

William Saroyan Centennial 2008 Calendar of Events

Beginning January 2008

William Saroyan Society's Annual Story Writing Contest

Submissions Due: March 10, 2008

Awards: April 17, 2008 at Woodward Park Regional Library, located at 944 E. Perrin Ave., Fresno.

For library information only call (559) 433-3135.

The William Saroyan Society will be holding its annual story writing contest for students in grades one through college beginning in January 2008. Submissions are due on March 10, and awards will be presented on April 10 at the Woodward Park Regional Library. The Theme is *Stories from Your Home Place*: how has the place where you live or have lived, the people you have met, and your dreams in that place affected your life? William Saroyan set many of his homespun stories, fiction and nonfiction, in Fresno. He wrote about the people he met, and their lives and dreams. Prizes are awarded for First (\$100), Second (\$75), and Third (\$50) for grade categories 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-9, 10-12 and college. For more information on the Annual Story Writing Contest, see www.williamsaroyansociety.org.

Beginning Wednesday, January 2 through January 28, 2008

Armenian Museum Saroyan Photograph Exhibition

Fresno City Hall

2600 Fresno Street, Fresno, California

Art Hop Night: January 3, 2008

8 AM -5 PM, Monday through Friday*

Free to the Public

Begin the Centennial by enjoying a United States premier exhibition of gallery quality black and white photographs of Saroyan in Armenia. These exquisite pictures of Saroyan during his last visits to Armenia were taken by photographer Boghos Boghossian, who currently resides in Armenia. Located on the first and second floors of City Hall, come and enjoy this unique show and take advantage for the wonderful opportunity to purchase these works of photographic art.

* City sponsored special opening Saturday & Sunday, January 12-13, Noon – 5 PM.

Beginning Thursday, January 3

Fresno Historical Society's Saroyan Exhibition Cases

Fresno City Hall

2600 Fresno Street, Fresno, California

Art Hop Night: January 3, 2008

8am-5pm, Monday through Friday*

Free to the Public

From the archives of the Fresno Historical Society, enjoy a presentation of Saroyan's Home—Saroyan's Fresno. Through images and the author's words, the displays will give people a glimpse into Saroyan's hometown and his boyhood memories that inspired his famous writings.

* City sponsored special opening Saturday & Sunday, January 12-13, Noon – 5 PM.

Beginning Thursday, January 3, 2008 through Sunday, February 24, 2008**William Saroyan Art Exhibition and Reception for Opening Night****Tulare Historical Museum, Heritage Room****444 West Tulare Avenue, Tulare, California****Exhibition: Thursday-Saturday, 10 AM-4 PM; Sunday 12:30 AM-4 PM****Reception: Thursday, January 3, 2008, 5:30 PM-7 PM**

The Tulare Historical Museum will be exhibiting rare art work created by William Saroyan. Be among the first this year to view paintings and sketches by this celebrated author. This exhibition will be an opportunity to examine another facet of Saroyan's artistic nature. There will be a champagne reception for those attending the opening night of the art exhibit. Admission to the Saroyan Art Exhibition: \$5.00 Adults, \$3.00 seniors (age 55 and up) and AAA members, \$2.00 Students. No charge for the Opening Night Exhibition Reception. For more information, contact the Museum at (559) 686-2074.

Thursday, January 10, 2008***Cave Dwellers* Theatrical Production****California State University, Los Angeles, California****5151 State University Drive, Los Angeles**

The California State University, Los Angeles brings to the Centennial the stage production of Saroyan's 1957 play the *Cave Dwellers*. For ticket prices and hours, please contact CSU Los Angeles, Theatre Department, or visit their website.

Thursday, January 10, 2008 through Friday, January 11, 2008**Twenty-Four Hour Read-A-Thon****George's Restaurant****6680 N. Blackstone, Fresno, California****11 AM to 11 AM****Free Admission**

Seventy-two media personalities, elected officials, local celebrities and other community members will unite to read William Saroyan's *The Human Comedy* and *My Name is Aram* from 11 am on January 10th to 11am on January 11, 2008. Stop by and be a part of this fun event that is sponsored by the Fresno County Library.

Friday, January 11, 2008**Annual Fresno Chamber of Commerce Dinner*****Saroyan Centennial Kick-Off!*****Fresno Convention Center****No-Host Cocktails at 6 PM****Dinner at 7 PM****Reservations \$85**

The Chamber Dinner will be the occasion for the official city-wide kick-off for the Saroyan Centennial. Guests at the dinner will have the opportunity to hear the Chamber's year end reports, greet the new leadership, and enjoy entertainment that will be inspired by William Saroyan and his Armenian Heritage—a time to celebrate one of our most notable Fresno native sons. Special guest for the evening will be Governor George Deukmejian. For reservations contact the Fresno Chamber of Commerce office at (559) 495-4800.

