

## East Bay Children's Theatre family musical in Orinda March 11

Submitted by Ron Lytle



Corinna Rezzelle (as Blue Fairy), Kris Williams (as Pinocchio), and Ken Woolfe (as Geppetto) in the East Bay Children's Theatre production of Ron Lytle's "It Must Be Pinocchio!" Photo EBCT

To celebrate 85 historic years of bringing free musical theatre to under-served elementary school children, East Bay Children's Theatre is raising the curtain on the musical adventure "It Must Be Pinocchio!" – a beloved tale of the little wooden puppet brought to magical life.

Travel to a tiny Italian village and meet Geppetto, the kindly woodcarver whose only wish is to have a family of his own. With a wave of her magical wooden spoon, Geppetto's BF (Blue Fairy) brings the puppet to life, and Pinocchio begins his journey down the road to becoming a real live boy.

But that road is paved with many trials and temptations – including a ragtag pair of commensals (a Fox and a Cat), a band of high-

kicking razzle-dazzle actors, a wicked theatrical producer (Strombaloney), and even a giant whale!

As with all East Bay Children's Theatre productions, the fast-paced action and broad comedy pleases children, while the generous portion of knowing humor is aimed point-blank at adults. That recipe makes "It Must Be Pinocchio!" wonderful entertainment for the entire family ... with no strings attached!

The cast is comprised of talent gathered from throughout the entire Bay Area and beyond, including: Terry Pink Alexander, Mary Bishop, Karen Fox, Riley Hyde, Benjamin Latham, Corinna Rezzelle, Howard Rosenberg, Kenny Silberberg, Kris Williams and Ken Woolfe.

The musical score is chock

full of the hummable tunes including "The Wonderful-Funderful Workshop of Geppetto," "Believe," "Little Boy," "Be An Actor On The Stage," "Why Settle For A Little (When You Can Have A Little More)" and "It Must Be Pinocchio!"

Performances of "It Must Be Pinocchio!" will be presented at 1 and 3 p.m. March 4 at the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton; at 1 and 3 p.m. March 11 at the Orinda Library Auditorium in Orinda; and at 2 p.m. March 31 at the Del Valle Theatre in Walnut Creek. Tickets are \$12-\$17, and may be purchased online at [www.ebctonline.org](http://www.ebctonline.org). Advance purchase is strongly recommended, as performances will sell out. For more information, contact [ebctheatre@gmail.com](mailto:ebctheatre@gmail.com).

## Orinda launches 2018 Poul Anderson writing contest

By Sora O'Doherty

The Poul Anderson Creative Writing Contest is now open to all students who reside and/or attend high school in Orinda. The contest is run by the Friends of the Orinda Library and is named in honor of the late Poul Anderson,

a popular science-fiction writer and Orinda resident, who was a friend to the community for 40 years.

There are four categories: Science Fiction/Fantasy, Essay/Memoir/Biography, Poetry and

Short Story. Students may submit one entry in any of the four categories for a total of not more than three entries. The deadline for submission is Friday, April 20 at noon.

Entries will be evaluated by a

panel of local judges who are involved professionally in reading, writing or publishing. Up to four winners will each be awarded \$500 prizes at the close of this school year, underwritten by the Friends of the Orinda Library.

Entries should be submitted to individual school representatives or at the Orinda Library. For additional information go to: [www.friendsoftheorindalibrary.org](http://www.friendsoftheorindalibrary.org) or email [contest@friendsoftheorindalibrary.org](mailto:contest@friendsoftheorindalibrary.org).

## Troop 204 to honor new Eagle Scouts

Submitted by Stephanie Reilly



Front row, from left: Arlo Evans, Alek Treplicki, and Jackson Reilly; back row: James Edwards, Tristin Tzortzis, Ethan Johnston, and Nick Rynne. Photo provided

Lafayette Boy Scout Troop 204 will honor seven young men who have achieved the Eagle Scout Award, the highest rank in the Boy Scouts of America, at 1 p.m. March 17 at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church, 1801 Lacassie Avenue. This will be Troop 204's 65th Eagle Court of Honor.

