

Not to be missed

MUSIC-THEATER

“The Emperor’s new Clothes”
Saturday, April 5, 10:30am and 1:00pm. The Town Hall Theatre of Lafayette, 3535 School Street, Lafayette. Tickets: \$10 per person. For tickets or information call: 925.283.1557. Tickets may also be purchased at the door. Website: www.childrens-theatre.org

Performers for Progress presents a cabaret night benefit performance featuring various styles of dance, vocal performances, bands, and comedy. Thursday April 17th, 7:30 pm. The Rheem Theater in Moraga. Produced by Emilyn Kowaleski and Madeline Vann and featuring roughly 40 high school students from the Lamorinda area. Tickets: \$5 for students and \$10 for adults

Please join us for Diablo Actors' Ensemble's production of *The Taffetas*, a musical journey through the Fabulous Fifties! Through April 12. The Lesh Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek. Price range: \$20.00 to \$25.00

Auditions for I Hate Hamlet, A Bed Full of Foreigners, and an Agatha Christie; ORSVP's summer season will take place on Sunday, April 6th at 4PM; and Tuesday, April 10th at 7PM. Orinda Community Center, 26 Orinda Way, Room three or the Amphitheater

ART

The Moraga Art Gallery presents a new group show, "Earthly Inspirations" by local Bay Area and Lamorinda artists. March 18 - June 1. Gallery is doubly featuring the work of 2 artists: Illustrator Michael Che, who paints a variety of subjects, but loves painting animals; Donna Arganbright, who has been working in clay since 1972. She creates ceramic baskets, plates, bowls, platter sets, mugs, pitchers and vases in her Lafayette Studio. The public is invited

to the Opening Reception on Saturday, March 22, 2008, from 3-5 pm. Moraga Art Gallery, 570 Center St, Rheem Valley Shopping Center/nest to Longs Drugs.

The Lafayette Gallery invites you to join us for "Garden Party", a celebration of the pleasures and enchantment of gardening - its scents, textures and colors as told through the artist's medium. The artwork in this show is a celebration of the beauty of landscapes and flowers in both the realistic and abstract realms. We are excited to invite gardeners, lovers of nature and members of the community to join us for a reception on Sunday, April 27 from 1 to 4pm. Lafayette Gallery, 50 Lafayette Circle, is open Tuesday to Saturday from 11am to 5pm. 925-284-2788, www.lafayettegallery.net.



Crocuses by Judy Feins

The Art of Diorama opens March 26 at the Bedford Gallery in Walnut Creek and continues through June 8. A reception with the artists will be held Wednesday, March 26 from 6:00-8:00 pm. Admission is \$3 and includes refreshments. Bedford Gallery, Lesh Center for the Arts, 1601 Civic Drive, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Refreshments. Admission \$3. Free for Friends of the Bedford and members of DRAA. 925/295-1417 www.bedfordgallery.org.

Diablo Valley College Library proudly presents member exhibition, East Bay Artists Guild: Creating Community Around Art. Through May 10th. Reception on Saturday, March 29, 2008 from 1-3pm in the library. Free parking on campus. Library hours: Mon-Thurs 8am to 9pm;

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Friday 8-5pm, Saturday 12-4pm 321 Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill.

Literature

Orinda Library presents a Fireside Chat with a docent from Berkeley Repertory Theater in a behind the scenes talk about the company's new production "TRAGEDY: a Tragedy" by Pulitzer-nominated dramatist Will Eno. Free. Tuesday, March 25 at 7 p.m. The program will take place inside the library, beside the fireplace, which allows for a casual, intimate atmosphere. The Orinda Library, 26 Orinda Way, Orinda. For more information, please call (925) 254-2184 or visit the library website at cclib.org

Commonwealth Club of California - "Peony in Love" Wed, March 26, 6:30pm, Wine and Cheese Reception, 7:00pm, Program. Lisa See, the Author of Snow Flower and the Secret Fan, has always been intrigued by stories that have been lost, forgotten, or deliberately covered up, whether in the past or happening right now in the world today. Come hear See in conversation about her new book, Peony in Love, and what inspires her work. \$15, Members \$30, Non-members. Peony in Love is available at Lafayette Book Store. Bentley School, Student Performing Arts Center, 1000 Upper Happy Valley Road, Lafayette.

