patrol find out and go after him – in the process learning all about weather, both terrestrial and interplanetary.

October 10 – 6:00 p.m. – “The Planets” – 3rd-5th Grades – Presented in the style of a game show, *The Planets* tests people’s knowledge of the nine planets in our Solar System. The audience finds themselves transported from planet to planet, immersed in spectacularly different environments. Show includes information on the history of astronomy and planetary sciences.

October 10 – 7:30 p.m. – “Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity” – 5th Grade-Adult – There’s a place from which nothing escapes, not even light, where time and space literally come to end. It’s at this point, inside this fantastic riddle, that black holes exert their sway over the cosmos . . . and our imaginations. Mathematical equations, cutting-edge science, and Einstein’s theories fill in holes along the way, providing the most complete picture yet on this mysterious phenomenon. In this show you will zip through otherworldly wormholes, experience the creation of the Milky Way Galaxy, and witness the violent death of a star and subsequent birth of a black hole.

October 17 – 5:00 p.m. – “The Little Star That Could” – Kindergarten-2nd Grade – A story about Little Star, an average yellow star in search for planets of his own to protect and warm. Along the way, he meets other stars, learns what makes each star special, and discovers that stars combine to form star clusters

and galaxies. Eventually, Little Star finds his planets. Each planet is introduced to the audience with basic information about our Solar System.

October 17 – 6:00 p.m. – “Secret of the Cardboard Rocket” – Kindergarten-2nd Grade – Climb aboard a magical cardboard rocket with two young adventurers, Marcus and Bonnie, and experience a breathtaking, up-close look at each of our solar system’s planets with guidance from “Astronomy Book” – a character personified by a wise, kind old man. It’s not until the end of the adventure when you find out what the true secret of the rocket is—something that makes this apparently impossible trip to the edges of the universe and back become possible.

October 17 – 7:30 p.m. – “Heart of the Sun” – 5th Grade-Adult – From the Neolithic sky watchers of Europe to the solar observatories and blood sacrifice of Mesoamerica to the sun gods of the Egyptians and Greeks and the dawning of Aristotelian science, The Heart of the Sun reveals how the development of our whole cosmology has been informed by our struggle with this oldest of mysteries. Experience the story that shows how that process continues today as the sheer strangeness of our nearest star continues to challenge our imagination. New space-based telescopes along with a new generation of terrestrial instruments capture both the fine surface detail and the vast eruptions of the corona with unprecedented clarity and, for the first time, take us right inside a living star. Show includes information about Astronomy, Earth and Space Sciences.

October 24 – 5:00 p.m. – “Zula Patrol” – See description above (10/10).

October 24 – 6:00 p.m. – “The Planets” – See description above (10/10).

October 24 – 7:30 p.m. – “Astronaut” – 4th Grade-Adult – The exploration of space is the greatest endeavor that humankind has ever undertaken. What does it take to be part of this incredible journey? What does it take to become an astronaut? This latest immersive planetarium show takes you from Earth into space . . . and beyond. Experience a rocket launch from inside the body of an astronaut. Explore the amazing worlds of inner and outer space, from floating around the International Space Station to the microscopic regions of the human body.

October 31 – 5:00 p.m. – “The Little Star That Could” – See description above (10/17).

October 31 – 6:00 p.m. – “Two Small Pieces of Glass” – 3rd Grade-Adult – Learn how the telescope has helped us understand our place in space and how telescopes continue to expand our understanding of the Universe. Program contains brief history of the telescope and the discoveries these wonderful tools have made. See how telescopes work and how the largest observatories in the world use these instruments to explore the mysteries of the universe. Explore the Galilean Moons, Saturn’s rings, and spiral structure of galaxies, and join us as we learn about the discoveries of Galileo, Huygens, Newton, Hubble and many others.

October 31 – 7:30 p.m. – “Extreme Planets” – 5th Grade-Adult – For centuries, humanity has wondered whether we are alone in the Universe. Now,

we are finally one step closer to knowing the answer. With the discovery in 1995 of the first planet orbiting another star we now know that planets are not unique to our own Solar System. In fact, these “extrasolar” planets now appear to be quite common. No one has yet found an Earth-like world with conditions similar to ours, but it now seems only a matter of time. And as the quest for extrasolar planets continues, the possibility exists that one day we might find life elsewhere in the Universe, born in the light of another sun. In our newest original production, we’ll explore what makes a planet “Earth-like” in the first place, and take an immersive full dome tour of several worlds that just might fit the conditions we’re looking for. From water worlds to molten landscapes, inhabitable moons to planets with multiple suns, these exotic worlds aren’t just science fiction anymore!

November 7 – 5:00 p.m. – “Zula Patrol” – See description above (10/10).

November 7 – 6:00 p.m. – “The Planets” – See description above (10/10).

November 7 – 7:30 p.m. – “Black Holes: The Other Side of Infinity” – See description above (10/10).