Saturday, January 12, 2008**Saroyan Symposium: Recalling the Daring Young Man****Fresno Convention Center, Fresno, California****New Exhibit Hall, Rooms 2015-2018****10 AM****Free Admission**

The Armenian Museum and the William Saroyan Society welcomes you to celebrate the life and works of William Saroyan with a distinguished panel of guests. Join moderator John Kallenberg, Chairman of the William Saroyan Society, and panelists: Saroyan scholar Dr. Jon Whitmore, President of Texas Tech University; San Francisco-based writer and friend of Saroyan, Herb Gold; Saroyan writer, William Justice, author and editor of the introduction for *Essential Saroyan*; English Professor, Deanna Garabedian, who continues to introduce her students to Saroyan; and former Fresno Bee columnist, Eli Setenich, who shared Saroyan stories with Fresnoans for many years. This event promises to be both enlightening and entertaining with plenty of anecdotal stories to equal the colorful and animated life of Saroyan. Afterwards, join the panel as they gather for an Armenian lunch at the Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church across the street. The symposium is sponsored with a generous gift from the Knights of Vartan. For more information, contact the Saroyan Centennial office at (559) 243-5880.

Saturday, January 12, 2008**Luncheon****Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church****Social Hall****2226 Ventura Avenue, Fresno, California****12 PM Social Gathering****12:30 PM Luncheon, \$14****For Reservations Call: (559) 486-1141****Tickets may also be purchased at the door**

After the Saroyan Symposium, it's a short walk to the oldest Armenian Apostolic Church in the western United States. The Trinity Ladies Guild will be preparing a delicious traditional Armenian meal for all those who enjoy good food and good company. Lunch will offer the opportunity to visit with the panelists and get more insight into this man, William Saroyan.

Saturday, January 12 through January 13, 2008**Art Exhibit****Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church****2226 Ventura Avenue, Fresno, California****10 AM to 4 PM****Free admission to the public on Saturday (before 11:30 AM and after 1:30 PM), and****Sunday**

Enjoy a contemporary art exhibition sponsored by Hovik's Fine Art Gallery in Hollywood of paintings from Los Angeles-based artists and artists from around the country. The exhibition of contemporary works will be on display during the opening week-end at the Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church Social Hall.

Saturday, January 19, 2008

Armenian Breakfast and Talk with Ed Hagopian
Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church, Men's Forum
3673 N. First Street, Fresno, California
9 AM

Reservations \$10

Enjoy a breakfast including Armenian *souguk* (sausage), eggs, omelet, ranch style potatoes with onions and peppers, pancakes, oatmeal, Armenian pastries, breakfast juice and coffee—all of Saroyan's favorites. Speaker Ed Hagopian will discuss his remembrances of William Saroyan while in France and the United States. For reservations and more information contact the Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church at (559) 229-2915.

Sunday, January 20, 2008

Tulare City Historical Society's
Sunday at 2: Armenian Music with Richard Hagopian
Tulare Historical Museum, Heritage Room
444 West Tulare Avenue, Tulare, California
2 PM

Free Admission

Enjoy a lively afternoon of Armenian folk music during the Tulare City Historical Society's "Sunday at 2" program with the popular and internationally renowned musician Richard Hagopian. For more information, contact the Tulare Historical Museum at (559) 686-2074.

Sunday, January 27, 2008

Saroyan on Kalfayan: Musical Program
Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church
2226 Ventura Avenue, Fresno (across from the Convention Center), California
10 AM to Noon (free admission during Church services)
12:30 to 3:30 PM Annual Banquet
Admission \$30 Adults, \$15 Kids 18 and younger

In one of his short stories, "Don't Go but if You Must Say Hello To Everybody," William Saroyan wrote about the composer, conductor, and music instructor Krikor Prof-Kalfayan. The renowned Armenian composer was born in Armenian in 1873 and died in Fresno. Educated in Paris, he moved to Fresno in 1918, where he was the head conductor of the choir at the Holy Trinity. Come and pay tribute to these two accomplished friends, Saroyan on his 100th anniversary and the 135th anniversary of his friend, Kalfayan, by attending the morning tribute with classical music during church services, and a special afternoon luncheon program of popular Armenian songs written by Kalfayan, with soloist soprano Anahit Nercesyan and pianist/organist Naira Shahsouvorian.

February 2008

Gallery 25 Celebrates the William Saroyan Centennial
660 Van Ness Ave., Fresno, California
Art Hop: Thursday, February 7, 2008, 5 PM – 8 PM
Gallery Hours: Friday – Sunday, 1 PM – 4 PM

Member artists at Gallery 25, a local cooperative gallery, will exhibit their art in honor of Saroyan's 100th anniversary. Each of their works will be created to reflect the life or work of William Saroyan. For more information, contact the gallery at (559) 264-4092.

February 2008**Fig Tree Gallery Celebrates the William Saroyan Centennial****644 Van Ness Ave., Fresno, California****Art Hop: Thursday, February 7, 2008, 5 PM – 8 PM****Gallery Hours: Friday – Sunday, Noon – 4 PM**

For the month of February, Fig Tree Gallery will exhibit works from various members in honor of Saroyan's 100th anniversary. Exhibit will be displayed in the back gallery. For more information, contact the gallery at (559) 486-0460.

Saturday, February 2, 2008**14th Annual Dinner Party *A Lovely Way to Spend an Evening*, Armenian-Style!****Tulare Historical Museum****444 West Tulare Avenue, Tulare, California****7 PM - 9 PM****Reservations \$65**

Spend a lovely evening at the Tulare Historical Museum for their 14th Annual Dinner Party. *A Lovely Way to Spend an Evening* will begin with a champagne reception in the Museum's C.R. Sturgeon Exhibit Hall. The reception will be followed by a delicious, gourmet Armenian-style dinner prepared by Chef Elmer Leal of Holstein Café. For more information, contact the Tulare Historical Museum at (559) 686-2074.

