

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

November 5, 2012

## **For Immediate Release**

Contact: Robert Herman  
Public Information Officer  
(559) 733-6606 – office  
(559) 303-8568 – cell

**Tulare County Office of Education Announces:**

## **Theatre Company to perform *Little Mermaid, Jr.* and offer special backstage opportunity to meet the cast members**

**Four public shows offered November 15-17, 2012 • L. J. Williams Theater, 1001 W. Main, Visalia**

*Visalia* – Tulare County children are in for a double treat this month as the Theatre Company is set to perform a musical version of the popular Disney movie *The Little Mermaid*, plus offer a special ticket to meet the cast backstage before each of four shows scheduled for November 15-17. Tickets for the backstage “Under The Sea Adventure with Ariel” are being sold for \$10 per person. Theatre Company choreographer Nicole Zweifel reports that ticket holders will be greeted backstage by Scuttle the seagull and escorted into the undersea paradise to interact with Flounder, Sebastian, King Triton, Ariel and her sisters. The backstage pass is in addition to the \$8 general admission performance ticket and includes a gift from Ariel’s private collection of “whozits and whatzits,” plus plenty of opportunities for photographs with the characters.

*The Little Mermaid* is the story of Ariel, a mermaid princess who dreams of a life on land with Prince Eric, a man she rescues from a shipwreck. The Theater Company production will feature a cast of 120 students ranging in age from 6-17 in lavish costumes created especially for the show. The students have been rehearsing *The Little Mermaid, Jr.* for four months as part of an afterschool workshop program.

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

## **Actors in key roles:**

Ariel:	Cassandra Castaneda, Redwood High School (Visalia)
Prince Eric:	Cameron Haley, University Preparatory High School (Visalia)
King Triton:	Jack O’Leary, Redwood High School (Visalia)
Flounder:	Abby Cantrell, Royal Oaks Elementary School (Visalia)
Sebastian:	Ricky Reyes, Redwood High School (Visalia)
Scuttle:	Tiger Ricks, Eleanor Roosevelt Community Learning (Visalia)
Ursula:	Lindsey Weeks, Redwood High School (Visalia)

**Show times and ticket information:** Evening shows will be held November 15, 16 and 17 at 7:00 p.m. A matinee show will be offered Saturday, November 17 at 2:00 p.m. General admission tickets are only \$8 per person and are available during normal business hours at two TCOE Visalia locations: 2637 West Burrel Avenue and 7000 Doe Avenue, Suite A. Tickets for the backstage “Under the Sea Adventure with Ariel” are also available for \$10 per person. Fifty children’s tickets are available for each “Under the Sea Adventure with Ariel,” which begins 20 minutes prior to each show.

For information about the Theatre Company and the musical production, call director Brian Roberts at (559) 651-1482.

# TCOE #

Rel. 59/12