Note: Telescope viewing will be available (weather permitting) after each presentation of Saturday Family Astronomy Evening.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$6 for children ages 12 and under, for students with a valid DASB card and Senior Citizens. Tickets are only sold at the door beginning at 4:00 p.m. Parking is \$2 in quarters or dollar bills in every student lot. For more information, call (408) 864-8814 or go to <http://www.planetarium.deanza.edu>

Saturday Laser Light Shows:

October 10 – 9:00 p.m. – “U2”

October 17 – 9:00 p.m. – “Spooktacular Halloween” – Celebrate Halloween with a fantastic display of laser lights and special music for the occasion under the planetarium sky.

October 24 – 9:00 p.m. – “Spooktacular Halloween”

October 31 – 9:00 p.m. – “Spooktacular Halloween”

November 7 – 9:00 p.m. – “Beatles Anthology”

Tickets are \$9 for adults and \$7 for children 12 and under. Ticket sales start at 7:30 p.m. in the Planetarium. Parking is \$2 in quarters or dollar bills in every student lot. For more information, call the Laser Line at (408) 864-5791.

Special note: Go to

http://www.planetarium.deanza.edu/info/laser_bucks_1.pdf and print out a “Laser Buck” for each member of your family to get \$1.00 off the ticket price.

San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge

Activities and programs are offered at two locations. At the *Visitor Center*

in **Fremont**, SFBNWR offers monthly nature and environmental programs concerning life near the San Francisco Bay. **Note: Our Visitor Center Has Moved! To provide easier access and information about the refuge, the Visitor Center on top of the hill has moved temporarily to the lower parking lot overlooking LaRiviere Marsh. It is located by the first parking lot to the right on Marshlands Road. This long-term, temporary Visitor Contact Station will serve as the gathering area for our Fremont weekend programs until funds are available to construct a new Visitor Center.** Visitors explore indoor exhibits and wander on self-guiding trails.

Saturday, October 10, 2009, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: “Marshlands of Dreams” – Join a refuge ranger on a 1-mile walk of the LaRiviere Marsh Trail to find traces of the past. Prior to marsh restoration, learn how Californians utilized the area for farming, quarrying, salt production, and transportation. There are opportunities for bird watching as well. Meet at the new visitor contact station located by the first parking lot to the right on Marshlands Road. Led by Paul Mueller.

Saturday, October 10, 2009, 5:30-7:00 p.m.: “Twilight Marsh Walk” – Experience the salt marsh at twilight on an easy stroll along Tidelands (1 1/3 mile) Trail. At the setting of the sun we will observe the beginning of nature’s night shift. Come discover the sights, sounds, and smells of the refuge as night descends. Not suitable for young children. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Call 1-510-745-8695. Led by Mary and Gene Bobik.

Saturday, October 31, 2009, 2:30-4:30 p.m.: “Family Bird Walk” – Let family walks become a shared time of nature learning. We’ll begin by helping kids create their personal bird watching field guides, and then head out onto the trails to find those birds. Learn about the salt marsh habitat along the way. A limited number of binoculars are available to borrow. Meet at the new Visitor Center located by the first parking lot to the right on Marshlands Road. Recommended for children ages 5-10. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Call 1-510-745-8695.

Saturday, November 7, 2009, 10:30-11:30 a.m.: “Marshlands of Dreams” – Join a refuge ranger on a 1-mile walk of the LaRiviere Marsh Trail to find traces of the past. Prior to marsh restoration, learn how Californians utilized the area for farming, quarrying, salt production, and transportation. There are opportunities for bird watching as well. Meet at the new visitor contact station located by the first parking lot to the right on Marshlands Road. Led by Paul Mueller.

Sunday, November 8, 2009, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: “Life at the Bottom of the Food Chain” – Wetlands microbes are often called “the lungs of the earth.” Explore the dynamics of microbial communities in LaRiviere Marsh ponds. Join microbiologist Wayne Lanier, Ph.D., for a brief presentation in the Visitor Center, then a microscope hike to LaRiviere Marsh, where we will sample and view the most ancient creatures on Earth. See how they produce the oxygen we breathe and take up the carbon dioxide we produce. Discover how tides shape these

vital communities. Easy short hiking; level. Ages 9-90 years. Call 1-510-745-8695 for RESERVATIONS.

Location: From I-880 or Hwy. 101 take Route 84 toward the east end of the Dumbarton Bridge and exit on Thornton Ave. Travel south 0.8 mile to the Refuge entrance on the right. Turn right into the Refuge and follow Marshlands Road to the first parking lot on the right. The Visitor Contact Station is located right by it.

Open Tues.-Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. FREE. 1-510-745-8695.

Other programs are held at the ***Environmental Education Center*** in **Alviso**:

Saturday, October 10, 2009, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: "All About Owls" – Learn all that you've ever wanted to learn about owls here at the Refuge! Where do owls eat? What do owls eat? How do we not hear them when they flap their wings? Through an interactive presentation and owl pellet dissection, we'll find the answers to all these questions! Paul Bridges will lead the way. Please call Debra at (408) 262-5513 ext. 102 for RESERVATIONS.