Young Authors' Faire and Reception**Letters of Intent due to FCOE: Friday, February 8, 2008****Submission to FCOE: Wednesday, February 27, 2008****Young Authors Faire and Reception: Thursday, March 6, 2008****Winning Saroyan Essay announced: Wednesday March 12, 2008**

Sponsored by the Fresno County Office of Education (FCOE), the Young Author's Faire showcases original student writing in Fresno County. K through 12 students from participating schools may submit books and essays that they have written and illustrated. These books and essays will be on display at a reception held at the Historic Security Bank Building. This year, in honor of William Saroyan, the Fresno County Office of Education will be adding a special awards category for the winning Saroyan Essay for grades 7-12. The winning essay and student will be featured in a special "Newspapers in Education" publication. For more information contact the Fresno County Office of Education at (559) 265-3000.

Beginning Saturday, February 9, 2008**Radio Broadcast of "My Junkyard of Memories"****Valley Public Radio: 89.3 FM (Fresno), and 89.1 FM (Bakersfield)****Broadcast Dates: February 2, 9, 16, 23, and March 1, 8, 2008****12:06 PM**

Tune in to Valley Public Radio, 89.3 in the Fresno area, and 89.1 in the Bakersfield area, when your host, former newsman and noted local historian, Bob Long brings you a wonderful line up of six half-hour programs featuring readings and interviews by family and friends of William Saroyan. Featured along with these impassioned voices is music and readings of unpublished works by Saroyan.

Saturday, February 9, 2008**Book Discussion Group of *Essential Saroyan: A Selection of William Saroyan's Best Writings* by William E. Justice****Tulare Historical Museum, Heritage Room
444 West Tulare Avenue, Tulare, California****Book Discussion Group: 1 PM****Distribution of Book: Thursday, January 3, 2008, 5:30-7 PM**

The Tulare Historical Museum's book discussion group will meet in the museum's Heritage Room to discuss *Essential Saroyan: A Selection of William Saroyan's Best Writings*, edited with an introduction by William E. Justice. The book will be available for purchase in the Tulare Historical Museum's Gift Shop. For more information, contact the Tulare Historical Museum at (559) 686-2074.

February 21 and February 28, 2008**"William Saroyan: Views on Ethnicity and Identity"****Course is offered through the Osher Life Long Learning Institute at the California State University Fresno, Extension Studies, and Armenian Studies Program****Course Location: Fresno State, University Business Center, Room 191****Course Hours: 3:30 PM-5 PM****Membership Fee: Adults over 50; \$55 Individual; \$90 Husband and Wife**

Lead by Professor Barlow Der Muqrdechian, this program is being made available through the Osher Life Long Learning Institute and the Armenian Studies Program at the California State University, Fresno. This is a new program created for adults age 50+ who wish to continue learning and exploring for the sheer joy of it. The Osher membership fee is \$55 individual. For more information on membership, call (559) 278-0008 or email osher@csufresno.edu.

Saturday, February 25 through March 30, 2008**Saroyan Art Exhibition****Kings Art Center****605 North Douty Street, Hanford, California****Tuesday through Sunday, 12:00 to 3 PM****Free Admission**

If you missed the show in Tulare, the Kings Art Center will continue the wonderful exhibition of rare art work created by William Saroyan. Come and enjoy these unique paintings and sketches created by this celebrated author. This exhibition will be an opportunity to examine another facet of Saroyan's artistic nature. During your visit, take a tour of the beautiful, quaint town of Hanford, the subject of Saroyan's short story, "Hanford," in *My Name is Aram*. For more information, please contact the Kings Art Center at (559) 584-1065.

March 2008**Saroyan Centennial Prizes for Fiction, Non-Fiction and Drama****William Saroyan Society with the San Joaquin Valley Writing Project****Submissions Due March 15, 2008**

Sponsored with the San Joaquin Valley Writing Project, the William Saroyan Society is awarding prizes for adult writers in the areas of fiction, creative non-fiction, and drama. One \$500 prize will be awarded in each category. The winners will also be published in the journal *In the Grove*, and included in the Saroyan Archive. Judging will be blind. The fiction contest's finalists will be judged by Steve Yarbrough, author of *Visible Spirits*, the *Oxygen Man*, *The End of California* and other novels and short story collections. The creative nonfiction and drama contests' judges will be announced at a later date. For more information check the William Saroyan Society website at www.williamsaroyansociety.org.

Tuesday, March 4, 2008**“Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno” with Fresno historian William Secrest****Kerman Library****662 S. Madera, Kerman, California****6 PM****Free to the Public**

Fresno historian William Secrest, Jr. will present a multi-media program entitled, “Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno”. Learn how Saroyan, born in Fresno, traveled the world, rubbed elbows with celebrities, and received international accolades for his writing. See Saroyan’s old haunts in Fresno and how he left his mark on our community. For more information contact the Kerman Library at (559) 846-8804.

Tuesday, March 11, 2008**“Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno” with Fresno historian William Secrest****Woodward Park Library****944 E. Perrin, Fresno, California****7 PM****Free Admission**

Fresno historian William Secrest, Jr. will present a multi-media program entitled, “Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno”. For more information contact the Woodward Park Library at (559) 433-3135.

