

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE DATE – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2015



JASON ALEXANDER TO HEADLINE BENEFIT FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS PROGRAMS OF THE LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT.

Calabasas, CA – The Las Virgenes Unified School District is proud to announce that Jason Alexander will headline the 2015 Gala Fundraiser to Benefit the LVUSD Performing Arts on Saturday, April 25, 2015 at 8:00 PM. Mr. Alexander will premiere his new one-man show, *Other People's Stories*, with Musical Direction by Todd Schroeder. Mr. Alexander will present a fun-filled evening of story songs, comedy, improvisation, magic and audience participation. The concert will be followed by an exclusive, invitation-only Donor Reception.

The 2015 Gala will be held at the intimate, 650-seat, state-of-the-art Performing Arts Education Center on the campus of Calabasas High School.

"We are thrilled to welcome the beloved and hilarious song-and-dance man, Jason Alexander, to our beautiful Calabasas theatre," said Dr. Dan Stepenosky, LVUSD Superintendent. "We will forever be grateful to our community for passing the bond that allowed our professional-quality theatres to be built at Calabasas and Agoura High Schools, and to realize our vision for the theatres as a "beacon for the arts" in our community. In addition to the many fine student concerts and productions throughout the school year, it's very exciting for the District to present, for the enjoyment of the entire community, truly unique events such as the premiere of this brand new show by Tony Award-winning Jason Alexander. Our annual gala celebrates our theatres and our award-winning performing arts programs; and it is our way of sharing a very special evening with the Las Virgenes community, our donors, students, faculty and parents."

All proceeds from the gala will go to support the performing arts in the Las Virgenes Unified School District and the Performing Arts Education Centers, which were established in 2012 to house the outstanding performing arts programs throughout the District. The PAECs were created to inspire, teach and motivate students, many of whom have gone on to professional careers in the performing arts. The purpose of the funds raised is two-fold: to ensure that the robust performing arts programs in Las Virgenes continue to thrive; and to provide for ongoing operation and maintenance of the theatres, assuring that these tremendous assets will benefit the students and community for generations to come.

Tickets for this event are available online at <a href="https://www.thePAECs.org">www.thePAECs.org</a> & <a href="https://www.faceBook.com/thePAECs">www.faceBook.com/thePAECs</a> and also during regular Performing Arts Education Center Box Office hours.

The Las Virgenes Unified School District proudly presents:

## **Jason Alexander**

Premiering His New, One-Man Show Other People's Stories

An Evening of Music, Magic and Tales – Both Tall and True

Musical Direction by Todd Schroeder

A 2015 Gala Fundraiser to Benefit the LVUSD Performing Arts

Saturday, April 25, 2015 at 8:00 p.m. at the

#### **Performing Arts Education Center**

on the campus of Calabasas High School (C-PAEC)

Join Jason at an exclusive, invitation-only
LVUSD Beacon for the Arts Fund Donor Reception
following the performance

Tickets for this once-in-a-lifetime event are available online at www.thePAECs.org

#### About the 2015 Gala Fundraiser to Benefit the LVUSD Performing Arts:

The Las Virgenes Unified School District will present its Second Annual Gala in celebration of the spirit and generosity of its donors. The Gala's events will take place at the C-PAEC, the Performing Arts Education Center on the campus of Calabasas High School.

This historic Second Annual Gala shines a light on the extraordinary performing arts and educational opportunities offered to students and community members throughout the area. In addition to acknowledging the commitment of our donors and the community to these inspirational facilities, this special evening will generate necessary funds to support the vision for these theatres as thriving performing arts hubs that reach, teach, challenge and inspire not only the students of LVUSD, but community members at large.

#### Gala Highlights:

#### JASON ALEXANDER Premiering his New, One-Man Show, Other People's Stories

Beyond his portrayal of George Costanza on the hit NBC series *Seinfeld*, Jason Alexander has performed on Broadway, done stand-up comedy, acted in film and directed. His live appearances feature comedy, music, and improvisation. He has won six Emmys, an American Television Award, two American Comedy Awards, a Tony Award, and was honored by The Actors Fund with the Julie Harris Award for Lifetime Achievement. On April 25, 2015, Jason Alexander will premiere his latest creation, *Other People's Stories*, in the new Performing Arts Education Center on the campus of Calabasas High School. The show will feature a fun-filled evening of magic, improvisation, audience participation and story songs drawn from the musical theatre and performed in character by Mr. Alexander, with musical direction by Todd Schroeder. Jason's new show promises to take you down many different paths, inhabit many magical worlds, and offer many different perspectives, all guaranteed to make you laugh every step of the way.