Sunday, October 11, 2009, 1:00-3:00 p.m.: "Wetlands Water Café" – Wetlands can be filled with all sorts of nutrients and organisms that build a diverse web of life.

Come visit the wetlands of the South Bay at the Environmental Education Center during this program. Participants will use our lab to observe wetland critters up close and learn about their role in the ecosystem. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED—All ages are welcome. Call Eric at (408) 262-5513 ext. 104.

Saturday, October 17, 2009, 9:00-11:30 a.m.: "Beginning Birding Clinic" – If you can't tell your egrets from your cormorants, this clinic is for you! We'll learn about binoculars, identification books, and other birding basics through hands-on activities and conversation. Then we'll go out into the field to practice our new skills. Binoculars and books are provided during the class, but if you have your own, please bring them. Be prepared to be outdoors in the weather for about an hour. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Call Jennifer at (408) 262-5513 ext. 106.

Saturday, October 17, 2009, 1:30-3:00 p.m.: "Water, Water, Everywhere!" – Where does the water come from and where does it go? Learn about the water cycle and watersheds. Build a model of a watershed and see if you can predict where the water will go! Recommended for ages 8 and up. Led by Ed Kantack. Please call Debra at (408) 262-5513 ext. 102 for RESERVATIONS.

Sunday, October 25, 2009, 2:00-4:00 p.m.: "Slough Whoo??" – It's that time of year again! Come and learn about the spooky nocturnal residents of Alviso and what their life is like. Owls nesting at the Environmental Education Center are top predators and have fascinating ways of hunting, consuming, and disposing of their prey. Participants will learn about owl behavior and anatomy of prey animals through owl pellet dissection. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED—All ages are welcome. Call Eric at (408) 262-5513 ext. 104.

Saturday, November 7, 2009, 1:30-3:00 p.m.: “Discover Ohlone Uses of Plants” – Are you learning about the Ohlone Indians at school, or are you just curious? Then this is the program for you! Explore the plants that were traditionally used by the original inhabitants of this area, the Ohlone Indians. Then enjoy a guided walk around our native plant garden. Fun for the whole family! Led by teacher/librarian Pat Hartinger. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Call Debra at (408) 262-5513 ext. 102.

Sunday, November 8, 2009, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.: “Tracking Through the Slough” – Who’s been walking in the wetland and slogging through the slough? Find out at this hands-on program where participants will learn all about tracks, the refuge animals that make them, and what these critters tell us about the health of our watershed. Participants will learn about track identification and make their own tracking guides! RESERVATIONS REQUIRED—All ages are welcome. Call Eric at (408) 262-5513 ext. 104.

Location: From I-880 in Milpitas, take Hwy. 237 toward Alviso. Turn north onto Zanker Road. Continue on Zanker Road to the Environmental Education Center entrance road (a sharp right turn at Grand Blvd.)

Open Sat. & Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

FREE. (408) 262-5513.

For more information about the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, check online at <http://www.fws.gov/desfbay>

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

Twenty-three extraordinary preserves include over 40,000 acres of permanently protected open space, from redwood forests to bay shoreline. You may participate in a wide variety of organized hikes and walks. All are FREE.

Saturdays and Sundays – **Daniels Nature Center** – 12:00-5:00 p.m. – “Stop In and Explore” – Bring family and friends to visit this charming wooden building on any Saturday or Sunday this fall between 12:00 noon and 5:00 p.m. (The hours change to 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. beginning Saturday, October 24th.) You can enjoy displays about natural communities, view larger-than-life pond strata mobiles, take a pond prowl, and perhaps have an opportunity to study live aquatic organisms “borrowed” from Alpine Pond with guidance from a docent. These adventures and more await you! Park at the Russian Ridge Preserve parking lot on the northwest corner of the Skyline Boulevard (Highway 35) and Page Mill/Alpine Road intersection (across Skyline Blvd. on the right). Walk to Alpine Pond at Skyline Ridge Preserve by going through the tunnel under Alpine Road. The nature center is a small gray building on the east shore of Alpine Pond.

The following hikes are appropriate for children, but they must be accompanied by an adult:

For the following **Los Trancos** hikes, meet at the Preserve parking lot on Page Mill Road (across from Monte Bello Preserve), 7 miles west of I-280 or 1.5 miles east of Skyline Boulevard. Those traveling from I-280 on Page Mill Rd. should allow approximately 35 minutes travel time.

Saturday, October 17 – **Los Trancos** – 2:00-5:15 p.m. – “Loma Prieta 20-Year Anniversary Earthquake Walk” – Where were you on October 17, 1989? Were you in the Bay Area or elsewhere watching the World Series on television? Join docents Paul Billig and Ann Reisenauer on the 20-year anniversary of the Loma Prieta earthquake and learn about the impact of earthquakes on District preserves. During this leisurely 2- to 3-mile hike, you’ll learn how the landscape has changed as a result of earthquakes along the San Andreas Fault. Bring a snack and something to sit on, and be prepared to share your earthquake experiences.

