



NEWS RELEASE

CONTACT:

Fred Tracey, Marketing Specialist
Phone: 760.726.1340 Ext 1146
Email: ftracey@cityofvista.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 30, 2011



Moonlight Stage Productions Presents the
American Musical Classic at the Moonlight Amphitheatre
July 20-August 6 at 8:00 pm

VISTA, CA – Leapin’ Lizards! **ANNIE** is back and Moonlight Stage Productions is presenting this American musical classic from July 20 through August 6 at the Moonlight Amphitheatre. Moonlight is rolling out its Broadway-style production with an adult cast, an adorable company of little orphan girls, and one cute pup to play Sandy. Tickets for this timeless tale are priced \$22-\$50 and are on sale now through the VisTix Ticket Office at (760) 724-2110 and online at moonlightstage.com.

“This is a wonderful opportunity to introduce a new generation to this classic tale of the rags-to-riches story of Little Orphan Annie,” said Kathy Brombacher, Producing Artistic Director. “The show’s message of a brighter tomorrow still resonates with audiences 34 years after debuting on Broadway. No matter if you’ve seen the show five times or are new to it, that theme of hope will still move you.”

Originally opening on Broadway in 1977, **ANNIE** ran for almost six years amassing over 2,000 performances and winning a whopping seven Tony Awards. Although Annie’s hard knock life has its challenges, the scrappy orphan refuses to let her circumstances get the best of her. Pretty soon she captures the heart of everyone from the bigger than life Daddy Warbucks to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The show boasts some of Broadway’s most memorable songs including *It’s the Hard Knock Life*, *Easy Street*, *N-Y-C* and the cheerily optimistic *Tomorrow*. You can bet your bottom dollar that **ANNIE** will bring a smile to your face.

ANNIE features a book by Thomas Meehan, music by Charles Strouse, and lyrics by Martin Charnin. Directing and choreographing **ANNIE** is Moonlight veteran Carlos Mendoza who has created some of the most well-known choreography at Moonlight including productions of *MISS SAIGON*, *CATS*, *WEST SIDE STORY*, and the direction and choreography of

JOSEPH...DREAMCOAT. Justin Gray, a veteran of musical theatre direction and conducting, serves as musical director. Orchestra conductor Kenneth Gammie returns for his 31st season at the Moonlight Amphitheatre. The rest of the creative team include Christina L. Munich (Lighting Designer), Peter Hashagen (Sound Designer), Roslyn Lehman, Renetta Lloyd and Carlotta Malone (Costume Coordinators), Suzanne Asebroek (Properties Coordinator), Sarah Ahlquist (Assistant Stage Manager), Dana S. Carr (Production Coordinator), and Stanley D. Cohen (Stage Manager).

The cast includes: Taylor Bassett (Lt. Ward, Secretary Hull), Katherine Brady (Star-to-Be/Boylan Sister), Paige Brinskele (Boylan Sister), Gigi Coddington (Mrs. Pugh), Devin Collins (Henry Morgenthau), Randall Dodge (Daddy Warbucks), Ryan Fahey (Rooster Hannigan), Stephen Knoll-Gentry (Drake), Karla Ruth Gilbert (Lily St. Regis), Alexis Grenier (Annette/Grace Understudy), Elise Harvey (Cecille/Francis Perkins), Eric Hellmers (Bert Healy), Ralph Johnson (Franklin Delano Roosevelt), Noelle Kenney (Grace Farrell), Ted Leib (Ickes/Bundles/Daddy Wabucks Understudy), Mocha (Sandy), Debbie Nicastro (Sophie, Mrs. Greer, Miss Hannigan Understudy), Natasha Partnoy (Annie), Amy Perkins (Boylan Sister), Debbie Prutsman (Miss Hannigan), Cameron Sczempka (Jimmy/Marine), Eric Von Metzke (Fred McCracken), and Dan Windham (Al/Sound Man). The company of orphans is: Annie Buckley, Dominique Castillo, Remy Margaret Corbin, Madeline Edwards, Brooke Henderson, Julia Allesandra Martinez, Madison Pyle, Emma Sophie Rasse, Lou Francine Rasse, and Megan Spector.

The Moonlight Amphitheatre is nestled in the hillsides of the 85-acre Brengle Terrace Park, owned by the City of Vista. The Moonlight offers one of the most unique theatre-going experiences offered anywhere in San Diego County. Patrons can enjoy a performance from either the lawn with chairs supplied by the theatre, or from a reserved seat. Pre-show dining options include patrons bringing their own picnic suppers into the theatre, or they can enjoy a reserved table on the Patio and then sample a delicious buffet dinner where the menu changes with each performance. For buffet dinner reservations, phone (760) 758-1063.

The remaining shows of the Summer Season are *Hairspray* (August 17-September 3 at 8:00 pm), and *The Marvelous Wonderettes* (September 14-October 1 at 7:30 pm).

For more information or to purchase tickets, call (760) 724-2110 or visit moonlightstage.com.

ABOUT MOONLIGHT STAGE PRODUCTIONS

Moonlight Stage Productions is well-known for its award-winning productions on its two stages at the Moonlight Amphitheatre and the AVO Playhouse. The cultural arts program of the City of Vista, Moonlight's programs are produced in partnership with the Moonlight Cultural Foundation.

CALENDAR INFORMATION

Annie

Presented by Moonlight Stage Productions

July 20-August 6 at 8:00 pm

Moonlight Amphitheatre

1200 Vale Terrace Drive, Vista

Tickets: \$22-\$50

Tickets/information: (760) 724-2110 and www.moonlightstage.com

Box Office at the Amphitheatre opens at 6:00 pm

Gates open for picnicking and dining at 6:30 pm

Production Dates

July 20 at 8:00 pm

July 21 at 8:00 pm

July 22 at 8:00 pm

July 23 at 8:00 pm

July 24 at 8:00 pm

July 27 at 8:00 pm

July 28 at 8:00 pm

July 29 at 8:00 pm

July 30 at 8:00 pm

July 31 at 8:00 pm

August 4 at 8:00 pm

August 5 at 8:00 pm

August 6 at 8:00 pm

Production Days

First two weekends: Wednesday through Sunday

Third weekend: Thursday through Saturday