#### **Donor Reception**

All LVUSD Beacon for the Arts Fund Donors will be invited to join Jason Alexander and their fellow donors for great food and lively conversation at an exclusive, invitation-only Donor Reception in the C-PAEC's Black Box Theater. If you're interested in becoming a Donor to the LVUSD Beacon for the Arts Fund yourself to attend the reception, you will find all the information you need at <a href="https://www.thePAECs.org">www.thePAECs.org</a> or you can call (818) 591-1209, ext. 2 and speak with Gilles Chiasson, Theater Manager.

#### **About Jason Alexander**

JASON ALEXANDER is probably best known for his nine-year award-winning stint as George Costanza on the hit TV series, *Seinfeld*. The *Seinfeld* show was recently voted the number one show in television series history, including Jason as one half of television's most beloved duo of George Costanza and Jerry Seinfeld. However, those who know him only as George will be surprised to learn of his extensive background as an actor, director, producer, and writer. Besides *Seinfeld*, his television credits include *Bob Patterson* (producer/co-creator); *Listen Up* (producer); the TV films of *Bye Bye Birdie, The Man Who Saved Christmas, Cinderella,* and *A Christmas Carol*; guest appearances on *Community, Harry's Law, Criminal Minds, Friends, Monk, Star Trek-Voyager, Malcolm in the Middle, Curb Your Enthusiasm, Two and a Half Men;* and multiple episodes of the animated series *Duckman, Aladdin, Dilbert, American Dad* and *Dinosaurs.* His film credits include *Pretty Woman; White Palace; North; Dunston Checks In; Love, Valor, Compassion; Rocky and Bullwinkle; Ira and Abby; Hachiko Lucky Stiff;* and the upcoming *Wild Card.* 

Jason has starred on Broadway in the original companies of *Merrily We Roll Along; The Rink; Broadway Bound; Accomplice;* and *Jerome Robbins' Broadway* for which he won the Tony, Outer Critics, and Drama Desk Awards as Best Actor in a Musical. In addition, he authored the libretto of the show, which received the Tony Award for Best Musical. Jason also starred as Noah in the York Theater concert revival of the Richard Rodgers musical, *Two By Two*.

On the L.A. stage, Jason has starred in *Prisoner of Second Avenue; They're Playing Our Song; I Love My Wife; Give 'Em Hell, Harry; Defiled*; the Los Angeles production of *The Producers* with Martin Short; and the very first Reprise production, *Promises, Promises*. He went on to serve as the Artistic Director for Reprise for five years, producing over 30 full-length musicals and events.

Jason has directed in every medium: television (Franklin and Bash, Seinfeld, Everybody Hates Chris, Criminal Minds, Mike and Molly); film (For Better or Worse and Just Looking); and stage (The God of Hell at the Geffen, Sunday In The Park With George, Damn Yankees, The Fantasticks at Reprise and Broadway Bound at the Odyssey Theater). He has also directed the critically acclaimed stage revue, When You're In Love, The Whole World is Jewish, in Los Angeles, San Francisco and southern Florida.

Jason produced the films Agent Cody Banks and its sequels, as well as the TV special, Ultimate Trek.

Jason has performed around the country in his one-man shows, *The Donny Clay Experience* and *An Evening with Jason Alexander and His Hair* – both of which have played extended runs in Las Vegas to great acclaim. He also has become a highly sought after guest artist with orchestras across the country including playing Tanglewood and Carnegie Hall with the Boston Pops.

As an author, he penned the children's book, *Dad, Are You the Tooth Fairy?* He has won the title of Parlour Magician of the Year at the prestigious Magic Castle and he is a noted player in the celebrity

poker circuit. He is also a respected teacher of acting and has taught at major universities around the country and the globe.

Jason resides in L.A. with his wife, Daena, and their children, Gabriel and Noah.

#### About Jason Alexander in Other People's Stories

Beyond his portrayal of George Costanza on the hit NBC series *Seinfeld*, Jason Alexander has performed on Broadway, done stand-up comedy, acted in film and directed. His live appearances feature comedy, music, and improvisation. He has won six Emmys, an American Television Award, two American Comedy Awards, a Tony Award, and was honored by The Actors Fund with the Julie Harris Award for Lifetime Achievement. On April 25, 2015, Jason Alexander will premiere his latest creation, *Other People's Stories*, in the new Performing Arts Education Center on the campus of Calabasas High School. The show will feature a fun-filled evening of magic, improvisation, audience participation and story songs drawn from the musical theatre and performed in character by Mr. Alexander, with musical direction by Todd Schroeder. Jason's new show promises to take you down many different paths, inhabit many magical worlds, and offer many different perspectives, all guaranteed to make you laugh every step of the way.