Sunday, November 1 – **Los Trancos** – 2:00-4:30 p.m. – “Earthquake Walk” – Join docents Harry Cornbleet and Kandis Scott “where worlds collide” at the junction of the Pacific and North American plates. On this 2- to 3-mile stroll, you’ll discover remnants of the effects of the 1906 earthquake, discuss plate tectonics, and discuss how to prepare for future earthquakes.

For the following **Long Ridge (Grizzly Flat trailhead)** hikes, meet on the west side of Skyline Boulevard 3.6 miles north of Highway 9, or 3.3 miles south of Page Mill Road. If you are coming from the north on Skyline Blvd., the pullout is just past Portola Heights Road on the right. From the south, the pullout is near the Palo Alto city limits sign on the right.

Saturday, October 10 – **Long Ridge** – 10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. – “Grizzly Adams” – Here is an opportunity to look at the life and times of Grizzly Adams with docents Ed Lange and Benita Rashall on a 6-mile, moderately-paced hike along the Peters Creek and Long Ridge Trails. Adams’ bears were the talk of the town in San Francisco during the 1850s. Come learn about “Samson,” “Lady Washington,” and the rest of the grizzly gang. Lunch and a tribute to Wallace Stegner will be had at his very special bench along the trail. Don’t forget to bring your lunch!

Sunday, October 25 – **Long Ridge** – 10:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. – “Long Ridge Plant Communities” – Enjoy a mid-fall hike through the various plant communities of the stunning Long Ridge Preserve. You’ll walk 4.6 miles through grassland, chaparral, mixed evergreen, oak woodland, and riparian plant communities with docents David Bergman and Ellen Johnson and talk about how such a variety of communities can exist within a relatively small area. A break will be had overlooking the hills and the Pacific with a lunchtime “lecture” on the geography of the region. Don’t forget to bring your lunch!

For the following **Monte Bello** hike, meet at the Preserve parking lot on Page Mill Road (across from Los Trancos Preserve), 7 miles west of I-280 or 1.5

miles east of Skyline Boulevard. Those traveling from I-280 on Page Mill Rd. should allow approximately 35 minutes travel time.

Saturday, October 10 – **Monte Bello** – 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. – “Cool at the Top” – Breathtaking views await you as you ascend with docents Bob Segalla and Mike Alexander on the Bella Vista Trail. You’ll learn how Mountain View got its name and many other interesting things about the area. Look forward to seeing evidence of the 1906 earthquake while returning on the San Andreas Fault Trail. This moderately-paced, 5-mile, 500-foot elevation change is suitable for capable kids. Don’t forget to bring your lunch!

For the following **Ravenswood** hike: From Highway 101, exit on University Avenue. Follow University Ave. north (about four long blocks) to Bay Road. Turn right on Bay Rd. and follow it to the very end (about 1.2 miles). The Preserve entrance and parking lot are marked with large signs.

Sunday, October 18 – **Ravenswood** – 1:30-3:30 p.m. – “Weather in the Sky” – Ravenswood Preserve along the Bay offers great views of the sky and opportunities to understand the clouds or fog that dominate the area’s weather pattern. Even if the skies do not cooperate, docents Kandis Scott and Pamela Reliford will share a leisurely walk with you along the flat, accessible trail to enjoy the openness of the waterfront. The maximum distance of the hike would be 2.4 miles, but time rather than distance will define this walk. Note: Because there is no shelter along this trail, ANY rain (even steady drizzle) will cancel.

For the following **Skyline Ridge** hike, meet at the Skyline Ridge Preserve parking lot on Skyline Boulevard (Highway 35), located one mile south of the Page Mill/Alpine Road and Skyline Blvd. intersection. After entering the Preserve, turn right and go to the farthest parking lot. Those driving from I-280 on Page Mill Rd. should allow approximately 35 minutes travel time.

Sunday, October 18 – **Skyline Ridge** – 11:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. – “Skyline Ridge Family Hike” – You and your family are invited to join docent Keith Johnsgård on a fall hike over beautiful Skyline Ridge Preserve. Midway through the hike, you’ll make an extended stop at Alpine Pond to eat your picnic lunch (plus fresh mountain water) and enjoy a visit to the Daniels Nature Center. The hike is a 4-mile circle route over the ridge (275-foot elevation gain each way) that passes through four ecosystems offering fresh mountain air and simply splendid views. Don’t forget to bring your lunch!

For the following **Skyline Ridge** and **Russian Ridge** hikes, meet at **Russian Ridge** at the Preserve parking lot on the northwest corner of the Skyline Boulevard (Highway 35) and Page Mill/Alpine Road intersection (across Skyline Blvd. on the right). Those traveling from I-280 on Page Mill Rd. should allow approximately 35 minutes travel time.

Sunday, October 18 – **Skyline Ridge (Meet at Russian Ridge)** – 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – “Fall Edibles” – Join docents Paul Vadopalas and Ellen Johnson for a 3-mile hike on Old Page Mill Road to examine what nature is providing for human consumption. You’ll stop at the Ohlone grinding rock, hike under

canopies of old trees and through sections of chaparral. You'll stop for lunch under coast live oaks invaded by Thomson grapes, presumably planted by Mr. Page. Don't forget to bring your lunch!

