



Diablo Regional Arts Association

performing great works



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Peggy White, Executive Director
Diablo Regional Arts Association
925.295.1457
pwhite@draa.org

**DRAA Receives Grant from Hewlett Foundation,
Outreach Funding from T.J. Long Foundation**

WALNUT CREEK, CA. December 11, 2007— The Diablo Regional Arts Association, the fundraising partner of the Lesher Center for the Arts, is proud to announce a generous grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation in the amount of \$120,000 over three years for general support. In addition, the organization has received \$20,000 from the Thomas J. Long Foundation in support of its *Arts Access* outreach program.

The Hewlett Foundation funding will allow DRAA to elevate its mission of enriching the quality of the programming at the Lesher Center for the Arts and creating avenues for everyone to enjoy the arts. Funds will be specifically earmarked to support outreach efforts, hire a Development Manager, and support marketing initiatives at the Lesher Center.

"This grant from the Hewlett Foundation allows DRAA to move forward to a new level. It supports our mission for what it is and really reflects what we do as an organization," said Peggy White, DRAA Executive Director. "The Lesher Center, its patrons, producers and supporters all win with this grant."

In addition, DRAA is pleased to receive a grant from the Walnut Creek-based T.J. Long Foundation in the amount of \$20,000 to support the *Arts Access* program. The Foundation has been a long-time supporter of DRAA's outreach programs and has been instrumental in bringing low-income students to the Lesher Center for performances and exhibits.

"DRAA's *Arts Access* program would not be in existence today without the sustained support of the T.J. Long Foundation," White said. "Every year we've experienced increased success and growth in this program and now we've virtually become a hub of collaboration for school-time programming at the Lesher Center." White noted that the *Arts Access* program aims to reach more than 3,000 students in 2008.

About DRAA

Diablo Regional Arts Association (DRAA), the funding arm of the Lesher Center for the Arts, is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to enriching the quality of artistic programming within the LCA and to creating avenues for everyone to enjoy the arts. We accomplish this mission through exemplary leadership and funding.