SHOWTIMES...
APRIL 17 – MAY 2, 2009
SATURDAYS – 1:00 PM & 4:00 PM,
SUNDAY, APRIL 25 – 1:00 PM
SCHOOL PERF: TUES, WED, THURS @ 9:15 AM & 11:15 AM

About the Playwrights:
KAREN ZACARIAS’ plays have been produced throughout the United States and in Canada, Europe and the Caribbean. Her play The Sins of Sor Juana was the winner of the Charles MacArthur Award for Outstanding New Play at the 2000 Helen Hayes Awards (Washington, D.C.), and the 1998 National Hispanic Playwrights’ Project at South Coast Repertory (Costa Mesa, Calif.). She is also winner of the 1998 D.C. Mayor’s Award for Outstanding Emerging Artist and a finalist at the Eugene O’Neill National Playwrights’ Conference and the Jane Chambers National Women’s Playwrights’ Competition. Among her other produced plays are The Bare-chested Man, Blue Buick in My Driveway and A Rope Through the Fixture. Her plays for young people include the long-running hit The Magical Piñata (first-prize winner at the Sixth Annual National Children's Theater Festival at Actor’s Playhouse in Miami, Fla.), Choosing Nine, The 13th Summer of William and Pilar. She has had commissions from Woolly Mammoth Theatre (Washington, D.C.), and South Coast Repertory and Imagination Stage (Bethesda, Md.). Zacarias is the founder and artistic director of Young Playwrights’ Theater, a non-profit organization dedicated to fostering literacy, dialogue and conflict resolution through playwriting in inner-city schools.

DEBORAH WICKS LA PUMA is a composer, music director and performer. Her works for adults and children have been seen across the country at the Kennedy Center, Atlanta's Alliance Theatre, Maryland's Olney Theatre, Arlington's Signature Theatre, Palo Alto's TheatreWorks, The Berkshire's Barrington Stage Company, Interlochen Center for The Arts, and the White House. Her awards include the Jane Chamber Playwriting Award, the Robert M. Golden Award, a National Endowment for the Arts - New American Works Grant, a Helen Hayes nomination for Outstanding Musical Direction, two Parent's Choice Awards, and two-time Actor's Playhouse National Children's Theatre Festival Winner. Ms. La Puma received her MFA from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, her BA from Stanford University, and studied folk music with Alfredo Lopez, musicologist at La Universidad de Baja California. A Mexican American with dual citizenship who speaks Spanish and Portuguese, her other musical works include a bilingual Mass and two Rock/Jazz albums with the Brazilian band Turba Multa. She is a proud member of ASCAP, the Dramatist Guild and Assitej/USA, and an active musical director, performer and sound designer. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband and three daughters. We are lucky to have Ms. La Puma musical directing the MainStreet Theatre production of the show!

About the Book’s Author...
MUNRO LEAF (1905-1976), was an American author of children's literature who wrote and illustrated nearly 40 books during his 40-year career. He is best known for The Story of Ferdinand (1936), a children's classic which he wrote on a yellow legal pad in less than an hour. The story was written with his friend, illustrator Robert Lawson. The Spanish Civil War broke out soon after Ferdinand was published and it sparked considerable controversy because Ferdinand was regarded by some as a pacifist symbol. Leaf himself claimed no ulterior motive for the book, saying that Ferdinand was innocent fun. The book was banned in Spain and burned as propaganda in Nazi Germany. The Story of Ferdinand went on to become a best-seller, with over 60 foreign translations, and it has never gone out of print. He and Lawson collaborated on three subsequent books, Wee Gillis (1938), The Story of Simpson and Sampson (1941), and Aesop's Fables (1941). Leaf wrote many other children's books including the Can Be Fun series of ten titles which address such topics as health, safety, manners, arithmetic, and geography in an instructive, humorous style. He graduated from the University of Maryland and received an MA in English Literature from Harvard University.

Inside the Guide...
- Introducing the play........................................2
- Bringing the play into the classroom ..........3
- Extending the learning.....................................4
- About the Theatre........................................5
- About the Library.........................................6
Vocabulary Words found in the play
There are many Spanish words in the song lyrics and in the play – see how many of them your students know:

España – Spain
Comprende? – Do you understand?
Feliz – Happy
Flores – Flowers
Había una vez – Once upon a time
Si, señor – yes, sir
Que? – what?
Colores – colors
Alegría – Happiness
Paz – Peace

More Vocabulary Words!
Amiga – friend (female) Amigo – friend (male)
Lo siento – I’m sorry
Como estás? – How are you?
Gracias – Thank you

Characters in the Play….