Saturday, October 31 – **Skyline Ridge (Meet at Russian Ridge)** – 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. – “1769 A.D.” – The mid-1700s were a significant point in history for the lives and culture of Bay Area Native Americans—change was inevitable as European contact began. On this 6-mile, moderately-paced hike with docents Ed Lange and Ida Rhodes, you will hear about the challenges and opportunities of the time. Lunch will be overlooking Horseshoe Lake. Don't forget to bring your lunch!

Sunday, November 1 – **Russian Ridge** – 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. – “Nature Through a Lens” – Join amateur photographers and docents Frances Cleveland and Jack Zirker for a leisurely 3-mile nature photography hike. You'll use your camera to focus on aspects of nature you might not have noticed before, from the tiny whorls and grainy pollen inside a flower . . . to the orange underbelly of the newt . . . to the contorted shapes of oak trees . . . to the broad vistas of the rolling hills. You'll have a chance to focus your camera on intricate patterns and strange artistry in the natural world, and perhaps discover how plants and animals use their life forms to survive. Some basic camera and photography techniques will be briefly discussed. Don't forget to bring your lunch!

For the following **Pulgas Ridge** hike, from I-280, exit Edgewood Road. Drive 0.75 miles on Edgewood Rd. toward San Carlos/Redwood City. Turn left (north) on Crestview Drive, then immediately turn left on Edmonds Road. Follow Edmonds Rd. to the Preserve parking lot entrance on the right.

Sunday, November 8 – **Pulgas Ridge** – 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. – “Exploring Pulgas Ridge” – Join docents Tommi and Strether Smith on this 4- to 5-mile hike through the beautiful and historic Pulgas Ridge Preserve that offers a variety of plant life in its shaded woodlands and sunny chaparral areas. The hike also offers breathtaking views of San Francisco Bay and the Coast Range. Families are welcome. Bring

sunscreen, plenty of water, and a light lunch to eat at the stop at the top viewpoint.

For more information about the many hikes available, call 1-650-691-1200 and request a copy of the “Open Space News.” Or, visit the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District web site at <http://www.openspace.org/news/newsletter.asp>

MUSIC

Symphony Silicon Valley

Ravel & Brahms – Ravel's charming fairy tale suite sets the concert's

mood, and Brahms's lushly romantic symphony will close. (George Cleve and Gwendolyn Mok's performance last year for the Symphony's gala concert for San Jose State University's 150th anniversary received thunderous applause.)

Conductor: George Cleve

Pianist: Gwendolyn Mok

Program:

MAURICE RAVEL – *Mother Goose Suite*

MAURICE RAVEL – *Piano Concerto in G*

JOHANNES BRAHMS – *Symphony No. 4 in E minor*

Saturday, October 10 and Sunday, October 11

The California Theatre

345 South First Street, San Jose

Copland & Beethoven – When Argentine pianist Ingrid Fliter—winner of the prestigious Gillmore Award—performs, critics rhapsodize over 'the kind of keyboard mastery of which legends are made.' We are delighted to bring you this eminent artist. Our concert opens with two engaging works of Americana: Aaron Copland's folk-flavored *Billy The Kid Suite*, and his buoyant settings of 19th century songs: theater songs, children's games, a lullaby, a riotous campaign song, and more.

Conductor: Alasdair Neale

Pianist: Ingrid Fliter

Program:

AARON COPLAND – *Billy the Kid Suite*

AARON COPLAND – *Old American Songs Parts 1 & 2*

LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN – *Piano Concerto No. 1*

Thursday, October 22; Saturday, October 24; and Sunday, October 25

The California Theatre

345 South First Street, San Jose

For tickets, call (408) 286-2600, Option 2 or go to <http://www.ticketmaster.com>

California Youth Symphony

For over 57 years the California Youth Symphony has been one of the outstanding youth orchestra programs in the nation. Audiences throughout the world have marveled at the music produced by our young musicians. Our Associate Orchestra, Percussion Ensemble, and String and Wind Preparatory Ensembles have all won high praise for the exceptional musical opportunities they offer local young people.

November Concerts

Program:

GERSHWIN – *Cuban Overture*

RACHMANIOV – *Symphonic Dances*

BEETHOVEN – *Piano Concerto No. 1*; Alex Chien, soloist

Sunday, November 15th at 2:30 p.m.

Flint Center for the Performing Arts

De Anza College

21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino

Sunday, November 22nd at 2:30 p.m.

San Mateo Performing Arts Center

600 N. Delaware St., San Mateo

Visit the “Conductor’s Corner” for information on works performed and the composers:

http://web.mac.com/cysorchestra/Conductors_Corner/Intro.html

You may purchase tickets for CYS concerts at the door on the day of the performance, or you may send a check to CYS at least 10 days before the event. For more information, call 1-650-325-6666.

