



**Academy of Visual and Performing Arts
At Culver City High School**

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Night of A Thousand Stars Benefit for AVPA

For immediate release:

Culver City – November 19, 2007: The Culver City High School Academy of Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA) will make its Kirk Douglas Theatre debut on Saturday, Dec. 1. Sponsored by the AVPA Foundation, this **Night of A Thousand Stars** benefit will showcase the up-and-coming stars in the AVPA program, while also giving these talented high school students an opportunity to perform in one of LA's premiere venues.



A Wine and Cheese Reception featuring an Art Gallery and live music featuring work by AVPA visual art and music students will begin at 7 pm in the lobby of the Kirk Douglas Theatre. At 8 pm, the show begins with performances from each of the AVPA's departments of Music, Theatre, Dance, and Film. The AVPA Jazz Ensemble and Chamber Singers will perform, as well as students from our dance and theatre companies. There will also be a performance by students who take a weekly theatre workshop at The Actors' Gang.

According to Tony Spano, Co Executive Director of AVPA, "Without the steadfast support of the AVPA Foundation, we wouldn't be able to offer our students our exceptional arts-based programming. Each year, our program offers over 30 classes and workshops, 25 productions, events, and exhibitions, taught by a faculty of over 25 people. This benefit will be a great showcase of our talented students, and will help us expand our successful programs."

AVPA is a participant in the Kirk Douglas Theatre Community Access Program, which was developed by the Center Theatre Group and the Culver City Redevelopment Agency. Tickets for the benefit are \$35, which includes the reception, and can be purchased online at www.avpa.org or at the door the night of the performance. The Kirk Douglas Theatre is located at 9820 Washington Blvd, with convenient parking at City Hall and downtown garages.

About the Academy of Visual and Performing Arts

The Academy of Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA) at Culver City High School has

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been inspiring and empowering students to build a compassionate, creative community through innovative and challenging arts education since 1996. AVPA enjoys tremendous support from Sony Pictures Entertainment and other area businesses as well as from the Culver City community. For more information about the Academy, go to <http://avpa.org> or contact Tony Spano at 310-842-4200 x6094 or Kristine Hatanaka at x6001.

picture caption: AVPA Chamber Singers with their director, Lisa Michel (L)

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