

Theatre Company set to perform popular Frozen JR musical this month



Tickets are now on sale for the Theatre Company's fall production of *Frozen JR*. The musical, which will be performed four times November 21, 22, and 23 at the L.J. Williams Theater in Visalia, is based on the 2018 Broadway show featuring Princesses Elsa and Anna and their magical land of Arendelle. The musical incorporates all of the memorable songs from the popular animated Disney film, plus five new songs written for the Broadway production.

A story of true love and acceptance between sisters, *Frozen JR* expands on the emotional relationship and journey between Princesses Elsa and Anna. When faced with danger, the two discover their hidden potential and the powerful bond of sisterhood. *Frozen JR* features all of the beloved characters in the familiar story loaded with magic, adventure, and plenty of humor.

"One of the things I enjoy most about my job is watching our students find love and acceptance through the magic of musical theatre," said Charlotte Garcia Da Rosa, Theatre Company choreographer, who is directing the show.



"These kids join their voices in song and feel united. They work hard to perfect dance moves they never thought they could achieve, and feel accomplished as they turn faster and leap higher. They learn teamwork, humility, perseverance, and compassion as they all strive to bring their best performance on stage and their best attitudes off stage."

The production of *Frozen JR* features a cast of 95 Tulare County students. An additional 37 young performers will appear in the *Let It Snow* preshow, which features a variety of holiday classics. For more information about *Frozen JR*, call the Theatre Company at (559) 651-1482.

SCHEDULE OF PERFORMANCES

L.J. Williams Theater, 1001 W. Main St., Visalia

Show Times

Evening Shows (7:00 p.m.): November 21, 22, and 23

Matinee Show (2:00 p.m.): November 23

Show Ticket Information

\$12 general admission / \$20 preferred seating

now available at Visalia TCOE locations:

6200 S. Mooney Blvd. and 7000 Doe Ave.

Monday through Friday during normal business hours

Cash or check only.

Tickets may also be purchased at the door, or by phone by calling (559) 651-1482, ext. 3329.

Principal Characters

Young Anna played by Karuna Perry

Young Elsa played by Lola Sullivan

Teen Anna played by Kylie Schieferle

Teen Elsa played by Kari Anne Henderson

Anna played by Tessa Hemphill

Elsa played by Jessica Peters

King Agnarr played by Logan Lancaster

Queen Iduna played by Heather Cole

Hans played by Ali Pullom

Wesselton played by Brennan Church

Kristoff played by Jack Ploegstra

Sven played by Jordan Watkins

Olaf played by Payton Chalabian

Pabbie played by Rahim Pullom

Bulda played by Anu Perry

Children of Pabbie & Bulda played by Elle Pinheiro & Gabriel Serrano

Oaken played by Logan Lancaster

Oaken's wife played by Emilie Walker

Bishop played by Jacob Lucio

Photo above:

~ The cast of Frozen JR is made up of 95 Tulare County students. (left to right) Lola Sullivan plays young Princess Elsa, Payton Chalabian plays Olaf, and Karuna Perry plays young Princess Anna. The Theatre Company will perform the popular musical four times at the L.J. Williams Theater November 21-23.

Employees invited to make gift to the TCOE Foundation this month



This week, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Tim Hire announced the kickoff of the second annual Employee Giving Campaign. Running through the month of November, the campaign directly benefits the Tulare County Office of Education Foundation, which has been providing financial support to TCOE programs and special events since 2000.

Employees are invited to make an ongoing voluntary payroll deduction to support the work of the Foundation, which awards grants to TCOE programs that apply on an annual basis. Last year, the Foundation provided support for a school garden at Special Services' AAP campus, the UPHS Robotics Team, and numerous student events, now known as Future Readiness Events.

"If you're a new donor, consider giving just \$5 per month," said Mr. Hire. "Small donations can add up to big amounts when we give together. The more we build the Foundation's reserves, the more it can support TCOE programs and the students throughout Tulare County that participate in them."

Employees can participate in the Employee Giving Campaign by completing the form at tcoe.org/FoundationGiving and returning a signed copy to Marlene Moreno at the 6200 S. Mooney Boulevard office in Visalia. Donations to the Foundation are tax deductible.