El Camino Youth Symphony

The El Camino Youth Symphony is a nonprofit organization founded in 1963 by William Galbraith, a young maestro who envisioned an orchestra that would give young musicians the opportunity to perform challenging standard professional repertoire. Each year soloists of international stature are invited to perform as guest soloists with the Senior Symphony. More than 400 K-12 students from over 100 schools from San Francisco to Santa Cruz train and perform in five orchestras and four ensembles, led by the award-winning, internationally recognized Symphony Orchestra. The young musicians of ECYS are culturally diverse and range from those at the beginning of their musical training to those ready to establish their creative careers as performing artists. The Music Director is Dr. Camilla Kolchinsky.

Senior Symphony Orchestra

Season Opener

Featuring Reiko Tsuchida, piano and Jeffrey Kwong, cello

Program:

BEETHOVEN – *Symphony No. 5*

TCHAIKOVSKY – *Variations on a Rococo Theme*, Jeffrey Kwong, soloist

CHOPIN – *Piano Concerto No. 2, Mvt. 1*, Reiko Tsuchida, soloist

TCHAIKOVSKY – *Capriccio Italien*

Sunday, October 18, 2009, 2:30 p.m.

Flint Center

De Anza College

21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino

Tickets in advance at: <http://www.Ticketmaster.com> or call 1-650-327-2611.

Mission Chamber Orchestra

This special community committed to artistic excellence brings spirited performances of classical and contemporary music to Silicon Valley audiences.

Classic Treasures

Program:

BEETHOVEN – *Symphony no. 8*

MOZART – *Piano Concerto no. 23*

FAURE – *Pavane*

DONIZETTI – *Allegro for strings*

SENTURIA – *Petra*

Jon Nakamatsu, pianist

Evergreen Valley High School Strings, guest performers

Saturday, November 7, 7:30 p.m.

Le Petit Trianon

72 N. 5th Street, San Jose

For more information and tickets, go to <http://www.missionchamber.org>

Nova Vista Symphony

The Nova Vista Symphony, established in 1966, is composed of more than 60 volunteer musicians of wide age range and ethnic background. The orchestra's fourfold mission is: to make live classical music attractive and accessible to individuals and families at a reasonable price; to expose youngsters to classical music and educate tomorrow's audiences; to provide an opportunity for musicians—talented but choosing careers other than music—to perform with a top quality orchestra; and to provide a showcase for local soloists and composers.

“Russian Soul and Spirit”

Program:

KHACHATURIAN – *Masquerade Suite*

KABALEVSKY – *Violin Concerto*, featuring violinist Craig Reiss

SHOSTAKOVICH – *Symphony No. 9*

Ann Krinitsky, Music Director

Saturday, October 10, 8:00 p.m.

West Valley College Theater

14000 Fruitvale Ave., Saratoga

For more information, call (408) 624-1492 or go to <http://www.novavista.org>

Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra

The Palo Alto Chamber Orchestra (PACO) is an award-winning ensemble for Bay Area string players of high-school age and younger. Our unique emphasis on chamber music sets PACO apart and lies at the heart of our educational program. PACO has long been recognized as one of this nation's

premiere youth ensembles. Adventurous repertoire, first-class soloists, international touring, and frequent recording enrich the PACO experience for musicians and audiences alike.

All That Jazz, Jeremy Cohen, violin

Founder and first violinist of Quartet San Francisco, classically trained Jeremy Cohen's electrifying jazz performances have earned him nationwide accolades. PACO is proud to present the world premiere of Jeremy's new jazz violin concerto, with Respighi's lovely Ancient Airs and Dances and the dark, powerful Chamber Symphony based on Shostakovich's famous String Quartet No. 8.

Saturday, October 24, 2009, 8:00 p.m.

Albert and Janet Schultz Cultural Hall
Taube Koret Campus for Jewish Life
3921 Fabian Way, Palo Alto

For more information and tickets, go to <http://www.pacomusic.org> or call 1-650-856-3848.

Winchester Orchestra

The Winchester Orchestra, a community orchestra, invites the community to its first concert of the 2009-2010 Season.

Program:

ROSSINI – Overture to the *Barber of Seville*

PUCCINI – *Capriccio Sinfonica*

VERDI – Triumphal March and Chorus from *Aida*

VERDI – Selection from *La Traviata*

Solists: Krista Wigle, soprano; and Joseph Meyers, tenor

Saturday, October 24, 7:30 p.m.

West Valley College Theater
14000 Fruitvale Ave., Saratoga

Sunday, October 25, 7:00 p.m.

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
81 N. Second St. (corner of Second and St. John), San Jose

For tickets, call 408-866-5302 or go to <http://www.winchesterorchestra.com>

Community School of Music and Arts

FREE Community Programs:

Family Concert

Sunday, October 18, 2 & 4 p.m. – *Dr. Noize Live, Electronic Music & More!*
Limited seating (204 seats)—first come, first served on day of event only.

No advance seating available.

