



J*Company Youth Theatre 17th Season 2009-2010

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J*COMPANY CONTINUES SEASON OF
RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN MUSICALS WITH
THE KING AND I

Director & Lead to Shave their heads “Yul Brynner” style for Kids with Cancer

LA JOLLA, CA – The award-winning J*Company Youth Theatre, a program of the San Diego Center for Jewish Culture at the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, JACOBS FAMILY CAMPUS, is pleased to announce its production of the Rodgers and Hammerstein’s charming, autobiographical musical *THE KING AND I*. The production will run **December 3-13, 2009**, at the David & Dorothea Garfield Theatre.

East versus West makes for a dramatic and ultimately uplifting visual and musical masterpiece. *THE KING AND I* is the true story of an Englishwoman, Anna Leonowens, who comes to Siam (known today as Thailand) as schoolteacher to the royal children of King Mongkut in the 1860s. Eventually, Anna and the King grow to understand and respect one another in a truly unique love story. With a dazzling score featuring such songs as “I Whistle a Happy Tune,” “Getting to Know You,” and the ever-popular “Shall We Dance?” this show won the Tony Award® for Best Musical in 1951 and remains a delight for audiences of all ages.

“The second show in our glorious tribute season to Rodgers and Hammerstein brings us this musical masterpiece *THE KING AND I* and a cast that is absolutely first rate,” said J*Company Artistic and Show Director Joey Landwehr. “While many theatres are utilizing recorded music for this work to save on expenses, J*Company’s production will be accompanied by a full 20-piece orchestra.”

“Not only will J*Company audiences be among the first in San Diego to experience the musical performed fully orchestrated in half a decade,” said Landwehr, “and based on the economy they are likely to remain the only ones for a while. This production will also feature the Music Direction of Jason Chase (who recently worked on the Broadway touring version with Stephanie Powers) and the scenic design of Tony Award® winner David Weiner.”

As part of J*Company’s educational and charitable outreach, Danny Myers, playing the role made famous by actor and cancer victim, Yul Brynner, along with, Joey Landwehr, J*Company Artistic and Show Director, will both be shaving their heads to raise money and raise awareness for children with cancer. J*Company has teamed up with Miracle Makers, a program of Rady Children’s Hospital of San Diego. Donations can be made through www.lfjcc.org/miracle.

Myers noted, "To properly take on the role of the King, I was not required to shave my head, but when I learned of this opportunity to help children in our community that are literally fighting for their lives, I knew I had to do it. When I told my director, Joey, about the cause, he decided to join me in this gesture. I feel honored to be part of this venture with Joey!!"

Landwehr is directing *THE KING AND I*. He has worked extensively as an actor and director in New York City, both on and off Broadway, as well as in national tours and regional theatre. He has studied under such instructors as Betty Buckley, Marcel Marceau, Francis Sternhagen, F. Murray Abraham, Twyla Tharpe, and has had the privilege of working with great performers such as Phyllis Diller, Sam Harris, Joel Grey, Kaye Ballard, Michael Feinstein and Howard Keel. Landwehr is a member of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG), the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA) and Actors’ Equity Association (AEA). Landwehr was honored in 2006 by *San Diego Metropolitan Magazine* as one of the 40 San Diego residents under the age of 40 who are making significant contributions to the community. Landwehr most recently directed *Pocahontas*, *Into the Woods*, *Fireflies*, and *South Pacific* for J*Company.

Heading the cast of *THE KING AND I* are:

Lady Anna	Ali Viterbi	17	San Diego Jewish Academy
The King	Daniel Myers	16	High Tech High International
Tuptim	Hana Pak	17	Torrey Pines High School
Lun Tha	Zachary Herzog	16	Westview High School
Louis	Conrad Mazur	12	Audeo Charter School
Princess Ying Yaowlak	Rebecca Penner	11	San Diego Jewish Academy
Prince Chululongkorn	Josh Shtein	13	Standley Middle School
Lady Thiang	Gabriella Lipson	12	San Diego Jewish Academy

Eliza	Danielle Levin	16	San Diego SCPA
The Angel	Ashley Lynch	13	Nativity Catholic School
Simon of Legree	Scott Peterson	14	San Diego High School of the Arts

Show Dates and Times:

Thursday, December 3, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, December 4, 10:00 a.m. (School Show)
Saturday, December 5, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 6, 4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 9, 7:00 p.m.
Friday, December 11, 10:00 a.m. (School Show)
Saturday, December 12, 8:00 p.m.
Sunday, December 13, 1:00 & 4:30 p.m.

THE KING AND I Movie Musical Sing-A-Long

Join J*Company for a magical movie experience and bring the entire family! Watch *THE KING AND I* (the movie) on the big screen at the David & Dorothea Garfield Theatre, as you sing-a-long, clap-a-long and following the bouncing ball to lyrics. First 50 attendees receive a special goodie bag on that night!

Dress up as your favorite character from *THE KING AND I* and sing along with the film. A prize will be awarded for best costume. Admission price is \$8.00/JCC members and \$10.00/Non-members with half off for season subscribers; Season Subscriptions available until December 13, 2009.

THE KING AND I Movie Musical Sing-A-Long will be held on **Thursday, December 10th at 7:00 p.m.**

General Information

Tickets for *THE KING AND I* are \$13 for children and \$17 for adults and are available online at www.sdcjc.org/jcompany or by calling the JCC Box Office at **858-362-1348**. The David & Dorothea Garfield Theatre is located at the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, JACOBS FAMILY CAMPUS at 4126 Executive Drive, La Jolla.

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About the San Diego Center for Jewish Culture

The San Diego Center for Jewish Culture is the largest Jewish institution in San Diego dedicated solely to presenting high quality, nationally recognized programs which are unique to San Diego County. The mission of the SDCJC is to expand and enrich cultural life in San Diego by presenting the finest in Jewish artistic expression, encouraging the preservation of Jewish culture and heritage, and nurturing new creativity in the arts. A core belief of the SDCJC is to promote respect for diverse cultures and build community tolerance.

The SDCJC offers a wide variety of multi-disciplinary artistic programs that explore cultural identities and perspectives, promote cross cultural understanding, and highlight human themes of family, tolerance, compassion, and hope. These programs, including the San Diego Jewish Film Festival, the San Diego Jewish Book Fair, New Jewish Plays Project, the San Diego Jewish Music Festival, a Holocaust Education Program, and the J*Company Youth Theatre, foster ideas of cultural appreciation and respect. Its facilities feature a 500-seat theatre, a Judaica library, an art gallery, and a community Holocaust Memorial Garden. Approximately 40,000 tickets are sold or provided annually to residents, visitors, and students for San Diego Center for Jewish Culture events.

About the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, JACOBS FAMILY CAMPUS

The mission of the Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, JACOBS FAMILY CAMPUS is to provide social, cultural, educational, and recreational programs to individuals and families of all ages, religions, races, and financial, physical and mental abilities. Likewise, the JCC provides equal opportunity employment to individuals of all religions and backgrounds. The JCC welcomes San Diego's diverse Jewish community and the community at large. The Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, JACOBS FAMILY CAMPUS is located at 4126 Executive Drive in La Jolla.



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Lawrence Family Jewish Community Center, JACOBS FAMILY CAMPUS

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