Thursday, April 3, 4pm. Daniel Mason will discuss and sign copies of his highly praised novel, A Far Country, just out in paperback. Orinda Books.

Saturday, April 12 1 PM Germaine Greer will discuss her new biography, Shakespeare's Wife, a fresh look at Ann Hathaway. The event, co-sponsored by the Friends of the Orinda Library, will take place at the Orinda Library Theater, 26 Irwin Way, Orinda

Other Events:

Lafayette Rotary Club's Annual Spring Egg Roll. Open to all children ages 2-10 at Plaza Park (corner of Mt. Diablo Blvd. and Moraga Rd) in Lafayette, at 10:00am, Saturday, March 22. The park lawn will be covered with candy for the kids to put in their baskets. The youngest are always given extra time to get their share! The Bunny will be there to take pictures with the kids. Join us for the fun.

Free Small Business Fair Sponsored by Betty T. Yee, Vice Chairwoman, State Board of Equalization. Tuesday, March 25th, 9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. (check-in begins at 8:30 a.m.) Crowne Plaza Hotel Concord, 45 John Glenn Drive, Concord, CA 94520. Free admission. To register online www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/tpsched.htm. For more information call: 916-341-7389

Emergency Preparedness Seminars for Businesses Wednesday, March 26th 7:30 -10am with breakfast-\$5, or 6:30-9pm with dinner \$10. Speakers: Moraga Chief of Police, SCORE, CERT, Red Cross, VISA, Moraga-Orinda Fire Dept. CCC Office of Emergency Services and DiabloLink Communications. Holy Trinity Cultural Center, 1700 School St., Moraga. Register by March 20th. Contact Ken Tom 925-376-0533

Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church will be offering a Grief Recovery Workshop March 25 - May 27, 7-9 p.m. for those who have recently lost a spouse. For brochures or more information call the church, 283-8722.

Pain Management Workshop. Fri: 3/28, 10 - 11am Presented by Anne Randol. Did you know there are more ways to control pain besides medication? Learn the purpose of pain and the causes of chronic pain. Learn how improving posture and muscle strength can reduce or eliminate pain altogether. Stop suffering and take control. Free of charge. Lafayette Community Center. Please call (925)284-5050 to register. You will be contacted only if the workshop is cancelled. Free Blood Pressure Screening Following the Workshop.

Got Stuff to Sell? Looking to Buy? The Moraga Parks and Recreation Department will welcome shoppers and sellers from throughout Lamorinda to its first ever Community Garage Sale on Saturday, March 29, from 9:00-2:00 at the beautiful Ha-

cienda de Las Flores, 2100 Donald Drive in Moraga. Call Parks and Rec at 888-7045 for more information, or go to http://moraga.ca.us.

Hike at Mt. Diablo- Sun. March 30th 8:45 am to 2:45 pm. Waterfalls and Wildflowers, Meet at 9:15 am at Walnut Creek BART (must call 925-944-9068 for ride) 9:45 MP-13 Donner Canyon & Back Creek, end of Regency Drive off Marsh Creek Road, Clayton. 6-9 miles of moderately strenuous 1300 foot elevation gain hike. Some steep narrow trails, walking sticks recommended. Be prepared for mud. Light rain shortens hike, heavy cancels. Websites: berkeleyhikingclub.pair.com; geocities.com/contracostahills

Lafayette Hiking Group -April 12 Indian Rock Park, North Berkeley Meet at Lafayette BART's main entrance at 9:00 a.m. We form carpools to the trailhead. Remember to bring lunch, water, layered clothing, good walking shoes, sun protection and money to contribute toward gas, bridge tolls and parking. Indian Rock Park is one of six rock parks located in North Berkeley. It has great rock climbing and amazing views of the San Francisco Bay. We will walk to several of the other Rock Parks. Easy to moderate 3.5 miles. Email LafayetteHiking@comcast.net.