Tateuchi Hall
Community School of Music and Arts – Finn Center
230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View

1-650-917-6800 or <http://www.arts4all.org>

Important note: Maps and Directions given by Mapquest and Yahoo! Maps are incorrect. Please refer to these directions:
From Hwy. 101: Exit San Antonio Rd. South (towards Los Altos). Continue on San Antonio Rd. Cross over Central Expressway. At the bottom over the overpass, you take the right turn exit onto San Antonio Circle. (“School of Music and Art” or Caltrain sign) At the stop sign, make a left turn. Parking lot entrance will be at the end of San Antonio Circle.

From Hwy. 280: Exit at El Monte Rd. (East). Turn left at Foothill Expressway. Take the first right turn onto San Antonio Rd. (Downtown Los Altos) From San Antonio Rd., take the San Antonio Place split right after California St. but before the Central Expressway overpass. (“School of Music and Art” or Caltrain sign) Turn left onto Showers Dr. (Showers becomes San Antonio Circle.) Parking lot entrance will be at the end of San Antonio Circle.

THEATRE

13 – November 18-22

When his parents get divorced and he’s forced to move from New York to a small town in Indiana, Evan Goldman just wants to make friends and survive the school year. Easier said than done. With an unforgettable rock score from Tony Award-winner Jason Robert Brown, *13* is a hilarious, high-energy musical for all ages about discovering that cool is where you find it, and sometimes where you least expect it. *A Rising Stars Production.*

Children’s Musical Theatre

Montgomery Theater

291 S. Market St. (on the corner of San Carlos and Market Streets), San

Jose

Call (408) 792-4111 or go to <http://www.cmts.org>

Annie – November 14-22

The eternally optimistic redhead fantasizes about finding her family—if not today, then tomorrow. This adoption tale from the Depression carries an uplifting message for our, or indeed any, time. Presented by the Peninsula Youth Theatre.

MainStage, Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts

500 Castro St. (at Mercy and Castro St.), Mountain View

Call 1-650-903-6000 or see <http://www.pyt.net> or

<http://www.mvcpa.com>

Apollo: To the Moon – Grades 3 and up – October 31 and November 7

Explore one of America's most exciting eras as the country reaches for the moon in this compelling, dramatic presentation, originally commissioned by the Smithsonian Institute. It introduces today's young audiences to the glory days of the space program and includes over 199 NASA photographs and original broadcasts from space. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the first lunar landing in 1969! Presented by California Theatre Center.

Sunnyvale Community Center Theatre

550 E. Remington Drive, Sunnyvale

Call (408) 245-2978 or go to <http://www.ctcinc.org>

Brave Irene – Grades K-5 – October 17 & 24

Join Irene, the plucky, determined dressmaker's daughter, as she braves blustery weather to deliver a gown to the Duchess in time for her ball. This sparkling musical play by award-winning playwright-composer Joan Cushing and based on the beloved book by William Steig, the creator of *Shrek*, is sure to enchant both young and old alike! Presented by California Theatre Center.

Sunnyvale Community Center Theatre

550 E. Remington Drive, Sunnyvale

Call (408) 245-2978 or go to <http://www.ctcinc.org>

Rodgers & Hammerstein's **Cinderella** – October 9-11

When Cinderella was first broadcast in 1957, Rodgers and Hammerstein broke into a new medium, television, and created an instant classic. *Cinderella* is the enduring fairy tale of a lonely girl, trapped in a life of drudgery by her stepmother and two wicked stepsisters. On one magical evening she goes to the royal ball, meets and charms the handsome prince but, alas, must leave before the magic spell ends. Join Lyric Theatre and see if the glass slipper fits.

Montgomery Theater

291 S. Market St. (on the corner of San Carlos and Market Streets), San Jose

For tickets, call the box office at (408) 986-1455 or go to

<http://www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/9413>

Cheaper By the Dozen – October 16-November 7

The Gilbreths are a very large family growing up in the 1920s with an unusual father and most unusual circumstances. This charming and funny play is based on their true lives. Presented by the Los Altos Youth Theatre.

Bus Barn Theater

97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos

For more information, call 1-650-941-0551 or go to

<http://losaltos.gov/recreation/layt>

Coppélia – October 8-11

Derived from a tale by E.T.A. Hoffmann, *Coppélia* is the story of a mysterious old toy maker who creates a beautiful doll so lifelike that an entire village is fooled into believing her to be real. *Coppélia* is a classic comedy that is perfect family fare for its lighthearted story, humorous special effects, and exuberant dancing. Performed by Ballet San Jose with Symphony Silicon Valley.

Note: There is a special 90-minute Children's Matinee on Saturday, October 10 at 1:30 p.m. at reduced prices and performed to a recorded score.

The San Jose Center for the Performing Arts
255 Almaden Boulevard at Park Avenue, San Jose
For tickets, call the box office at (408) 288-2800 or go to <http://www.balletsu.org>

DARE – October 23-25

In its U.S. debut, the China National Acrobatic Troupe presents the ancient tradition of Chinese acrobatics. Performers in this renowned troupe include one of the world's best jugglers handling an astonishing 9 balls and a ballerina who pirouettes in the palm of her partner's hand.