Wednesday, March 12, 2008**Saroyan Film: *The Time of Your Life*****Caruthers Library****13357 S. Henderson, Caruthers, California****4 PM****Free Admission**

Join the library for a film showing of *The Time of Your Life* that was written in 1935 and was a winner of the Pulitzer Prize for best screenplay. This film is set in San Francisco at Nick’s Bar. It captures the mixture of melancholy and hope that emerged between the Great Depression and World War II. For more information contact the Caruthers Library at (209) 864-8766.

Wednesday, March 12, 2008**“Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno” with Fresno historian William Secrest****Selma Library****2200 Selma Ave., Selma, California****7 PM**

Fresno historian William Secrest, Jr. will present a multi-media program entitled, “Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno”. For more information contact the Selma library at (559) 896-3393.

Thursday, March 13, 2008**Film Discussion of the Saroyan Years in Hollywood****Clovis Regional Library****1155 Fifth Street****Clovis, California****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Film historian, Paul Kaser will discuss the Saroyan years in Hollywood, his works which were made into movies, and his relationship with famous stars and film studios. Film clips will be shown. For more information contact the Clovis Regional Library at (559) 299-9531.

Thursday, March 13 and 27, 2008**Book Discussion: *Essential Saroyan*****Reedley Library****1027 'E' Street, Reedley, California****6 PM****Free to the Public**

Librarian Ernst Vitovec will lead an in-depth discussion of the book, *Essential Saroyan*, a compendium of excerpts from Saroyan's fiction and nonfiction works along with selected short stories and plays.

Register for this program at the Reedley Library by February 15, 2008 and receive a free copy of this book. For more information contact the Reedley Library at (559) 638-2818.

History Day, Saturday, March 15, 2008**All Student Entry Forms & Fees due to FCOE: Thursday, January 24, 2008****Web Site and Historical Papers due for judging: Thursday, January 24, 2008****History Day Event: Saturday, March 15, 2008****Winning Saroyan History Day Project Announced: Saturday, March 15, 2008**

Fresno County History Day presents students in grades 4-12 with the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of history-social science concepts in relation to an annual theme. Students will research, analyze, and interpret their topics relating to "Conflict and Compromise in History." This year, in honor of William Saroyan, the Fresno County Office of Education will be adding a special award for the winning "William Saroyan: Conflict and Compromise" project in honor of the 100th anniversary year of his birth (1908-2008). The winning project and student will be featured in a special "Newspapers in Education" publication.

Wednesday, March 16, 2008**Saroyan Film: *The Time of Your Life*****Sunnyside Library****5566 E. Kings Canyon, Fresno, California****6 PM****Free to the Public**

Join the library for a film showing of *The Time of Your Life* that was written in 1935 and was a winner of the Pulitzer Prize for best screenplay. For more information contact the library at (559) 255-6594.

Monday, March 24, 2008**"Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno" with Fresno historian William Secrest****Clovis Regional Library****1155 Fifth Street****Clovis, California****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Fresno historian William Secrest, Jr. will present a multi-media program entitled, "Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno". For more information contact the Clovis Regional Library at (559) 299-9531.

Tuesday, March 25, 2008**Reader's Theatre****Fig Garden Regional Library****3071 W. Bullard****Fresno, California****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Local actors under the direction of Christien Sweeny will perform a reader's theatre production of a Saroyan work. A group discussion will follow the play. For more information contact the Fig Garden Regional Library at (559) 438-4071.

Tuesday, March 25 through May 18, 2008**Art Installation—*Carol Tikijian: Why Abstract? Reflections on Saroyan*****Fresno Art Museum****2233 N. First Street, Fresno, California****Tues. through Sun., 11:00 to 5 PM****Thursday 11 AM to 8 PM****Free Admission to Museum Members****Admission for Nonmembers: General \$4.00 and Students/Seniors \$2.00**

Tikijian's art installation will feature a large circle constructed of black and white dots on which are imposed objects representing important elements of Saroyan's life. The concept of the exhibition is based on a book, *Why Abstract?*, authored by modernist Hilaire Hiler, a painter and costume and set designer, and writer, who was born ten years earlier than William Saroyan. For Hiler's book, Saroyan wrote the introduction. The two became friends, sharing common life views. For more information contact the museum at (559) 441-4221, or visit their website at www.fresnoartmuseum.org.

Wednesday, March 26, 2008**Young Writers' Conference****California State University, Fresno's Department of English, College of Arts and Humanities****California State University, Fresno****8 AM to 2 PM****Participation Fee \$15**

Each spring, the Department of English and the College of Arts and Humanities at Fresno State host the Young Writers' Conference for area high school students. This conference provides a valuable opportunity for young writers to hear a professional writer read and answer questions about the creative writing process. It also provides an opportunity for their writing to be judged the same manner as any adult writer. The William Saroyan Society sponsors the William Saroyan Award to a young writer. For more information see <http://csufresno.edu/crwr/15ywc.htm>.

Wednesday, March 26, 2008**Reader's Theatre****California Armenian Home****6720 E. Kings Canyon****Fresno, California****6:30 PM****Free to the Public**

Sponsored by the Fresno County Library, local actors under the direction of Christian Sweeny will perform a reader's theater production of a Saroyan work. A group discussion will follow the play. For more information contact the Fresno County Library at (559) 251-8414.

Thursday, March 27, 2008**“Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno” with Fresno historian William Secrest****San Joaquin Gardens****5555 N. Fresno****Fresno, California****6 PM****Free to the Public**

Sponsored by the Fresno County Library, Fresno historian William Secrest, Jr. will present a multi-media program entitled, “Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno”. For more information contact the Fresno County Library at (559) 439-4770.