Job's Daughter's International - Orinda teaches young ladies ages 10-20 years old important skills for life, such as leadership, public speaking, organization, teamwork and self-reliance. Girls also learn a sense of community by participating in philanthropic projects. Meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Orinda Masonic Center located at 9 Altarinda Rd, Orinda. For more information on membership and fun activities, contact Nicki Wandesforde, Bethel Guardian at (925) 283-7176 or email nickichef@comcast.net.

The Future of the Earth's Climate: Frontiers in Forecasting," April 8 in Orinda. Leading climate modeler Bill Collins - a senior scientist and department head at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, a Professor of Earth and Planetary Science at U.C. Berkeley, and a member of the team that was recently awarded the Nobel Prize for work on climate change -- will discuss scientific observations that show the Earth is warming at an unprecedented rate, and describe how human-induced changes are probably the primary culprits. The free program will be held on Tuesday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m., at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, in the Parish Hall (on the lower level), 66 St. Stephen's Drive, in Orinda.

A Nite at the Races- Rotary Club of Moraga- Sat, April 12th. Gates open 5:00 pm. Dinner at 6:15. First race at 6:45 - wager play money on eight video horse races and bid on wonderful live and silent auction items. Holy Trinity Hall, 1700 School St. Moraga. Reservations: \$40 per person. Contact Gary Irwin at 925-376-7688 or geirwin@comcast.net.

Orinda Historical Society is seeking to compile a record of all Orinda Olympic athletes who have competed beginning with the 1896 Athens games and to hear of any Orinda athletes who have been chosen to compete in Beijing. We welcome the assistance of our community! Please send any information, such as the person's name, sport, and Olympic year, to: Erik Andersen, c/o the Orinda Historical Society, PO Box 82, Orinda, 94563, or please leave a message at the Historical Society at 254-1353. The athletes may be current or former residents of Orinda.

Planning on Having a Baby? Oh Baby 2008, Saturday, April 12 from 9 a.m. to noon at John Muir

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Medical Center - Walnut Creek Campus, 1601 Ygnacio Valley Road in Walnut Creek. This free community event is designed for those planning to become pregnant, are already pregnant or those parenting small children. Educators from the John Muir Women's Health Center will share about breastfeeding, childbirth, prenatal and newborn care. Lectures will cover Pain Relief Options for Labor and Delivery, How to Survive the First Week Home, the Pregnancy Disability Leave Act and an Overview of Obstetric and Pediatric Services at John Muir Health. Ongoing activities will include refreshments, raffle prizes and demonstrations.

Lamorinda Republican Women meet the third Thursday of each month at the Metro Restaurant in Lafayette at 3524 Mt. Diablo Blvd. The meeting begins at 11:30 with lunch at noon and speaker at 12:30. Lunch cost is \$22 and for reservations please call 925-254-8617.

The Mt. Diablo Peace and Justice Center and Grandparents for Peace are co-sponsoring a "Make a Bid for Peace" spring benefit in Walnut

Creek's Rossmoor Sunday, April 13, Sunday 2:30 - 5:00 pm in the Fireside Room of the Gateway Center in Rossmoor. Tickets may be purchased at Hooked on Books, 1956 Tice Valley Blvd, Walnut Creek, or at the Peace Center. The admission charge is \$20 general or \$15 for seniors in advance of the event. 925-933-7850 or e-mail info@mtdpdc.org. Quality art and service donations are being accepted.

