



Diablo Regional Arts Association

performing great works



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DRAA & The Lesher Center for the Arts Fundraising Gala Breaks Records with \$230,000 Raised for the Arts

WALNUT CREEK, CA. October 16, 2007— The Diablo Regional Arts Association (DRAA) presented *On Broadway: Life, You Gotta Love It!* for its 12th annual gala event, which took place at the Diablo Country Club Saturday, October 13. The event broke all previous fundraising efforts, bringing in \$230,000 to support quality enhancement programs at the Lesher Center for the Arts including increasing the number of equity actors, underwriting extraordinary production elements, and retaining professional directors and guest artists. Proceeds will also support DRAA's *Arts Access* Program, which provides families, children, seniors, educators and low-income or at-risk individuals the opportunity to experience the arts.

"We couldn't be more excited about the success of this year's event," said DRAA Executive Director Peggy White. "Together, DRAA and the Lesher Center have created a unique and very exciting synergy between artists, corporations, and individuals dedicated to enriching our community through the arts."

Kris Leshar-Aring and Scott Mac Cormac served as Co-Chairs for this year's *On Broadway* gala. "Thanks to the on-going generosity of our individual donors and corporate sponsors, *On Broadway* succeeded in surpassing all records and goals" said Mac Cormac.

This year's *On Broadway* gala included an energetic production produced by Michael White. Featuring a wide array of local talent, the production incorporated numbers from a variety of Broadway musicals. In addition, the event included silent and live auctions, a gourmet meal and the highly anticipated annual raffle for Tiffany & Co. jewelry and a Viking outdoor grill.

Joining to help DRAA reach its goal for the event were a number of corporate sponsors, including: Signature Sponsor Chevron, Presenting Jewelry Sponsor Tiffany & Co., Presenting Raffle Sponsor Viking – The GSC, and Presenting Auction Sponsor Walnut Creek Viking Cooking School & Store. Additional corporate sponsors include Target, Bank of the West, Duxiana, Greater Bay Bank, Merrill Lynch and WaMu. Media sponsors are *Diablo* Magazine and the *Contra Costa Times*. *On Broadway* also receives generous support from the City of Walnut Creek and the Leshar Foundation.

About DRAA

The Diablo Regional Arts Association (DRAA) is a non-profit organization that supports artistic enrichment initiatives and raises funds to support the full spectrum of arts at the Leshar Center for the Arts (LCA) including drama, musical theatre, dance, opera, music, and the visual arts. In addition, through its *Arts Access* program, DRAA is dedicated to providing families, children, seniors, educators and low-income or at-risk individuals the opportunity to experience the arts.