

insider agenda

2/1-25 disney's the Lion king

Watch the Serengeti come to life during this six-time Tony Award-winning musical, complete with awe-inspiring production, visual storytelling and music crafted by notable artists Elton John and Tim Rice. Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Costa Mesa, scfta.org

2/3

THE TRILOGY TOUR: ENRIQUE IGLESIAS, PITBULL AND RICKY MARTIN

Watch three multigenerational artists—Enrique Iglesias, Pitbull and Ricky Martin—fill the Honda Center with Latin pop beats for one night only as the trio embarks on their Trilogy Tour. It's a one-of-a-kind party you won't want to miss. 7 p.m., Honda Center, Anaheim, hondacenter.com

2/3

44TH ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY PARADE AND UNITY FESTIVAL

The Orange County Heritage Council invites the community to commemorate 44 years of progress through a day filled with live music, exciting vendors, a motorcycle and car show and solidarity for a worthy cause. This year's theme is Our History, Our Voice, Our Pride. 9 a.m., Center Street Promenade, Anaheim, oc-hc.org

2/7-3/10 CHRIS GWALTNEY: PARAMETERS

Chris Gwaltney is challenging traditional abstract art with his newest solo exhibition, *Parameters*, featured at Kennedy Contemporary. Through a series of paintings, Gwaltney invites onlookers to shift focus from one color to the next, appreciating



each hue in its adjacency to the preliminary shade. Kennedy Contemporary, Newport Beach, kennedycontemporary.com

2/10 LUNAR NEW YEAR

Conducted by Carl St.Clair, the Pacific Symphony returns once again to perform this magnificent showcase celebrating Eastern traditions through song and dance in the Year of the Dragon. 8 p.m., Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Costa Mesa, scfta.org

2/12-18 22ND ANNUAL LAGUNA BEACH MUSIC FESTIVAL

Feel the gentle serenade of classic and contemporary sounds during

Join Australian ensemble The Ten Tenors on Feb. 28 as they perform incredible melodies at the Irvine Barclay Theatre.





the 22nd annual Laguna Beach Music Festival, presented by the Philharmonic Society of Orange County. Artistic director and acclaimed violinist Anne Akiko Meyers will effortlessly lead guest performers in this year's programming at the Laguna Playhouse. Laguna Playhouse, Laguna Beach, philharmonicsociety.org

2/13 DARTS SPEAKER SERIES: ERIC GROFT

Eric Groft, principal of Oehme, Van Sweden & Associates, will lead a riveting presentation on his co-authored book, *Beyond Bold: Inspiration, Collaboration, Evolution*, during the Decorative Arts Society's (DARTS) Speaker Series. Famed for his 2020 White House Rose Garden renovation, Groft offers an original perspective on innovative architecture and sustainable infrastructure.

9:15 a.m., Regal Edwards Big Newport, Newport Beach, decorativeartsociety.net

2/13 THE PRINCESS BRIDE FILM SCREENING

Spend date night storybook-style over a bottle of Prosecco, chocolate-covered strawberries and a screening of *The Princess Bride*. The humorous tale of a farmboy-turned-pirate on a quest to find his true love is the perfect way to prepare for Valentine's Day with your significant other. 6 p.m., Casa Romantica Cultural Center and Gardens, San Clemente, casaromantica.org

2/22-24 UCI DANCE VISIONS

Reserve your ticket for UCI Dance Visions, directed by Kelli Sharp and Cyrian Reed. The comprehensive annual production, arranged by the Department of Dance at UC Irvine's Claire Trevor School of the Arts, paints a picture through movement, music and theatrical elements. 8 p.m., Irvine Barclay Theatre, thebarclay.org

2/22-24 BEETHOVEN AND SHOSTAKOVICH

Guest-conducted by Andrew
Litton, this concert will showcase
gripping melodies produced by the
world's best classical music
notorieties, including Beethoven's
Piano Concerto No. 3,
Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5
and more. 8 p.m., Segerstrom Center
for the Arts, Costa Mesa, scfta.org



2/28 The Ten Tenors

The world's longest-running classical crossover act, The Ten Tenors, is taking O.C. by storm.

