



Diablo Regional Arts Association



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Julie Dalrymple, Marketing Director
925.295.1454 julie@draa.org

Leshler Center for the Arts Gala Raises \$200,000 for the Arts

WALNUT CREEK, CA. November 10, 2008 — The Diablo Regional Arts Association (DRAA) raised \$200,000 for the Leshler Center for the Arts (LCA) at its thirteenth annual *On Broadway* fundraising gala held at the Diablo Country Club on October 13, 2008.

Scott Mac Cormac and Mackenzie Leshler served as Co-Chairs for the sold-out event, which was sponsored by Chevron and incorporated a *Bright Lights, Big Cities* world travel theme. LCA General Manager Scott Denison produced the one-of-a-kind musical production. The event also included very successful live and silent auctions featuring one-of-a-kind items not found at other fundraisers, including a private dinner for ten with journalistic icons Woodward & Bernstein.

"We are thrilled that despite the challenging economic times, supporters of the arts showed their loyal generosity," said Peggy White, DRAA Executive Director. "It is because of their support the arts continue to thrive in our community.

Proceeds will be used to support quality enhancement programs at the Leshler 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 the DRAA *Arts Access* Program, which provides families, children, seniors, educators and low-income or at-risk individuals the opportunity to experience the arts

Joining to help DRAA reach its goal for the event were several returning corporate sponsors including: Signature Sponsor: Chevron, Presenting Jewelry Sponsor: Tiffany & Co., Presenting Auction Sponsor: Viking – The GSC, Gift Sponsor: Archer Norris, and Presenting Foundation Sponsor: The Leshler Foundation.

About the Diablo Regional Arts Association

DRAA is both the primary fundraising organization of the Leshler Center for the Arts (LCA) and the City of Walnut Creek's appointed curator for the LCA's professional programming and audience outreach. DRAA's role in the community is all about building partnerships with the focused goal of enhancing artistic quality at the LCA and providing opportunities for everyone to enjoy the arts. Through partnerships with the LCA and its producers, individual donors, corporate and foundation sponsors and the City of Walnut Creek, DRAA plays a vital role in advancing the arts for the betterment of the community.

####