#### **About the LVUSD Beacon for the Arts Fund**

The LVUSD Beacon for the Arts Fund is a segregated, secure fund that is held and managed by the California Community Foundation, one of the oldest and largest charitable fund administrators in southern California. The Fund can be used strictly for the support of LVUSD performing arts programs and the operation and maintenance of the Performing Arts Education Centers. Expenditures from the Fund will be directed solely by The LVUSD Performing Arts Education Centers' Advisory Committee, comprised of community members, performing arts teachers, principals, school Board members and LVUSD business officials, all of whom have a deep commitment to the role of the arts in a complete education and as a meaningful part of community life.

Make a gift that keeps on giving. Donors will be recognized for their generosity in front of an audience of influential and affluent people. This is a unique opportunity to honor a family member or graduate, or to pay tribute to a wonderful teacher or friend, while simultaneously providing vital support to the LVUSD performing arts programs and their new, state-of-the-art homes, the PAECs.

Your donation of \$1000 or \$2500 will permanently name a seat in the MainStage Theater illustrated by a plaque prominently displaying any name you designate. Your donation of \$5000 or higher will permanently name a PAEC room, a theater, a lobby, or even the building. Two beautiful plaques bearing the name you designate will be prominently featured next to this room and on the Donor Wall in one of our Main Lobbies. Other benefits include invitations to exclusive events, special access to performances, printed recognition and inclusion on our website Donor Roll.

Become an LVUSD Beacon for the Arts Fund Donor in the way that suits you best. Download the appropriate pledge form for all donations at <a href="https://www.thePAECs.org">www.thePAECs.org</a>, and then submit the completed form to:

The Performing Arts Education Centers LVUSD 4111 Las Virgenes Rd. Calabasas, CA 91302 Payments may be processed with the pledge form or made directly to the California Community Foundation (CCF) by one of the following methods: by check made payable to The LVUSD Beacon for the Arts Fund, by credit card, or by gifts of appreciated securities. You can also contribute through corporate matching gifts or another Donor Advised Fund. A variety of Installment Payment Plans are also available.

Contact Gilles Chiasson, Theatre Manager, at <a href="mailto:gchiasson@lvusd.org">gchiasson@lvusd.org</a> or 818-591-1209, ext. 2, to discuss the many ways you can support the Fund to determine the one that best suits you.

The Fund's current goal is \$5 million. Join us by making a gift today! For more information, visit www.thePAECs.org.

#### **About Todd Schroeder**

Born in Long Beach, California, to a family of musicians, it's no surprise Todd Schroeder climbed up on the piano and started lessons at only four years of age, before most children can speak full sentences. Musical influences ranging from Claude DeBussy to Ray Charles, Bob Seger, Elton John and Jerry Lee Lewis would all go on to shape Schroeder's own recognizable performance style, from his trademark Pork Pie hat to his ability to command an audience with just his skilled piano playing and on-stage charisma.

When he was a teenager, he relocated to Sonora, a small country town in the foothills of Northern California's Sierra Mountains. There, he began making the rounds, playing piano at local clubs and restaurants, often negotiating his own contracts and managing his career.

Those restaurants and clubs have since been traded for performances at prestigious and venerable venues reaching from Carnegie Hall all the way to 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Schroeder has had the honor of being invited to perform with the Boston Pops, Mormon Tabernacle Choir and the Duke Ellington Orchestra; he has performed, musical directed and collaborated with a coterie of distinguished performers including Angela Lansbury, Tom Jones, Rita Coolidge, and Jason Alexander. He has acted as musical director and collaborative partner for Sam Harris for over 20 years, which helped him earn the coveted recognition of "Musical Director of the Year" from BroadwayWorld.com.

Schroeder's masterful musical gifts are best showcased through a range of talents, including acting as Musical Director, Composer, Producer, Arranger, and Performer, all of which Schroeder seamlessly moves between with ease and precision.

In addition to composing his own original music (for which he has had the opportunity to record and release six albums), Schroeder has also composed music for a variety of television series, including the American soap opera, "Guiding Light," as well as shows and television movies on Lifetime, Showtime and Cinemax. He's also appeared on TV, acting as musical director on a number of prominent television talk shows, including The Oprah Winfrey Show, The Rosie O'Donnell Show and The Late Late Show. He appeared as part-musical director, part-sidekick on a daytime talk show pilot for Buena Vista Television, engaging in banter with the host and even singing some duets.

Schroeder has written a number of original musicals, including "Braveheart," "The Empower Pack," "Unbeatable" and "Longing4Love.com." For over a decade, he served as vocal director for Disney's "Aladdin, A Musical Spectacular;" he also served as musical director for Universal Studios Japan's "Wicked," as well as a number of live performance shows at their park in Osaka.