To attain Eagle Scout, a Scout must earn his way up the scouting ranks from Tenderfoot to Life Scout. As a Life Scout, he must be active in the troop for at least six months, earn at least 21 required merit badges, serve in a Leadership position, show Scout Spirit, and plan, develop and give leadership to others in an approved Eagle service project helpful to any religious institution, school, nonprofit organization or the community. In addition to the requirements listed above, each of the Troop 204 Eagle Scouts has attended the annual 50-mile backpacking trips including planning and leading a trek on the nine-day trip, hiked over 500 miles, and ac-

tively participated in annual Camporees.

James Edwards built four benches for Youth Homes, which houses children with disabilities. Arlo Evans organized and ran a robotics summer camp for middle schoolers at Monument Crisis Center. Ethan Johnston designed and built a 6 by 8 foot outdoor whiteboard workstation for the Springhill Elementary Science Lab and Garden. Jackson Reilly built a 10 by 10 foot storage shed for Shelter, Inc. at their Family Emergency Shelter in Martinez. Nick Rynne built a Plexiglas root viewing station and a Plexiglas earthworm farm for the new Lafayette Elementary School garden. For the Lafayette Elementary School garden, Alek Teplicki built an 8 by 4 by 2 foot redwood storage bench with self-closing hinges; it is used to hold garden tools/equipment and is big enough for kids to sit on. Tristin Tzortzis built an 8 by 8 by 2 foot U-shaped teaching garden box for the Burton Valley Elementary School Garden.

## Miramonte student wins Lions' Speech Contest

Submitted by Fred George



Zahra Hasanain and Moraga Student Speech Contest Chair Fred George of the Moraga Lions Club. Photo provided

The Moraga Lions Club held its annual Student Speakers Contest Feb. 6 at the Moraga Library. The subject for the contest was "Integrity and Civility Play What Role in Today's Society?" The winning speaker was Zahra Hasanain from Miramonte High School, who will now go on to compete in the Zone finals to be held at 7 p.m. on March 6 at the Pleasant Hill Council Chambers in Pleasant Hill. Zahra could potentially win up to \$23,000 in scholarship money if she wins all six levels of the contest. She has been coached by her speech teacher at Miramonte High School, Kristen Plant, who has been a wonderful supporter of the Lions' Speech Contest.

## Local students honored as DAR Good Citizens

Submitted by Louise Diracles



Daughters of the American Revolution Acalanes Chapter salutes six local high school citizens for their outstanding citizenship. Pictured from left: State Assemblywoman Catharine Baker, winners Janet Seung Won Lee (Miramonte), Christina Loftis (Contra Costa Christian), Leah Bahramipour (Campolindo), Trinity Gabato (Bentley), Sienna Terry (Las Lomas), Katerina Gardner (Acalanes), Acalanes DAR Regent Nancy Boren and Good Citizen Chairperson Susan McGill. Photo provided

Six local high school students were honored Feb. 3 by the Daughters of the American Revolution Acalanes Chapter after being selected from their high schools for their citizenship by their high school counselors and named their school's DAR Good Citizen. The students selected had the following qualities: dependability (which includes truthfulness, loyalty, and punctuality); service (which includes cooperation, courtesy, and consideration of others); leadership (which includes personality, self-control, and ability to assume responsibility); and patriotism (which includes unselfish interest in family, school, community and nation) to an outstanding degree.

The students wrote essays titled "How

has America Advanced the Cause of Freedom in the Rest of the World?" and recited to the audience of parents and family members, as well as to Acalanes DAR members and some their counselors Feb. 3 at the Lafayette Veterans Building. Everyone was impressed with the students' public speaking skills. Each young woman was awarded a flag that was flown over the Capitol in her honor, a certificate and a scholarship check. Janet Seung Won Lee from Miramonte was selected as the chapter essay winner.

Assemblywoman Catharine Baker congratulated the young women and gave them an award certificate. A luncheon followed in the students' honor.

Community Service: We are pleased to make space available whenever possible for some of Lamorinda's dedicated community service organizations to submit news and information about their activities. Submissions may be sent to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com) with the subject header In Service to the Community.

## Share Your Celebrations and Remembrances

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