Last year's campaign netted approximately \$17,000 of additional support to the Foundation. As an incentive this year, employees giving amounts up to \$24 per month will receive a baseball cap embroidered with the TCOE Foundation logo. For monthly gifts of \$25 and more, employees will receive a \$50 gift card of their choice to Lowes, Target, Walmart, or Amazon. This includes past donors who elect to continue or increase their donation this year.

For more information on the Employee Giving Campaign or the TCOE Foundation, contact Marlene Moreno at marlenem@tcoe.org.

Tulare County Arts initiatives launched

The arts matter in California. One out of every six jobs in the state is in the creative industries. A recent survey of 10,000 CEOs found that they ranked creativity as the number one job skill they seek in candidates. Time and again, research shows that arts education impacts future success.



On October 3, over 50 representatives from state, county, and local agencies gathered for a networking and breakfast event in the Redwood Conference Center to learn more about work being done to promote the arts in Tulare County. Over the last two years, the Tulare County Office of Education and several partner organizations have been building two new arts initiatives: the Tulare County Arts Master Plan and the Tulare County Arts Coalition (CreateTC). The overarching aim of these programs is to increase equitable access to high-quality arts education.

"The arts disciplines of dance, media arts, music, theatre, visual arts, and literary arts provide students with the foundational skills employers seek," said Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Tim Hire. "They teach collaboration, communication, creativity, and critical thinking – skills that are applicable in healthcare, business, government, agriculture, and every workforce sector in between. The arts are a key component to a well-rounded education."



Partner organizations who have already committed to these initiatives include Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency, Tulare-Kings Suicide Prevention Task Force, Tulare County Association of Governments, Tulare County Workforce Investment Board, County of Tulare, College of the Sequoias, Porterville College, Arts Consortium, Arts Visalia, California Alliance for Arts Education, Create CA, and many more. By cultivating cross-sector partnerships, TCOE will continue to bring robust opportunities for artistic expression to the students, families, and communities of Tulare County.

To learn more about the Tulare County Arts Master Plan visit <u>tcoe.org/ArtsMasterPlan</u> or contact Kate Stover at <u>kate.stover@tcoe.org</u>.

Photos above:

- ~ Members of the College of the Sequoias Chamber Singers, under the direction of John Sorber, entertained attendees at the CreateTC breakfast event, reminding them of the importance of the arts.
- ~ Peggy Burt (right), Arts Now planning director for the California Alliance for Arts Education, takes a moment to confer with Kate Stover, TCOE arts consultant, during an arts awareness breakfast held last month. Through a series of roundtable discussions, attendees at the event familiarized themselves with the core values in the newly released Tulare County Arts Master Plan.

CreateTC Looking for Student Artists

In a unique countywide collaboration, Tulare County's talented young artists have two opportunities for their artwork to be featured on local buses. As part of the CreateTC county arts coalition, TCOE and partner organizations are looking for artwork to promote two important events: Healthy Tulare County Week and Census 2020. "The arts have the power to impact so many facets of our communities," said TCOE Arts Consultant Kate Stover. "In this case, we will be utilizing student artwork in conjunction with public transportation mobile billboards to advertise these two events."

Healthy Tulare County Week

During the first full week of April each year, communities across the United States observe National Public Health Week. Locally, the County of Tulare organizes "Healthy Tulare County Week" to highlight issues that are important for improving our community's health. This year, Tulare County Public Health and the Tulare County Office of Education are working together to spread the word about Public Health Week by sponsoring an art contest for students. The deadline for Healthy Tulare County Week student art is December 9. Contest information can be found at tcoe.org/HealthyTCWeek.

Census 2020

Once each decade, the U.S. Census Bureau attempts to count every person in the United States. Counting for the next Census will begin April 1, 2020. The Census helps the federal government to distribute funds for schools, hospitals, roads, public works, and other vital programs. Census data is also used by businesses deciding where to build factories, offices, and stores, creating jobs in communities. Knowing the importance of the Census to local education, community services, and the economy, students are encouraged to create a piece of art which illustrates the need for everyone in Tulare County to be counted. The deadline for Census 2020 student art is February 7, 2020. Contest information can be found at tcoe.org/Census2020Art.