DUQUE DODO – A very combative Duke that lives in Spain.

DUQUITO DANIEL – Duque Dodo’s sweet son who wants to be a dancer

FERDINAND – A Large bull who loves flowers

COCHINA – Ferdinand’s star-struck pig friend (in Spanish, “cochina” means “dirty”, which is a great name for a pig!

Theatre Golden Rules

Before coming to the Lewis Family Playhouse, you may want to prepare your students for the experience by going over the basic rules of theatre etiquette.

• Please remain quiet (silent) and seated during the performance. Remember, the actors on stage can hear you. Of course, laughter and applause at appropriate times are always greatly appreciated!

• Photography or any type of recording is not allowed inside the theatre at any time. This is not only against our union agreements, but it can be dangerous to the performers.

• Please leave all food, candy and drinks (including water) outside of the theatre. Eating during a performance is very distracting and could be very messy.

• Because the theatre will be dark during the performance, if you need to use the restroom, leave the theatre or come in late, please alert an usher who can help you find your way during a break in the action on stage.

• PLEASE turn off all pagers, cell phones and other electronic devices as they may interfere with theatre equipment and everyone’s enjoyment of the performance.

• After the show, please stay in your seats until an usher guides you out. Your bus may not be in the same place it dropped you off!
PREVIEW ACTIVITIES

- Read the book and become familiar with the characters.
- Do research on bullfighting and its tradition in Madrid.
- Look at maps of Spain, and learn a little about the country that the story is set in.
- The music in our production of FERDINAND is based on Spanish musical styles. Explore Spanish music and flamenco dance with your students – a great way to introduce them to Spanish Culture!
- Learn Spanish Words! Use some of the examples in this Study Guide to help your students understand some of the vocabulary in the play.

AFTER THE SHOW ACTIVITIES

1. FERDINAND is happiest when he is taking care of his flowers. Have the students make a book using pictures, stories or photographs showing what makes THEM happy. (Visual Arts-Creative Expression).

2. Cochina the Pig talks in puns, and makes lots of references to pigs in other works of literature. (example Hamlet, Porky Pig). Have the students come up with their own fun rhymes about pigs – or give examples of pigs from other stories.(English: Listening and Speaking)

3. Ferdinand loves taking care of his flowers. Have students grow their own flowers from seeds. Have them record their observations about their growth using pictures, numbers, written statements or a bar graph. (Science/Life Sciences/Investigation and Experimentation.)

4. Show your students a map of Spain, and have them find Madrid, where the bull fight takes place. Have them imagine where Ferdinand’s field is, and what roads he might have taken to get to Madrid. Then ask students to make their own maps, using cardinal directions and map symbols (History-Social Sciences 1.2)

5. Ferdinand is a bull, but he doesn’t act like most bulls. Have students research the characteristics of bulls. What do they normally eat? What kind of environment is best for them? (Science – Life Sciences)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Ferdinand is not interested in fighting, no matter how much the others want him to. He always remains true to his own convictions. Have you ever been pressured to do something you didn’t want to do? What happened?

Danilo wants to be a dancer, but agrees to fight the bull to please his father. Why do you think he does that? Talk about what it means to disobey a parent, and what the consequences might be.

Cochina will do anything to be a star – even betray her best friend! After she finds out what really happens in a bullfight, she regrets her decision. Has something similar ever happened to you?

The Duke is convinced that fighting the bull is the only thing his son should do. What makes him change his mind?

Danilo sees the beautiful dancers and decides that is what he wants to do. Talk about what your students might like to be when they grow up – and what influences their decisions.
Connect With the World @ The Rancho Cucamonga Library

While the Library is usually the first place people consider for good books, cds and other materials, the Rancho Cucamonga Libraries also offer a full calendar of entertaining, enriching and informative programs for the whole family. Here’s a sample of some of the free activities:

**Cultural Arts Nights**
Offered at the Paul A. Biane Library at Victoria Gardens, these after hours programs feature music, storytelling, crafts, speakers on selected topics. Past Nights have included celebrations of Chinese New Year, Black History Month and the globally focused, Around the World on 8/8/08.

**Evening Events @ Archibald**
Happening on the third Thursday of the month at our Archibald Library, these family storytimes feature storytelling, songs and activities for the whole family. On the first Wednesday of the month, families can enjoy board games on our Family Fun and Games Night!

Contact the Libraries for more information about these and other great programs and services.

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

- The [Paul A. Biane Library at Victoria Gardens](http://www.vgculturalcenter.com) has over 1000 books and media in the Performing Arts collections for Adults and Children.

