

# **Tools For Tomorrow**

An on-site after school literacy enrichment program integrating writing, drama, art, and music for Coachella Valley elementary school children grades 3 -5 at no cost to the children.

NONPROFIT 501(c)(3)

## ART • MUSIC • DRAMA • WRITING

#### LINDA RIDER 2018 VISION FOR THE FUTURE HONOREE

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David Hirsch Program Director Andrea Hecht Operations Manager

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The VISIONARIES of Tools For Tomorrow will present humanitarian, Linda Rider with the Vision For The Future Award at their annual fundraising luncheon in March of 2018.

Recognized for her generous and giving heart, her iconic style, and her enthusiastic nature, Linda Rider has focused her philanthropic efforts on the arts, education, and children. In addition to Tools For Tomorrow, Linda supports Big Hearts For Little Hearts, is an Academic Angel for the College of the Desert, and is on the Boards of the Muses of the McCallum Theatre and the Idyllwild Arts Academy. She and her husband Manny are major donors to the McCallum Theatre and sponsors of the Idyllwild Arts summer concert series in Idyllwild where they summer.

Linda Rider

Linda and Manny, her husband of 34 years, owned Vendome Liquor stores in the Los Angeles area before retiring to the desert twenty years ago. The

proud parents of a son, a grandson, and twin great-granddaughters, Linda is also the grandmother to Manny's two grandchildren.

When not involved in her charity work, Linda is an avid reader, and regularly goes to pilates and Jazzercise. It has been quoted that the only grass growing under this amazing woman's feet is on the golf course.

The Vision For The Future Award Luncheon honoring Linda Rider will take place at the Renaissance Hotel, Indian Wells Resort and Spa on Thursday March 22, 2018. The event will once again feature an original presentation by the children of Tools For Tomorrow.

### CLAIRE SMITH JOINS TFT BOARD

Claire Smith's impressive background in finance and management, her experience working with nonprofits, and her commitment to Tools For Tomorrow make her a perfect fit for the TFT Board of Directors.

From 1983 to 2000, Claire was an officer with



Claire Smith

Home Savings of America, first selling loans to Wall Street and then becoming National Director of Loan Sales for the Major Loan Department, where she set up loan offices in 19 states; hired, trained, set goals, and managed all loan agents for the entire United States.

Claire served on the boards of the Katherine Andrews Foundation and the Rancho Mirage Library and, in 2013, she founded the VISIONARIES of Tools For Tomorrow. **TFT RECEIVES ANDERSON GRANT** Thanks to a generous grant from the Anderson Children's Foundation, Tools For Tomorrow is introducing the Theatre Troupe program. It provides students the opportunity to design, produce, and present a complete theatrical production from sets and costumes to singing, dancing, and acting. And the opportunity to perform throughout the Valley.

## HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD Sunday, November 19 • 4-7 pm



ACQUA CALIFORNIA BISTRO Champagne & Hors d'oeuvres Live Music & Auction

Fall 2017

Book Signing & Interview of Author Joyce Bulifant *"My Four Hollywood Husbands"* 

Hosted by the VISIONARIES of TFT

**Tools For Tomorrow** provides on-site, integrated, hands-on arts literacy programs to at risk children at no cost to the children. The program is designed to supplement the children's daily educational experience, nurture their creativity, enhance their self-esteem, build character, expand their intellectual and cultural horizons, providing them with a coping mechanism for the future and a vision of what their lives can become.

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



It is nice to get a chance to catch our breath before we begin another exciting year teaching elementary kids about the ARTS. Program Director David Hirsch was promoted midvear to take charge of the curriculum and instruction, and continues to find new ways to improve what goes on in the classroom. We could not do that without the fantastic support of charitable organizations in the Coachella

Timothy Martin

Valley and beyond who see that the ARTS are important for kids and like what Tools For Tomorrow is doing. And of course, we could not operate without the efforts of our VISIONARIES. This group of special friends takes care of the extra things needed for us to excel. We continue to look for new funds and ways to expand our program of 17 classes and, once we have the resources, other elementary schools are ready to welcome us onto their campuses.

A new effort this next year will be to identify community volunteers who might be willing to go into the classrooms to help our teachers and classes. At times, kids need individual help with art, editing poetry, practicing rhythm instruments, reading, and more. Volunteers will be trained and matched with teachers who need the help. I anticipate many of our VISIONARIES will volunteer as well as a few more friends from the community.

So, in our new year, we will continue to give the kids in our Tools For Tomorrow classrooms experiences in ART, MUSIC, DRAMA, CREATIVE WRITING, and PERFORMANCE. What a joyful task!