Thursday, March 27, 2008**Premiere Stage Performance: *William Saroyan meets William Shakespeare*****Fresno Art Museum****2233 N. First Street, Fresno, California****6:30 PM Champagne and Preview of Art Installation with Artist Carol Tikijian****7:30 PM One-Man Show: *Saroyan: A Question of Will*****8:45 PM After-Theatre Supper with artists David Fox-Brenton and Carol Tikijian****Reservations \$50**

In an elegant evening with artists, David Fox-Brenton and Carol Tikijian, this gala event promises a premiere of *William Saroyan meets William Shakespeare*, the one-man show written and performed by David Fox-Brenton, and a preview of art installation *Why Abstract?* with the artist, Carol Tikijian. Both of these talented artists will join guests for this special event, sponsored by the Armenian Museum, in an after theatre supper. Mr. Fox-Brenton has been acting in theatre, film and television in England, Canada and the United States. He is the founder of the California Shakespearean Festival and the Globe of America on the Queen Mary. Ms. Tikijian is a Valley artist whose work has been widely exhibited.

Saturday, March 29, 2008**Saroyan Bicycle Ride****Begins at the Coke Hallowell Center for River Studies at Riverview Ranch****11605 Old Friant Road, Fresno, California****11 AM****Reservations \$35 per person**

Celebrate the William Saroyan Centennial on this perfect Spring day. Bring along your bike and join John Kallenberg who will interpret William Saroyan’s writings and discuss his life. After an excursion along the Lewis Easton Trail, enjoy a gourmet brunch at the Riverview Ranch. Desserts will be prepared by the William Saroyan Society. Saroyan was an avid bike rider and wrote about the San Joaquin River in many of his books. For more information call Larry Balakian at (559) 222-8323.

April 2008**Saroyan Photograph Exhibition****University of Southern California, Institute of Armenian Studies****Free Admission****Exhibition Dates TBA**

If you’re in Southern California, visit the Institute of Armenian Studies at the University of Southern California to enjoy the exhibition of gallery quality black and white photographs of Saroyan in Armenia. In a repeat performance, these exquisite pictures of Saroyan during his visits to Armenia were taken by photographer Boghos Boghossian Armenian, who currently resides in Armenia. There will be the opportunity to purchase these magnificent works of photographic art. Contact the Institute of Armenian Studies at the University of Southern California for more information.

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Reader's Theatre
Auberry Library
33049 Auberry Road
Auberry, California
6:30 PM

Local actors under the direction of Christian Sweeney will perform a reader's theater production of a Saroyan work. A group discussion will follow the play. For more information contact the Auberry Library at (559) 855-8523.

Beginning, Thursday, April 3, 2008 (for the month of April only)

Gallery Exhibit
Corridor 2122
2122 Mono Street, Fresno, California
Art Hop (April 3rd): 5 PM-8 PM
Hours: Thurs., Sat., Sun, Noon - 4 PM

William Saroyan was a familiar sight riding through Fresno on his bicycle. This invitational exhibition will showcase the bicycle as allegory for William Saroyan's impact in the Fresno Community. Why not take a bike ride down to Corridor 2122 to experience this exhibit.

Thursday, April 3, 2008

"Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno" with Fresno historian William Secrest

Gillis Library
629 W. Dakota, Fresno, California
7 PM

Free to the Public

Fresno historian William Secrest, Jr. will present a multi-media program entitled, "Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno". For more information contact the Gillis Library at (559) 225-0140.

Thursday, April 3, 2008

Saroyan Film: *The Time of Your Life*
Fig Garden Regional Library
3071 W. Bullard, Fresno, California
7 PM

Free to the Public

Join the library for a film showing of *The Time of Your Life* that was written in 1935 and was a winner of the Pulitzer Prize for best screenplay. For more information contact the library at (559) 438-4071.

Saturday, April 5, 2008

International Symposium "William Saroyan at 100"
Armenian Studies Program, California State University
Conference Location: Fresno State, University Business Center, Room 191
10 AM - 3 PM

Free Admission

Professor Barlow Der Mugrdchian is heading the Saroyan Writer's Conference, sponsored by the Armenian Studies Program at the California State University, Fresno. The Armenian Studies Program was established in 1977 and the Center for Armenian Studies was founded in 1991. Under the direction of Dr. Dikran Koumyjian, the Center provides an opportunity for students and faculty to interact. For more information contact the Armenian Studies Office at (559) 278-2669.

Thursday: April 10 and 24, 2008**Book Discussion: *Essential Saroyan*****Reedley Library****1027 'E' Street, Reedley, California****6 PM****Free to the Public**

Librarian Ernst Vitovec will lead an in-depth discussion over four evenings of the book, *Essential Saroyan*, a compendium of excerpts from Saroyan's fiction and nonfiction works along with selected short stories and plays. Register for this program at the Reedley Library by February 15, 2008 and receive a free copy of this book. For more information contact the Reedley Library at (559) 638-2818.

Monday, April 10, 2008**"Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno" with Fresno historian William Secrest****Sanger Library****1812 7th Street, Sanger, California****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Fresno historian William Secrest, Jr. will present a multi-media program entitled, "Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno". For more information contact the Sanger Library at (559) 875-2435.

