



VICTORIA GARDENS
CULTURAL
CENTER

*Where arts and
knowledge bring
dreams to life.*

NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT: Annette Mumolo,
Marketing Coordinator,
Community Services Department

PHONE: (909) 477-2775, extension 2205

FAX: (909) 477-2761

***MainStreet Theatre Company Presents “A Year With Frog and Toad”
January 31st – February 14th at the Lewis Family Playhouse***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 15, 2008

Rancho Cucamonga, California – Rancho Cucamonga’s MainStreet Theatre Company continues its third season of high-quality Theatre for Young Audiences with *A Year with Frog & Toad*, the Tony Award-nominated musical, opening January 31st at the Lewis Family Playhouse at the Victoria Gardens Cultural Center, 12505 Cultural Center Drive. Perfect for the entire family, *A Year with Frog & Toad* is based on the beloved books by Arnold Lobel, and features music by Robert Reale and book and lyrics by Willie Reale.

A Year with Frog & Toad follows the cheerful and popular Frog and the grumpy Toad through four fun-filled seasons. Waking from hibernation in the spring, these two great friends proceed to plant gardens, swim, rake leaves, and go sledding while learning about friendship and celebrating the things that make each of us different and special. All the while, Snail spends the entire show trying to deliver a letter at his own very slow pace.

-More-

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 *Owned and operated by the City of Rancho Cucamonga*

Directed by Craig Belknap, *A Year with Frog & Toad* stars five professional actors, including MainStreet Theatre Company audience favorites Reggie DeLeon (Toad) and Dennis Kyle (Frog), and four skilled musicians will provide the charming score onstage, led by Musical Director Julie Lamoureux. Choreography is provided by Marvin Tunney. Sets are designed by Michael C. Smith, costumes by Christina Haatainen Jones, and lights by Kim Killingsworth. The MainStreet Theatre Company productions are produced by Mireya (Murry) Hepner.

Belknap's directing career has spanned critically acclaimed Off-Broadway plays, countless regional productions, television and has received a Cable Ace Award nomination as one of the creators of the Showtime series *The Thirty-Minute Movie*. He teaches acting at Cal Arts and conducts workshops for actors who write.

A Year with Frog & Toad opens January 31st and runs through February 14th, Saturdays at 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., and one Sunday matinee on February 8th at 1:00 p.m. The City also runs special weekday matinees for school group performances. Tickets are \$16.50 for General Admission, \$14.50 for Seniors, and \$13.50 for Youth up to age 12. For tickets, please call the Lewis Family Playhouse Box Office at (909) 477-2752 or (877) 858-8422 or visit www.lewisfamilyplayhouse.com.

An intimate, 536-seat venue, the Lewis Family Playhouse is the crown jewel of the three-acre, 89,000 square-foot Victoria Gardens Cultural Center. The complex is conveniently located off the I-15 at Foothill Boulevard, as a major anchor of Victoria Gardens. The Box Office is open Sunday from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday from noon to 6:00 p.m., and Friday and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., with free parking available.

The MainStreet Theatre Company's current season concludes with *Ferdinand the Bull*, April 18 – May 2, 2009.

For More Information – For additional information or to make reservations to the Press Opening on Saturday, January 31st at 1:00 p.m. or 4:00 p.m., please contact Marketing Coordinator Annette Mumolo via e-mail at amumolo@cityofrc.us.

CALENDAR LISTING

The MainStreet Theatre Company presents *A Year with Frog and Toad*, by Willie and Robert Reale (ages 5 and up) opening Saturday, January 31st at the Lewis Family Playhouse at the Victoria Gardens Cultural Center, 12505 Cultural Center Drive, Rancho Cucamonga. Directed by Craig Belknap, and

based on the books by Arnold Lobel, this Tony Award-nominated musical follows Frog and Toad as they spend a year celebrating their friendship and the differences we all share. Opens January 31st and runs through February 14th with Saturday showings at 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. and one Sunday matinee February 8th at 1:00 p.m. Tickets: \$16.50 General Admission, \$14.50 Seniors, \$13.50 Youth to age 12, (909) 477-2752 or (877) 858-8422 or visit www.lewisfamilyplayhouse.com for tickets.

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