Flint Center for the Performing Arts
De Anza College
21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino
For tickets, call 1-800-745-3000 or go to <http://www.ticketmaster.com> or <http://www.flintcenter.com>

Hamlet – November 1

This ghostly tale of a prince whose royal family is disrupted by murder and corruption is considered to be one of Shakespeare's finest commentaries on morality and the human condition. Set in the medieval court of Denmark, this murder mystery features Shakespeare's most famous soliloquy—"to be or not to be"—and other familiar text that will be readily recognized. Beautiful scenery and period costumes conjure up a medieval Danish castle, and a professionally choreographed sword fight is sure to captivate audiences of all ages.

Carriage House Theatre, Montalvo Arts Center
15400 Montalvo Road, Saratoga
Call (408) 961-5858 or go to <http://montalvoarts.org>

Jack and the Beanstalk – Grades K-5 – November 14 & 21

Follow the lively adventures of young Jack through an imaginative use of both live actors and puppetry. Watch as he acquires the magic beans in trade for his beloved cow and encounters the menacing giant and his helpful wife at the top of the beanstalk. Using his ingenuity, Jack retrieves not only the gold, but also the precious goose which lays the golden eggs and becomes a hero to the

people of his village. Presented by California Theatre Center.
Sunnyvale Community Center Theatre
550 E. Remington Drive, Sunnyvale
Call (408) 245-2978 or go to <http://www.ctcinc.org>

Miss Nelson is Missing – October 16 & 17

Miss Nelson has the worst class in school—but when she goes missing, they change their rotten ways! Part of the *Stories On Stage* series presented by Peninsula Youth Theatre.

SecondStage, Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts
500 Castro St. (at Mercy and Castro St.), Mountain View
Call 1-650-903-6000 or see <http://www.pytnet.org> or
<http://www.mvcpa.com>

Once Upon a Mattress – October 8-11

If you thought you knew the story of “The Princess and The Pea,” you may be in for a walloping surprise! Carried on a wave of wonderful songs, this rollicking spin on the familiar classic of royal courtship and comeuppance provides for some side-splitting shenanigans. Chances are you’ll never look at fairy tales quite the same way again. Presented by the Sunnyvale Community Players.

Sunnyvale Community Center Theatre
550 E. Remington Drive, Sunnyvale
Call (408) 733-6611 or go to <http://www.sunnyvaleplayers.org>

The Selfish Giant – November 13 & 14

Children long to play in the giant’s beautiful garden, but he is too selfish to share. Part of the *Stories On Stage* series presented by Peninsula Youth Theatre.

SecondStage, Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts
500 Castro St. (at Mercy and Castro St.), Mountain View
Call 1-650-903-6000 or see <http://www.pytnet.org> or
<http://www.mvcpa.com>

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Astronomy in the Park

The San Jose Astronomical Association will have telescopes set up at Hogue Park and will assist the public in viewing the moon, planets and other astronomical bodies. They will also answer questions about what you will see, about telescopes and astronomy in general. FREE for all ages. Fridays, October 9 and October 23, 2009 from 7:30 p.m. until 10:30 p.m.; and November 6, 2009 from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. From Highway 85, take the Bascom Ave. exit. Go

north 0.2 miles, and turn right at the light onto White Oaks Road. At the first stop sign, turn left onto Twilight Drive. Turn right at the first driveway, into the parking lot. For more information, visit <http://www.sjaa.net/> or call (408) 559-1221.

Star Parties – Saturday, October 19, 7:30-11:00 p.m.

Since 1995, the **Halls Valley Astronomical Group** has been conducting public star parties at the Halley Hill Observatory. The park campground is often filled to capacity for some or all of these events and turnout has been excellent.

Directions: In San Jose, from either Highway 101 or Highway 680, exit at the Alum Rock Avenue interchange. Go east on Alum Rock Avenue (which is also State Highway 130) for 3.6 miles from route 101 or 2.2 miles from route 680. Turn right on Mount Hamilton Road (which continues State Highway 130). There is a sign at this intersection indicating Grant Park. Continue on Mount Hamilton Road for 7.7 miles. This takes you over the first ridge of the mountains and into Halls Valley. Turn right at the park entrance, which is indicated by the large “Joseph D. Grant County Park” sign.

The Halley Hill Observatory is located adjacent to the Grant Park main campground. To reach the observatory from the campground, follow the path across from campsite 22. The observatory is at the top of the hill.

To make your visit to the Halley Hill Observatory more enjoyable, please follow these simple guidelines: Turn off your flashlights when you reach the observatory. Bright flashlights keep your eyes from adjusting to the darkness and make it harder for you, and others, to see astronomical objects. Make sure your children are carefully supervised. It’s important that young children stay with a parent or other adult at all times. Follow the observatory docents’ instructions. The park entrance gate is closed at 10:00 p.m. Do not, under any circumstances, attempt to enter the park through the exit gate. The exit gate is protected by a tire shredder.

The Star Party is FREE, but there is a \$6.00 vehicle entry fee.

Grant Ranch County Park
18405 Mt. Hamilton Rd., San Jose
(408) 274-6121