Thursday, April 10, 2008**Saroyan Film: *The Time of Your Life*****Clovis Regional Library****1155 Fifth Street, Clovis, California****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Join the library for a film showing of *The Time of Your Life* that was written in 1935 and was a winner of the Pulitzer Prize for best screenplay. For more information contact the library at (559) 299-9531.

Tuesday, April 14, 2008**Film Discussion of the Saroyan Years****Woodward Park Library****944 E. Perrin, Fresno, California****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Film historian, Paul Kaser will discuss the Saroyan years in Hollywood, his works which were made into movies, and his relationship with famous stars and film studios. Film clips will be shown. For more information contact the Woodward Park Library at (559) 433-3135.

Thursday, April 17, 2008**Armenian Folk Story****Cedar-Clinton Library****4150 E. Clinton, Fresno, California****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Celebrate traditional Armenian tales with storyteller Terrance McArthur and the Armenian fable *Three Apples Fell From Heaven*. For more information contact the Cedar-Clinton Library at (559) 442-1770.

Saturday, April 19, 2008**Saroyan Town Walk****Start walk: Saroyan Theater in Downtown Fresno at Inyo and M Streets****9:30 AM**

The Saroyan Town Walk will take you on a tour of the area in downtown Fresno where William Saroyan lived during his early years and will feature information on his early life and times. A tour of the lobby of the Saroyan Theater and of the sanctuary of Holy Trinity Apostolic Church will be included. For more information, see website at www.williamsaroyansociety.org.

Saturday, April 19, 2008***Saroyan Musical Celebration!*****William Saroyan Theatre at the Fresno Convention Center****700 'M' Street, Fresno, California****7 PM****Tickets \$20 - \$65**

Join the Academy of Classical Music and Art in celebrating the genius of writer, William Saroyan, with a musical extravaganza, featuring virtuoso duo pianists Gianeh and Ovanes Arakelyan, violinist Patrick Contreras, and musical friends. Along with this tribute, enjoy video interviews of "Saroyan Memories" from family and friends of this legendary writer. For more information, contact the Academy at (559) 230-2262 or (559) 577-8495.

Monday, April 21, 2008**Armenian Mania: Stories for the Kids****Leo Politi Library****5771 N. First, Fresno, California****3:30 PM****Free to the Public**

Celebrate William Saroyan's Armenian heritage with stories and fun for preschool and school-age children. For more information contact the Leo Politi Library at (559) 431-6450.

Tuesday, April 22, 2008**Book Discussion: *Essential Saroyan*****Woodward Park Library****944 E. Perrin****Fresno, California****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Barlow Der Mugardechian, California State University, Fresno, faculty member in the Armenian Studies Program, will lead a discussion on the book, *Essential Saroyan*, a compendium of excerpts from Saroyan's fiction and nonfiction works along with selected short stories and plays. Register for this program at the Woodward Park Regional Library by April 1, 2008 and received a free copy of this book. For more information contact the Woodward Park Library at (559) 433-3135.

Wednesday, April 23, 2008**Panel Discussion: Three Pulitzer Prize Authors' Children****CSU, Fresno, Satellite Student Union****2485 E. San Ramon, Fresno, California****7 PM****Free Admission**

The Fresno County Library and Henry Madden Library invite you to a panel discussion featuring authors Aram Saroyan, Thomas Steinbeck and Susan Cheever, moderated by Steve Yarbrough. Those three authors are children of Pulitzer Prize winning authors whose fathers have inspired their writing. A book signing and refreshments will follow this program. Arrive early as seats are limited for this free program. For information call (559) 488-3856.

Thursday, April 24, 2008**Book Club Discussion****Kingsburg Library****1399 Draper, Kingsburg, California****6:30 PM****Free to the Public**

Join the Kingsburg Library Book Club in discussion of William Saroyan's *The Human Comedy* led by Faythe Arredondo. For more information contact the Kingsburg Library at (559) 897-3710.

Friday, April 25, 2008**Special Guest Appearance by Mickey Rooney at Screening of *The Human Comedy*****Fresno County Library and Friends of the Library****Tower Theatre****7 PM and After show Reception****Reservations****\$20 Screening and Talk About the Movie with Mickey Rooney****\$50 Screening, Talk About the Movie, and After-show Reception with Mickey Rooney**

Take great pleasure in viewing Saroyan's 1943 film version of *The Human Comedy*, starring Mickey Rooney. Mickey Rooney plays Homer Macauley, a young telegraph worker who remains in a small town looking after his widowed mother and younger brother. Homer's older brother is fighting the war in Europe. The screening will have a special guest appearance by the star of the movie, Mr. Mickey Rooney, who will discuss the making the movie. Mr. Rooney will later mingle with guests during the after-show reception in his honor. For more information, contact Ms. Jeanne Johnson, Adult Services Manager, Fresno County Library, (559) 488-3856.

Tuesday, April 29, 2008**Book Discussion: *Essential Saroyan*****Sunnyside Library****5566 E. Kings Canyon****Fresno, California****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Barlow Der Mugrdchian, California State University, Fresno, faculty member in the Armenian Studies Program, will lead a discussion on the book, *Essential Saroyan*, a compendium of excerpts from Saroyan's fiction and nonfiction works along with selected short stories and plays. Register for this program at the Sunnyside Library by April 1, 2008 and received a free copy of this book. For more information contact the Sunnyside Library at (559) 255-6594.

