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# Academy of Visual & Performing Arts Culver City High School

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4401 Elenda Ave.  
Culver City, CA 90230  
<http://www.avpa.org>  
Phone 310-842-4200 x6009

Contact: Dr. Tony Spano  
Executive Director  
tonyspano@ccusd.org  
Phone 310-842-4200 x6094 or x6009

For Immediate Release

## **AVPA's Cozy Cabaret**

Culver City, CA, January 5, 2006

An intimate setting and great music – the perfect combination to start a new year. That's exactly what the Academy of Visual & Performing Arts' (AVPA) "Cabaret Night – The Great American Songbook" will offer audiences. Students and faculty will sing the greatest hits from America's early popular songs to audiences seated in a cozy cabaret atmosphere on the transformed stage of the Robert Frost Auditorium. The show takes place on January 19, 20 and 21 at Culver City High School starting at 7 pm. Seats are limited but can be reserved at [www.avpa.org](http://www.avpa.org). Tickets are \$15 general admission and \$10 ASB/seniors/children.



Tony Spano, Executive Director of AVPA and the director for the Academy's Pink Elephant Music Company, says, "This is our third Cabaret show, and I think it's our best one yet."

The fun-filled evening will highlight seven great American songwriters and songwriting teams: George and Ira Gershwin, Irving Berlin, Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart, Fats Waller, Harold Arlen, Cole Porter, and Duke Ellington. The AVPA Chamber Singers will also perform a medley from Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess."

Spano's co-director for "Cabaret Night," Lisa Michel, is quick to point out that this show is really about the history of American songs: great melodies combined with great lyrics. According to Michel, "It's wonderful to be introducing the students to these amazing songs that they should know about, but haven't necessarily heard before." Spano adds, "I know the audiences will really enjoy hearing all these great standards."

The Academy of Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA) at Culver City High School offers a comprehensive arts curriculum after regular school hours for students who are committed to excellence in Art, Film, Theatre, Dance, and Music. Established in 1996, AVPA enjoys tremendous community support from Sony Pictures Entertainment and other design, recording, and theatre companies in the area. For more information, go to [www.avpa.org](http://www.avpa.org) or contact Tony Spano at 310-842-4200 x6094 or x6009.



**Photo Caption:**

Stephanie & Jessica singing: **Jessica Erskine (L) and Stephanie Vasseghi** enjoy a duet  
1206 chamber singers: **Lisa Michel** directs AVPA's Chamber Singers

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