The Australian ensemble continuously wows more than 10 million people worldwide with performances of beloved songs, including "Bohemian Rhapsody," "Hallelujah" and other notable melodies. 8 p.m., Irvine Barclay Theatre, thebarclay.org

2/29 30TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS GALA AND LUNCHEON

Spend the last day of the month supporting the work of the Mental Health Association of Orange County during this festive afternoon. Professional and volunteer exemplars will be honored for the change they're sparking in the local community. Turnip Rose Promenade, Costa Mesa, mhaoc.org o







Glasses For Good

THE PARTY In mid-November, Napa in Newport commenced its ninth year, offering an evening of sips and high spirits at Waldorf Astoria Monarch Beach Resort & Club. More than \$1.3 million was raised to support CureDuchenne and its goal to fund a cure for Duchenne muscular dystrophy. Vintner chair Melka Estates invited attendees to enjoy pours from nearly 44 Napa Valley winemakers, whose prestigious bottles backed the event's wine pairings, tasting tables and a superb Grand Tasting. THE PEOPLE The ballroom was filled with over 400 premier business leaders, philanthropists and influencers. Also in attendance were special guests Hudson Sanford, a six-year-old living with Duchenne, and Hawken Miller, the son of CureDuchenne founders Paul and Debra Miller, whose speech about living with the disease earned a standing ovation from the heartfelt crowd. THE PINNACLE "We're eternally grateful to our dedicated vintners, sponsors and attendees who continue to make Napa in Newport a huge success year after year, allowing us to come closer to a cure for this devastating disease than ever before," said Debra. Guests showed generous support over glasses of rare soil-driven wines, French cuisine from Napa's La Toque restaurant and an auction filled with faraway getaways and collectibles.











01/ Trish Johnson showed her spirit during the live auction. 02/ Mike and Kristen Snowden posed with their wine pours. 03/ Danielle and Rodney Spencer 04/ Schuyler Hoversten and Irina Rospotnyuk clinked glasses. 05/ CureDuchenne founders Paul and Debra Miller with their son, Hawken 06/ Bryan Driscoll and Brenna Thomas with Jessica and Nick Bega

insider on the scene





It's Showtime

THE PARTY The New Port Theater rolled out the red carpet on Nov. 4 for Orange County United Way's Alexis de Tocqueville Society philanthropic event, where over \$250,000 was raised for critical initiatives that advance the lives of local students, families and the unhoused community. THE PEOPLE This special event honored the local heroes who went above and beyond for O.C. residents in need over the past year. Honorees Mike Johnson, Melinda Masson, and Ken and JoAnne Lickel received medals for their substantial involvement in United Way and prolific undertakings in the community. THE PINNACLE During the live auction, an inspiring video of Orange County's foster youth displayed the unwavering support of United Way and WelcomeHomeOC before the award ceremony, commemorating the extraordinary benefactors who allowed for such an incredible evening. "Orange County's philanthropic spirit certainly took the spotlight at this year's Alexis de Tocqueville Society Celebration," said O.C. United Way president and CEO Susan B. Parks. "I continue to be amazed by the generosity of this community and the passion displayed to make positive changes in the lives of those residents who need a helping hand."





BY HANNAH GEORGE





01/ A look at the gala's elegant tablescapes 02/ Chris Raidy and Laney Tuck shared a dance. 03/ O.C. United Way president and CEO Susan B. Parks posed with Legacy Medal honoree Melinda Masson 04/ Alexis de Tocqueville Society co-chair Greg Backley 05/ Taking Action Medal honoree Mike Johnson with Cindy Canale 06/ Bailey Johnson and Kenny Cochran were all smiles.









01/ Event chairs Jen Moriarty, Pat McAuley and Joann Leatherby 02/ Cat and Doug Richards with Scotty and Jon Giberson 03/ Massimo Arone, general manager of Michael's on Naples, poured wine for Maggie Hinson. 04/ Chef Jamille Cruz of Old Ranch Country Club prepared plates. 05/ A floral-filled table at Old Ranch Country Club 06/ Leslie and Louis Gardner

Birds of a Feather

THE PARTY It was a record-breaking year for the Roosters Foundation of Orange County, which brought in over \$400,000 in contributions at its 13th annual O.C. Food and Wine Celebration Chef's Experience. Foundation members gathered at the Old Ranch Country Club in Seal Beach for a gourmet tasting experience by 11 top chefs, plus high-rolling silent and live auctions. THE PEOPLE Event chairs Jen Moriarty, Pat McAuley and Joann Leatherby were all smiles during the momentous occasion as generous bidders joined in on the fun. Throughout the evening, notable Orange County residents posed for photo opps by the golf course while the talented chefs plated their culinary creations. THE PINNACLE Premier chefs from local restaurants including Nick Weber of Populaire, Jon Barone of Bar One by Il Barone and Alfonso Ramirez of Leatherby's Cafe Rouge—prepared fabulously presented meals for each guest. After the auction and dinner, guest speakers Janice Frachette of Parentis Foundation and Joanie Kilgore of CAST gave heartfelt speeches, representing two of the 20 charitable beneficiaries of the event's fundraising efforts.

BY HANNAH GEORGE

55 Modern **Luxury**