Saturday, May 3, 2008**Richard Hagopian and Grandsons—In Concert!****Fresno Art Museum****2233 N. First Street, Fresno, California****2 PM****General Museum Hours 11 AM to 5 PM****Free Admission to Museum Members****Admission for Nonmembers: General \$4.00 and Students/Seniors \$2.00**

Sponsored by the Armenian Museum and the Fresno Art Museum, Richard Hagopian and his Hagopian Ensemble are well-known world music and traditional Armenian musicians. Richard Hagopian has been a musician since childhood. He started playing the traditional Armenian instrument, the oud, at the age of twelve. Now Hagopian is sharing this rich tradition with his grandsons, who will share the stage with their grandfather.

Saturday, May 3, 2008**Concert of Choral Music by Hovhaness, Stravinsky, and Brahms****Fresno Community Chorus****California State University, Fresno****Concert Hall****7:30 PM****Admission TBA**

Dedicated to the memory of William Saroyan, as part of the 2008 International Saroyan Festival, celebrating the centennial of his birth, the Fresno Community chorus will perform choral music by Hovhaness, Stravinsky, and Brahms. For more information, contact the CSU, Fresno at (559) 278-2654.

Tuesday, May 6, 2008**Reader's Theatre****Woodward Park Library****944 E. Perrin, Fresno, California****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Local actors under the direction of Christien Sweeney will perform a reader's theater production of a Saroyan work. A group discussion will follow the play. For more information contact the Woodward Park Library at (559) 433-3135.

Sunday, May 11, 2008**Mother's Day Luncheon****St. Paul Armenian Church, Berberian Hall****3767 N. First Street, Fresno, California****12:30 PM****Cost TBD**

There will be delicious Armenian luncheon to show appreciation to all mothers in the style of William Saroyan. His thoughts and writing about mothers will be part of the program.

Monday, May 12, 2008**Theatrical Reading****2nd Space and The Good Company Players****928 E. Olive, Fresno, California****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Enjoy an after-Mother's Day gathering at 2nd Space for a reading of excerpts of William Saroyan's wonderfully poignant and humorous *Sons Come and Go, But Mothers Hang in Forever*. The reading was organized by New York actress Jacqueline Antaramian, an alumna of the California State University, Fresno, Theatre Department. Other distinguished readers include some of Fresno's favorite members of the stage. There is a suggested donation of \$10.00, at the door, to benefit the Good Company Players.

Monday, May 12, 2008**Reader's Theatre****Sanger Library****1812 7th Street, Sanger, California****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Local actors under the direction of Christien Sweeney will perform a reader's theater production of a Saroyan work. A group discussion will follow the play. For more information contact the Sanger Library at (559) 875-2435.

Tuesday, May 13, 2008**Reader's Theatre****Sunnyside Library****5566 E. Kings Canyon, Fresno, California****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Local actors under the direction of Christien Sweeney will perform a reader's theater production of a Saroyan work. A group discussion will follow the play. For more information contact the Sunnyside Library at (559) 255-6594.

Thursday, May 15, 2008**Saroyan Film: *The Human Comedy*****Clovis Regional Library****1155 Fifth Street, Clovis, California****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Join the Library for a film showing of *The Human Comedy*. This 1943 film, starring Mickey Rooney, tells the story of a young telegraph worker who looks after his widowed mother and siblings while his brother is off fighting the War. For more information contact the library at (559) 299-9531.

Saturday, May 17, 2008**“Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno” with Fresno historian William Secrest****Bear Mountain Library****30733 E. Kings Canyon, Squaw Valley, California****Potluck Dinner 6 PM****Program 6:45 PM****Free to the Public**

Fresno historian William Secrest, Jr. will present a multi-media program entitled, “Saroyan: The Man and His Fresno”. For more information contact the Fresno County Library at (559) 332-2528.

Thursday, May 22, 2008**Richard Hagopian Ensemble Salutes Saroyan****Vineyard Farmer’s Market****Northwest Corner of Shaw and Blackstone, Fresno, California****7 PM****Admission \$5**

Celebrate William Saroyan under Richard Erganian’s beautiful Vineyard Farmer’s Market with music and dance. Under the evening stars, traditional Armenian music will be provided by the Richard Hagopian Ensemble. Food and drink will be made available. This evening is sponsored by a grant from the Alliance for California Traditional Arts and the Armenian Museum. For more information, please contact (559) 243-5880.

Monday, May 26, 2008**Memorial Day Service****Ararat Cemetery****1925 W. Belmont, Fresno, California****10 AM****Free to the Public**

First Armenian Presbyterian Church, Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church, Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church, and St. Paul Armenian Church will honor William Saroyan with a Memorial Day Service at the Ararat Cemetery. All family members and friends will be remembered on this day. For more information, contact Larry Balakian at (559) 222-8323.

Saturday, July 5, 2008**Steppenwolf Theatre Company Production****California State University Summer Arts****Time TBA****Admission TBA**

Steppenwolf Theatre Company is known for their first rate productions. The company will salute Saroyan with a performance of one of his plays during California State University’s acclaimed Summer Arts program. For more information, contact Summer Arts at (559) 241-6090.