The Great Gate from Baba Yaga

Artist: Mia, grade 5

## DIANE FOX RETIRES FROM TFT BOARD

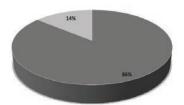
For 12 years Diane Fox served on the Tools For Tomorrow Board of Directors, most of those years as secretary. During

that time, Diane was also a TFT Angel, supporting the class in Mecca Elementary. Diane will be missed, not only for her love of the arts and education, but for her quiet concerned ways, her sly sense of humor and her generous and giving heart. Although Diane has moved, she continues to remember Tools For Tomorrow by underwriting this 2017 TFT newsletter.



Diane Fox

#### TFT BUDGET ALLOCATION



**TFT Program - 86%** Overhead - 14%

A portion of the overhead is covered by the income from the Noël Bryant Endowment Fund.

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR



This has been a year of new beginnings and, happily, new energy and growth in the Tools For Tomorrow program.

We have been able to use a generous grant from the Anderson Foundation to supply our teachers with a great selection of high quality musical instruments. Some teachers

David Hirsch

have already had great success using them in the classroom (myself included) and, after we have our teacher training session next fall we will have a significantly better music experience for our students.

Due to the tireless work of our partners, the VISIONARIES and the Board we have the resources to add a new school to our roster. Herbert Hoover Elementary in Indio is our newest addition. It is truly exciting to know that the kids at this school will have the joy of music, art, theater, and writing with Tools for Tomorrow. I am also thrilled to be working on adding a year-round theater class. We have a theater specialist in Gilmore Rizzo who will be collaborating with others to create this new class. You can see his profile in the newsletter. We are lucky to be able to recruit such talented teachers, they are the backbone of our organization.

Thank you for this great opportunity to help guide Tools for Tomorrow. I believe our future will be even brighter.

#### **TEACHER FEATURE**

Gilmore Rizzo, is a man for all seasons, with 30 years of experience as an actor, singer, dancer, in addition to being a writer, director, and producer for all levels of children, teen, and adult theater. He will be developing the Tools For Tomorrow Theatre Troupe.



Gilmore Rizzo

Notable among Gilmore's

numerous awards and accomplishments: a Bank of America Theatre Award, two time winner (five time nominee) of the ELLY – Best Actor in a Musical and a Broadway World Nominee for Best Male Cabaret Artist. For 8 1/2 years Gilmore appeared in the recurring role of Tony on the EMMY award winning series, Murphy Brown; and in Guest Starring roles on such classic TV shows as Roseanne, Matlock, Step By Step, Ellen, The Finelli Boys, Murder She Wrote, Living In Captivity . . . and so much more.

Tools For Tomorrow is indeed privileged to have this talented, generous man as one of our teachers.

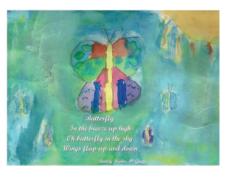


## **ARTISTS & WRITERS GALLERY**

Teacher: Kathy Olearnick Assignment: Haiku with water color illustration Fall 2017



**Tie Dye Sky** Tie Dye in the Sky Clouds of every color Shining on the sea - *Alana, 5th grade* 



Butterfly

In the breeze up high Oh butterfly in the sky Wings flap up and down - Bailey, 4th grade



#### The Ocean

Shimmering, sparkling, and laughing How I look in the ocean Before the sun comes - Andrea, 4th grade



## Fall

Leaves fall from the tree As strong winds gust hard and fast Blowing them away. - Kassandra, 4th grade

## Teacher: Stefania Ford

"We talked about painting styles, abstract vs. representational, Impressionism and, then, looked at Van Gogh's post-impressionist "Starry Night." I think the kids really enjoyed getting messy with the pastels and they turned out well."



## VISIONARIES . . .

## CHRISTMAS AT THE GRANDE OLE DAME



I want to share some amazing figures with you. This year The VISIONARIES of Tools For Tomorrow raised almost \$150,000! Wow that's a lot of money for a four-year-old organization and, even more amazing, the fundraising expenses amounted to 15 percent of the income. How was that possible? Much of the credit goes to our special

Judith Antonio

donors Harold Matzner, JoAnn McGrath, Sherrie and Ronald Auen, Barbara and Jerry Keller, Bob Wernick, Donna MacMillan, Helene Galen to name a few. Last but by no means least, all of you who attend the events and support the Tools For Tomorrow program and the hard working volunteers.