Lafayette Earth Day Festival 2008, A Family Affair, Sun, April 20th 12pm - 4pm. Come enjoy Lafayette's third annual Earth Day Festival! Grab your bikes and ride over to Stanley Intermediate School on Sunday, April 20th. Live Music - Acalanes Jazz Band. Fun Educational Performances - Including juggling show about recycling by Earthcapades. 20+ Educational Tables/Displays - By local vendors/organizations and school environmental clubs. Scavenger Hunt - Find out the ten most important ways to protect the earth and win a prize. Stanley Intermediate School - Area Between Parking Lot and Basketball Courts

Saint Mary's College Campus Happenings



Photo by Ken C. Young, Moraga; www.kcyoungfineartimages.com

Theater Performances: "Damien" - Passion, Faith and Fury in One-Man Show at SMC

Saint Mary's College Performing Arts Professor, Dan Cawthon, stars as Father Damien in Aldyth Morris' powerful play, "Damien" - the compelling story of Father Damien DeVeuster, the Belgian-born priest whose devotion to the people of the leper colony on Molokai brought him international acclaim and excruciating personal conflicts. Father Damien fought two powerful bureaucracies, the Church and the Hawaiian government, for the care and dignity of the discarded human beings of this community. Through faith, compassion, courage and gentle humor, the actions of a single man profoundly impacted the lives of many.

Thursday and Friday, March 27 and 28 at 8 p.m. Soda Activity Center. Price: \$25 general; \$20 seniors (65+); \$2 SMC students; \$12 Saint Mary's College faculty, staff and non-SMC students. Information: Call 925.631.4381 or visit www.stmarys-ca.edu <http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/> and click on "Arts" for reservations. Sponsored by the Committee for Lectures, Art and Music at Saint Mary's College

Lectures: "Human Rights Activist Eve Ensler"

Playwright Eve Ensler - who gained worldwide recognition for raising more than \$50 million to oppose violence against women and girls in places as diverse as Afghanistan, India, the Congo, Mexico, Iraq, Native American reservations and, most recently, New Orleans - will be the keynote speaker for Women's History Month in a presentation about the global movement to end violence against women and girls. Her work supports education for girls,

the building of shelters and orphanages, families looking for missing relatives, and raising awareness about domestic, social, and political violence against women and girls. She will focus specifically on the women of New Orleans and the Gulf region, who have organized a group they call "Katrina Warriors" and are working to rebuild their lives. Tuesday, March 25 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Soda Center Free

"Creative Writing Reading Series - Nick Flynn" Nick Flynn is the author of "Another Bullshit Night in Suck City," a memoir about working in a Boston homeless shelter and his relationship with his down-and-out father. He is also the author of two books of poems, including "Some Ether," which won the PEN/Joyce Osterweil Award and was a finalist for the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. Wednesday, March 26 at 7:30 p.m. Soda Center. Contact: Creative Reading Writing Series (925) 631-4457 Free

Art Exhibitions: "Pinturas de Fe: The Retablo Tradition in Mexico and New Mexico" Pilgrimage, procession, and the creation of home altars and shrines are ancient religious practices that endure today in many cultures around the world. This exhibition tells the story of one such tradition as it evolved in the Americas from the time of the Spanish Conquest to the present day. Today, individual artists faithfully carry on the tradition of hand painted retablos, and contemporary artists from diverse cultural backgrounds draw creative inspiration from this popular art form. Exhibition runs through April 6 Hearst Art Gallery

"William Keith: The 1880s Paintings" Works from the 1880s, which marked a decade of great changes in William Keith's life. On view in the William Keith Room. Hearst Art Gallery

Exhibition hours: Wednesdays through Sundays, 11 am until 4:30 pm. Admission: \$3 adult; children 12 and under free; free parking. Web site: http://gallery.stmarys-ca.edu. Telephone: 925-631-4379

For more information about upcoming events at Saint Mary's College, visit the college website at http://www.stmarys-ca.edu/news-and-events/events.html.

Earthly Inspirations
presented by **Moraga Art Gallery**
March 18 through June 1 see the works of local artists
featured artist: **Michael-Che Swisher**
and Fine Art Apparel

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featured artist: **Donna Arganbright**

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Jerusalem's Safrai Gallery brings over 1500 works by more than 100 Israeli artists to Lafayette
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