Not simply content with only furthering his career, Schroeder also seeks opportunities to give back. Each year, he lends his talents as musical director to several high profile fundraisers including the Alzheimer's Association's annual celebrity benefit and star-studded musical revue, "A Night at Sardi's." He is also the Founder and producer of The Todd Schroeder Young Artist Grant, a scholarship he launched in 1995 in his hometown of Sonora, to recognize and financially support graduating seniors from Sonora High School who want to pursue a career in the arts. The Young Artist Grant has given over 45 scholarships in the past 20 years to artists, dancers, actors, singers, instrumentalists and even stage managers.

He is the proud father of Julia Rose and Catherine Kjerste. For more info: @PianoMan9 and ToddSchroeder.net

#### **About the Performing Arts Education Centers**

Thanks to a significant community investment, the dream of having state-of-the-art performance venues in the Las Virgenes community has been realized. By passing the Measure G construction bond in 2006, the community enabled the Las Virgenes Unified School District to build two professionally-equipped theatres designed to enhance the educational opportunities for all students, as well as bring top-quality arts programming to the community as a whole.

Each PAEC features a 650-seat Main Stage Theatre and a Black Box Theatre with a flexible seating configuration up to 100. In addition, each PAEC features advanced technology for classroom instruction and lectures, a full orchestra pit with hydraulic lift, professional acoustics, lighting and sound systems, high-quality dressing rooms, a scene shop, a costume shop, a green room, a full fly gallery, rear projection capabilities, as well as a concession booth and a box office in each lobby. For more information, visit www.thePAECs.org.

#### **About the Las Virgenes Unified School District**

The Las Virgenes Unified School District is located in northern Los Angeles County and encompasses the cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills and Westlake Village. It is a destination public school district, well known for its educational excellence in both academics and the performing arts. It is ranked in the top 2% in the California Advanced Placement Index, has been awarded a *U.S. News & World Report* "Best High Schools" Ribbon, and named to the College Board AP District Honor Roll. The District offers a wide variety of programs including Dual-Immersion; L-STEM; International Baccalaureate; Arts & Media Academy; Waldorf-inspired school; preschool; and world-class arts, drama, music and dance programs. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.LVUSD.org">www.LVUSD.org</a>.

#### **Calendar Listing for**

2015 Gala Fundraiser to Benefit the LVUSD Performing Arts

### Jason Alexander

Premiering His New, One-Man Show Other People's Stories

**Venue:** Performing Arts Education Center

C-PAEC (on the campus of Calabasas High School)

22855 West Mulholland Hwy.

Calabasas CA 91302

The C-PAEC on Google Maps

https://plus.google.com/103566307141148144338/about?gl=us&hl=en

**Performance Schedule:** 

JASON ALEXANDER: Other People's Stories 8:00PM
Beacon for the Arts Fund Donor Reception 10:00PM

**Tickets:** Tickets are available online at: www.thePAECs.org, and

The Performing Arts Education Centers on FaceBook at:

https://www.facebook.com/thePAECs, or

during Performing Arts Education Center Box Office hours:

AHS – PAEC Box Office: Thurs. & Fri., 1PM – 4PM, and at all public performances CHS – PAEC Box Office: Mon. & Tue., 11AM – 2PM, and at all public performances

Tickets range from \$75 to \$150

Online: Tickets for JASON ALEXANDER: Premiering his New One-Man Show, Other

People's Stories are available online at: www.thePAECs.org, and:

https://www.vendini.com/ticket-software.html?t=tix&e=53133808d7440d93f600700191e6df9a

For More Information and a link to purchase tickets for all Beacon for the Arts Fund Gala

events online, visit: www.thePAECs.org

Find The Performing Arts Education Centers on FaceBook at:

https://www.facebook.com/thePAECs

2015 Gala Fundraiser to Benefit the LVUSD Performing Arts FaceBook Event Page:

https://www.facebook.com/events/658795304232545/

**Phone:** C-PAEC Box Office, 818-591-1207, ext. 1

Mailing Address: The Performing Arts Education Centers

Las Virgenes Unified School District

4111 Las Virgenes Road Calabasas, CA 91302

Theater Manager Phone: 818-591-1209 x 2

Email: theatermanager@lvusd.org

Website: www.thePAECs.org
Twitter: @thePAECs



2015 Gala Fundraiser to Benefit the LVUSD Performing Arts

# JASON ALEXANDER

Premiering His New, One-Man Show OTHER PEOPLE'S STORIES

Saturday, April 25, 2015 at 8:00 pm



On the campus of Calabasas High School

Tickets available at www.thePAECs.org