The season started with a musical by **Joyce Bulifant and Roger Perry**, *Christmas at the Grande Ole Dame* in which many local celebrities took part. And, thanks to LULU California Bistro, the festivities before and after were not only elegant, but delicious.

We are grateful to this year's Vision For The Future honorees, **Barbara and Jerry Keller** for allowing The VISIONARIES to tell their life stories; to **Joyce Bulifant**, **Roger Perry, and Clark Dugger** for the beautiful production, and a special thank you to Barbara's father **Marvin Cohn** for the art work used on the invitation. With gratitude to our event sponsor **Harold Matzner**, whose generosity was instrumental in our success, and to our "Raise Your Hand" auctioneer **Clive Weightman** without whom we would not have been able to raise the additional \$16,000.

Special thanks to board member **Jean Carrus** for hosting the membership thank you party, **Julieta Ramos** for her inspiring words about the program, **Karen and Tony Barone** who entice us with their beautiful art, and to the board of The VISIONARIES of Tools For Tomorrow who work tirelessly to ensure that the children of the Coachella Valley have the opportunity to develop their full potential.

Two new board members have joined the VISIONARIES this year: **Judy Mathes** who will serve as secretary, and **Barbara Klein** who has volunteered to chair the 2018 Vision For The Future luncheon committee.

We look forward to seeing you on November 19 for a very special afternoon with **Joyce Bulifant** and some fun entertainment at the fabulous new Acqua California Bistro at The River. Joyce will be signing copies of her book *My Four Hollywood Husbands* and entertaining us with her wonderful sense of humor. March 22 will be the 12th annual Vision for the Future Luncheon, this year honoring the very special **Linda Rider**.

While there are many worthy charities in the Coachella Valley we are thankful that you choose to support Tools For Tomorrow.



## VISION FOR THE FUTURE LUNCHEON HONORING BARBARA AND JERRY KELLER . . .































#### SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Tools For Tomorrow is grateful to the Idyllwild Arts Academy for again awarding summer scholarships to the following deserving Tools For Tomorrow students:





Idyllwild Scholarship recipient, Sydney

*Right: Program Director David Hirsch congratulating Alyssa.* We also thank the Palm Springs Art Museum for offering eleven scholarships to their summer program.

#### \_\_\_\_\_SNIPS & SNAILS \_ We are grateful to the following:

## Media Support:

Pattie Daly-Caruso, Television Joey English, Radio Betty Francis, The Desert Sun Trudy Tedder and Joanne Hardy, The Desert Sun Mary Perry, The Beacon (DSUSD publication) Anne Greer, Palm Springs Life Susan Stein, Palm Springs Life Pat Krause, Desert Star Weekly Steve Tolin, Desert Charities Publishing Bob Bogard and Tim O'Bayley, Community Events Calendar Bryan Gallo, KMIR TV Amy Zimmer, KMIR TV Patrick Evans, KESQ TV Sarah-Jayne Simon, KESQ TV

#### **Photographers:**

Lani Garfield, lanigarfield@mac.com (760.567.6396) Jasmine Forman, VISIONARIES Member John Antonio, official VISIONARIES photographer

#### In Kind Services

Mitre & Bevel Framing, Palm Springs (760.202.2333) Bob Smith, MSA Consulting Vidolci Video Messaging, www.vidolci.com Galleria Marconi, Backstreet Art District, 2668 South Cherokee Way, Palm Springs Create Center for the Arts 73446 Highway 111, Palm Desert

#### 2017 Vision for the Future Award Luncheon

Karen and Tony Barone, Vision Award Statue Brandini Toffee, Rancho Mirage (760.200.1598) Fran Nolan, Wine Contribution Marc Byrd, Florist Gilmore Rizzo, Vocalist Francesca Amari, Vocalist David Hirsch, Music Man Clive Weightman, Auctioneer Clark Dugger and Joyce Bulifant, Keller Videos Marvin Cohn, Invitation Art La Quinta High School Color Guard

#### **Game Day Prizes**

Catalan Restaurant BNP Paribas Open & Indian Wells Tennis Garden Desert Lily Esthetics Ristorante Mamma Gina Shame on the Moon Restaurant TROY Boutique on El Paseo

## **GRANTS & GIFTS 2016-2017**

Tools For Tomorrow gratefully acknowledges the following foundations and community organizations for their generous support:

Anderson Children's Foundation The Auen Foundation Bank of Southern California **BIGHORN Golf Club Charities** Cancer Partners City of Rancho Mirage The Coeta & Donald Barker Foundation **Desert Classic Charities Desert Community Foundation Empower Sales Emrick Jewels** The Foundation for the Palm Springs USD Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa Jewish Family Service of the Desert LULU California Bistro Mattress Showroom The Nest Newman's Own Foundation - Patty & Arthur Newman Pacific Western Bank Spencer's Restaurant **UBS** Financial Services

## **BEHIND THE SCENES** GALLERIES HOST TFT ART SHOWS





Galleria Marconi Owners Adam Cage and Marconi Calindas.

