

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Robert Herman
Public Information Officer
559/733-6606
cell: 559/901-3445

Tulare County Office of Education Announces: Final Week of *The Secret Garden* Production Four Shows: July 27 – 29, 2006 • L.J. Williams Theater, Visalia

Visalia – The final four performances of the Tulare County Office of Education Theatre Company's production of *The Secret Garden* will be held at the L.J. Williams Theater in Visalia. Evening performances begin at 7:30 p.m. on July 27, 28 and 29. A 2:00 p.m. matinee will be held Saturday, July 29. The Theatre Company's stunning production of *The Secret Garden* – based on the timeless novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett – is the ninth annual show performed since the program was created by Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. The L.J. Williams Theater is located at 1001 West Main on the Redwood High School campus.

The Secret Garden is a Tony Award-winning production. The story centers around 11-year-old Mary Lennox, who is sent to live at Misselthwaite Manor, her mysterious uncle's enormous, drafty mansion looming on the edge of the English moors. A cholera epidemic has ravaged the Indian Village where she was born, killing both her parents and the Indian servant who cared for her. Not long after coming to live with her uncle, Mary discovers a neglected, walled garden and releases the magic and adventure locked inside it — changing everyone's life forever.

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“The production is so beautiful and the voices so magnificent, I’m sure the performance will delight fans of the book and newcomers alike,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “This show is an opportunity to see some of Tulare County’s most talented students in an internationally-acclaimed production that is new to our area.”

Tickets are available for \$8 for general admission seating and \$20 for VIP seating at either Tulare County Office of Education facility in Visalia: 2637 West Burrel (near the Tulare County Courthouse), or 7000 Doe Avenue (north of Goshen Avenue on Shirk). Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

For information about the Tulare County Office of Education, please call the Public Information Office at (559) 733-6606 or visit our website at www.tcoe.org. For additional information about Theatre Company and the summer musical production, *The Secret Garden*, call 651-1482.

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