

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

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For Immediate Release

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Tulare County Office of Education Announces: Theatre Company Workshop Presents Five Performances of *Annie* at El Diamante High School Theater in Visalia May 10, 11 and 12 at 6:00 p.m.; and May 12 and 13 at 1:30 p.m.

Visalia – The Tulare County Office of Education’s Theatre Company will present five performances of the popular musical, *Annie*, next week at the El Diamante High School Theater. The production is the culmination of a 12-week workshop offered semi-annually by the Theatre Company. Approximately 75 students from throughout the county have been preparing for this recital during weekly classes. In addition, a performance by the Theatre Company’s performing troupe, known as Troupe TCOE, will open the show.

Annie is the story of a fiery young orphan girl who must live in a miserable orphanage run by the tyrannical Miss Hannigan. Annie’s seemingly hopeless situation changes dramatically when she is selected to spend a short time at the residence of the wealthy munitions industrialist, Oliver Warbucks. Quickly, she charms the hearts of the household staff. Even the seemingly cold-hearted Warbucks cannot help but learn to love this wonderful girl. He decides to help Annie find her long lost parents by offering a reward if they would come to him and prove their identity.

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“The chance for these young performers to be part of a production like *Annie* is a tremendous learning experience,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “The confidence and communication skills they have learned through participation in the Theatre Company workshop will serve them into adulthood, regardless of the profession they choose.”

The public is urged to purchase tickets in advance of the show at the Tulare County Office of Education at 2637 West Burrel in Visalia. Tickets are \$5 per person. A limited number of tickets can be purchased at the theatre on the day of the show. The performances listed above begin promptly at 1:30 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. The El Diamante Theater is located on the high school campus at 5100 Whitendale Avenue in Visalia. For further information, please call the Tulare County Office of Education Theatre Company at (559) 651-1482.

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