Both contests are open to Tulare County students in grades K-12. All artwork must be digitally uploaded and accompanied by a signed parent permission slip. Winning student pieces from each contest will be showcased on local buses.

For more information about these contests, contact Kate Stover at kate.stover@tcoe.org.

20th annual Expanding Your Horizons held for over 800 young women

For 20 years, Educational Resource Services has been connecting young Tulare County women to the world of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) through the annual Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) conference. The national event encourages young women in grades 4 through 10 to explore STEM careers by engaging them in interesting, hands-on activities led by women working in these fields.



Last Saturday, over 800 elementary and middle school girls did just that. Attendees at the annual EYH conference were launching water-powered rockets, making ice cream with liquid nitrogen, coding a computer game, learning the anatomy of a heart, and enjoying dozens of other hands-on activities.

EYH event coordinators would like to thank College of the Sequoias for being their partner in hosting this huge event. A special thanks also goes to the women and men who conducted the 36 activity sessions that sparked the imaginations of our future scientists, physicians, and engineers.

Photo above:

~ Students in the "Cold Science, Sweet Science" session delighted in learning how the properties of liquid nitrogen freezes the ingredients in ice cream almost instantly.

CHARACTER COUNTS! Week wraps up with celebration of 80 top students

Last week, the CHARACTER COUNTS! Program honored 80 students selected from nearly 6,000 nominations received during CHARACTER COUNTS! Week, October 21-26. These top honorees and finalists were celebrated at the annual Provident-Salierno Family Foundation Awards.



Since 2012, Tony and Mary Salierno, founders of the Provident-Salierno Family Foundation, have provided scholarships for the winners and finalists representing each Pillar of Character – Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship. The Salierno's annual gift complements the 24-year partnership with the *Visalia Times-Delta* and *Tulare Advance-Register*, which recognizes the Kids of Character nominated during CHARACTER COUNTS! Week. To see descriptions of this year's outstanding Kids of Character, visit tcoe.org/KidsofCharacter.

Photo above:

~ Pleasant View School's SQUAD was the top honoree for the Pillar of Citizenship. Members of the SQUAD work on building personal self-esteem and resiliency as together they serve their community and the Pleasant View campus.

Virtual Teacher Recruitment Fair scheduled for November 19-20



The California Center on Teaching Careers (The Center) will hold the first of its 2019-20 Virtual Job Fairs from 4:00 until 6:00 p.m., November 19-20. The fairs, which pair teachers and teacher candidates with districts and county offices of education that have job openings, simulate the look and feel of real job fairs through an online platform. Teachers and teacher candidates worldwide also have the opportunity to connect to universities and alternative certification programs to investigate degree and credential programs. Additional job fairs will be held March 5-6, April 22-23, and May 28-29. To register to participate in the Virtual Job Fair, visit thecentervirtualevents.vfairs.com. For more information about The Center or to create an online profile, visit californiateach.org.

Coming Up!

November 4 - December 23

A Holiday in the City

(annual exhibition of holiday porcelain buildings and figurines) TCOE Administration Building Lobby, 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia

• November 12 - December 30

Student Art Exhibition

TCOE Administration Building Lobby, 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia More information.

• November 14

University Preparatory High School Information Night

6:00 - 7:00pm, College of Sequoias Visalia campus, Yokut Room 9 More information.

November 16

eBirding for Beginners at Circle J

9:00am - 12:00pm, Circle J-Norris Ranch, Springville More information.

Reserve a spot by contacting Nancy Bruce at circlej@ocsnet.net or (559) 539-2263.

November 16

Habitat Restoration Volunteer Day at Circle J

1:00 - 4:30pm, Circle J-Norris Ranch, Springville

More information.

Reserve a spot by contacting Nancy Bruce at circlej@ocsnet.net or (559) 539-2263.

• November 21 - 23

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November 22

Planetarium Public Show

6:00pm: Earth, Moon, and Sun 7:00pm: From Earth to the Universe

Peña Planetarium, 11535 Avenue 264, Visalia

More information.

View more events at **tcoe.org/CalendarofEvents**.

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To receive *News Gallery Week*, visit <u>tcoe.org/GetTheGallery</u>, or contact Jennifer Fisher at jenniferf@tcoe.org or (559) 733-6172.