- The Library also offers extensive [online resources](http://www.vgculturalcenter.com) and tools you can use to bring technology and arts into the classroom.

- [The Library and Playhouse](http://www.vgculturalcenter.com) present joint performing arts programming that supports state curriculum standards.

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**It’s All About Character: Online Resources For Building Integrity**

**Character Counts**

Founded by Michael Josephson, this program has been adopted by schools throughout the country as a way to incorporate six key values – trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship – into the classroom, board room and everywhere in between.

**Character Education from the US Department of Education**

A great selection of websites offering tips and how-to’s for parents and teachers who want to integrate character building in the classroom and at home.

**Character Education in California**

Provides resources and weblinks specifically designed for California educators.
Tissue Paper Flowers Craft
These “Bootiful” flowers are made from folded tissue paper (crepe paper). You can make an entire bouquet of them for a great gift or decoration.

**Supplies needed:**
- Tissue paper (crepe paper)
- Green pipe cleaners (or twist ties)

Cut a few pieces (about 4-6) of tissue paper (crepe paper) about 8 x 10 inches (the exact size doesn’t matter). Put the paper in a pile and fold it like an accordion.

Tie the center of the folded paper with a green pipe cleaner (or twist tie).

Gently pull each piece of paper towards the top center of the flower, separating each sheet of paper from the others (forming the petals of the flower).

As described in “Enchanted Learning”

**Some Music and Theatre Vocabulary:**

- **Accompaniment:** Vocal or instrumental parts that accompany a melody.
- **Costume:** Any clothing worn by an actor on stage during a performance.
- **Musical Theatre:** A type of entertainment containing music, songs and usually dance.
- **Character:** The personality or part an actor re-creates
- **Dialogue:** The conversation between actors on stage.

**Some Dance Vocabulary:**

- **Choreography:** The creation and composition of dances by arranging or inventing steps, movements, and patterns of movement.
- **Repetition:** The duplication of movements or movement phrases within choreography.
- **Tempo:** The speed of music or dance.
- **Unison:** Dance movement that takes place at the same time in a group.
Making the Classroom Come Alive!

Performing Arts are important in every child’s life. Researchers say that using art in the classroom has a positive impact on a child’s cognitive, social, and emotional development.

Teachers are working hard on ways to incorporate arts in the classroom. Kathy Schrock’s Guide for Educators is a categorized list of sites useful for enhancing curriculum and professional growth. It is updated often to include the best sites for teaching and learning.

With the California Standards at the forefront of teaching, many educators may find it difficult to integrate performing arts into their classroom. PBS has a standards based resource list that makes integrating the arts in the classroom easy!

Incorporating Performing Arts in the classroom inspires new ways of teaching and learning. Differentiating the learning environment enhances the learners’ experience while tapping into their individual talents.

Books @ the Library

If you have any questions about any library resources, call the reference desk at 909.477.2720.

**The Story of Ferdinand**
EASY MUNRO
Ferdinand likes to sit quietly and smell the flowers but one day he gets stung by a bee and his snorting and stomping convince everyone he is the fiercest of bulls.

**Spain: A Primary Source and Cultural Guide**
J 946 FAI
An overview of the history and culture of Spain and its people, including the geography, myths, arts, daily life, education, industry, and government.

**Shadow of a Bull**
J FICTION WOJCIECHOWSKA
Manolo Olivar has to make a decision: to follow in his famous father’s shadow and become a bullfighter, or to follow his heart and become a doctor.

**With Love from Spain, Melanie Martin**
J FICTION WESTON
While spending spring break in Spain with her family, eleven-year-old Melanie keeps a diary of her experiences improving her Spanish and struggling with her little brother.

**Let’s Dance! Spanish Learning Songs**
J CD ZM BAIL WOO
Learn the basics of Spanish by singing these popular children’s songs: Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes, De Colores and Twinkle Twinkle Little Star.

Library Tour Information

As part of your class visit to the Lewis Family Playhouse, why not take a tour of the Victoria Gardens Cultural Center Library? The second of two physical branches of the library (RCPL also offers an extensive virtual library), the facility has over 100,000 volumes housed in a beautiful, 23,000 square foot facility. Among the facility’s unique features are its 20 seat technology center, teen study area and a special performing arts collection.

Pre- and post- show tours last approximately 15 minutes and are scheduled on a first come, first served basis. To arrange a tour, call Lorena Espinoza, Library Assistant at (909)477-2720 ext. 5059.

This Curriculum guide was prepared by the staff of the Lewis Family Playhouse. Library information compiled by Library staff. For questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact Mireya “Murry” Hepner at (909) 477-2775 ext. 3734.