Suzanne Fromkin, David and Alaina DeMartini hosting at the Galleria Marconi Opening.

#### Create Center for the Arts





Linda Rider, Rachel Druten, Jan Harnik

Director Create Center for the Arts Deb Mum, TFT Program Director David Hirsch, TFT Teacher Stefania Ford, and TFT Board President Tim Martin Tools For Tomorrow collaborates with: The Unified School Districts of Palm Springs, Desert Sands, and Coachella, Palm Springs Art Museum, Idyllwild Arts Academy Summer Program, Old Town Artisan Studio

#### **DONATIONS** - 7/2016 - 6/2017 We are grateful to all of the following donors for their generous contibutions.



ADOPT - A - SCHOOL ANGEL - \$10,000+ Harold Matzner JoAnn McGrath

#### <u>BENEFACTOR</u> - \$5,000 to \$9,999

Ronald & Sherrie Auen Arthur & Patty Newman Barbara & Gerald Keller Arlene Schnitzer Robert & Nina Wernick

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John & Judith Antonio Karen & Tony Barone Becky Benaroya **Rich & Judy Billings** Rodney & Barbara Bolman David W. Bryant Barbara Bryant Jean Carrus & Frank Bellagente Timothy & Terri Childs Walter & Geri Clark Charles & Rachel Druten Louise Escoe Diane Fox Robert & Barbara Fremont Helene Galen **Richard Jennings** Andrew & Diane Jessup Lonny Karmin Janice Lyle Donna MacMillan Doug & Donna Martin Timothy J. & Loretta Martin Judy Mathes Sarah Milmet Carmen Mraz Robin & Robert Nugent Charlie Pasarell James & Barbara Reed Greg & Stacey Renker Robert & Irma Smith Hugh & Florence Wolff



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IN HONOR OF

Chris Nevil **Nevil Children** Charles & Nancy Nevil **Mr. & Mrs. Michael Sacks** Louise Escoe **Robert & Irma Smith** 

MSA Consulting Louise Escoe

#### IN MEMORY OF

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Jay Venosa **Missy** Louise Escoe

Please forgive any inaccuracies or omissions. If you let us know they will be corrected in the next newsletter.



This newsletter is underwritten by Diane Fox. Designed, written, and edited in-house by volunteers and staff.

## How do we operate?

We employ qualified instructors in each subject using a professionally designed curriculum.

## Where are classes held?

Classes are held five days a week at individual schools, after regular school hours.

## What is the cost to each child?

Classes are FREE! All supplies, musical equipment, and snacks are provided by **Tools For Tomorrow**.

## Which schools can we serve?

All Coachella Valley elementary schools are eligible. We are currently operating programs in Cathedral City, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, Indio, La Quinta, Palm Desert, Palm Springs, Rancho Mirage, and Mecca.

## What are the program costs?

\$10,000 supports the full program in a school for one school year.

## **! TFT KIDS NEED YOU !**



SUSTAINABILITY IS CRITICAL to maintain the program and qualify for grants

#### Tools For Tomorrow Programs are in the following schools:

Cathedral City: Rio Vista Elementary School

**Coachella:** Palm View Elementary School

#### **Desert Hot Springs:**

Bella Vista Elementary School Bubbling Wells Elementary School Two Bunch Palms Elementary School Julius Corsini Elementary School

#### Indio:

Andrew Jackson Elementary School Herbert Hoover Elementary School Lyndon Johnson Elementary School Martin Van Buren Elementary School

La Quinta: Harry S. Truman Elementary School

Palm Desert: Abraham Lincoln Elementary School Ronald Reagan Elementary School

**Palm Springs:** Cahuilla Elementary School Vista del Monte Elementary School

Rancho Mirage: Rancho Mirage Elementary School

**Mecca:** Mecca Elementary School

## SAVE THE DATES

November 19, 2017 HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD ACQUA CALIFORNIA BISTRO

### March 22, 2018

Vision for the Future Award Luncheon honoring Linda Rider

> Membership Event TBA

If you would like to help underwrite the costs of printing and mailing, and be acknowledged in our newsletter call 760.601.3954