Tuesday, August 26, 2008, to September 26, 2008**Art Installation at Art Space Gallery****Fresno City College****1101 E. University Ave., Fresno, California****Art Hop: September 4, 2008****Gallery Hours: Tuesday 10 AM - 5 PM, Wednesday-Thursday 10 AM - 8 PM,****Friday 10 AM – 2 PM**

The art exhibition at the Art Space Gallery, “William Saroyan, Lines, Lines, Lines,” includes lines from artwork, lines from essays and lines from dramatic works all related to William Saroyan. For more information, please contact (559) 442-4600, ext. 8909.

Thursday, August 28, 2008**Saroyan Birthday Celebration!****William Saroyan Theatre at the Fresno Convention Center****700 'M' Street, Fresno, California****7 PM****Reservations \$50.00 per person**

Plans are in progress for the City of Fresno, Armenian Museum, and the Centennial Committee to throw a BIG BASH in tribute to William Saroyan's 100th birthday anniversary—music, dancing, stories, and, of course, food! For Reservations, contact the Armenian Museum at (559) 243-5880.

Thursday, August 28, 2008**Respite by the River, A Reading of Saroyan's Work****San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust****Coke Hallowell Center for River Studies (River Center)****11605 Old Friant Road, Fresno****6 PM Historic House Tour, Bring your Own Picnic, Live Dinner Music****7 PM Reading from Writings by Saroyan****8 PM Dessert, Historic House Tour and Book Sales**

Soak in the renewal that only nature can bring, by relaxing at a Respite by the River. Bring your own picnic and listen to live music from 6 to 7 pm. Also available from 6 to 7pm are the tours of the River Center, a restored historic home built in the 1890s. Saroyan mentions riding his bike to sit under a fig tree at "Riverview Ranch" in his book, *The Human Comedy*. At 7pm, hear stories of life in California's Central Valley written by Saroyan and as read by entertaining readers. The reading finishes by 8pm, when you can enjoy desserts and more time in the River Center. Respite by the River takes place once a month, May through October, at the River Center, on Old Friant Road, just three miles north of Woodward Park. The month of August is dedicated to the Saroyan Centennial and our beloved Central Valley writer, William Saroyan. For more information, contact (559) 433-3190, #3.

Friday, August 29, 2008**Saroyan's Birthday Party at Saroyan School****William Saroyan School****5850 West Escalon Ave., Fresno****1 PM*****For Saroyan School Students Only.***

Sponsored by the William Saroyan Society, elementary students at the Saroyan School will be celebrating the birth of award-winning author and playwright, William Saroyan. As part of the Central Unified School District, the Saroyan School was named in his honor in August 1994. It is the third largest school district in Fresno County serving over 14,000 students.

Fall of 2008**Art Exhibition****Merced Arts Council****645 West Main, Merced, California****Monday-Friday, 10 AM - 4 PM; Saturday 10 AM – 2 PM****Free Admission**

Carol Tikijian presents her art installation *Why Abstract? Reflections on Saroyan* as a tribute to the writer and his work. Tikijian's art installation will feature a large circle constructed of black and white dots on which are imposed objects representing important elements of Saroyan's life. For more information contact the Merced Arts Council at (209) 388-1090.

Month of September**Saroyan and Health Care****California Cancer Center****7257 N. Fresno Street, Fresno, California****Admission is Free**

September is National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. In honor of William Saroyan's battle against prostate cancer, the physicians at California Cancer Center and Urology Associates will offer prostate screenings (PSA and DRE) and prostate cancer education at the California Cancer Center during the month of September. Learn about the latest prostate cancer treatment including CyberKnife. Details will be posted on the California Cancer Center website at <http://communitymedical.org/prostatecancer>.

Friday, September 5, 2008**Stanford Celebrates the Saroyan Centennial with Parties for the Parkway****Meet at Uncle Harry's Bagelry at Fig Garden Village, Fresno, California****7:35 AM****Cost: \$100 (Includes transportation and food)**

Celebrate the 100th birthday of William Saroyan at Stanford University. Mike Keller and Mimi Calter will lead a tour of the Stanford Library and the William Saroyan Collection. Selections from the Saroyan Collection will be presented by Annette Keogh, curator of the Saroyan Collection. The day will include a literary lunch in Koret Park, the opening of the Saroyan Art Exhibit, the book lunch reception, the Saroyan Writing Prize Award Reception, the Saroyan concert, a tour of Rodin Sculpture Garden, and a visit to the Cantor Arts Center. Breakfast and a quick stop dinner will be part of this once-in-a-lifetime party. Transportation is included.

Friday, September 5, 2008**William Saroyan International Prize for Writing Award Ceremony****Green Library****Stanford Campus****557 Escondido Mall, Palo Alto, California****2:30 PM-4:30 PM****Admission Free**

Join us as we award the 2008 William Saroyan International Prize for Writing. This award, given by Stanford University Libraries in partnership with the William Saroyan Foundation, recognizes newly published works of fiction and non-fiction. The prize is designed to encourage new or emerging writers and honor the Saroyan literary legacy of originality, vitality and stylistic innovation. In recognition of that originality, the ceremony will take place among an exhibit of Saroyan's artwork, and we'll also present two new publications from Heyday Books that celebrate Saroyan's literary legacy: David Kherdian's *Forgotten Bread*, and an expanded version of *The Essential Saroyan*.

Friday, September 5, 2008**Saroyan Centennial Celebration Concert****Braun Music Center****Stanford Campus****557 Escondido Mall, Palo Alto, California****5 PM-6:30 PM****Admission Free**

William Saroyan is best known for his literary prowess, but he was also an accomplished lyricist, and collaborated on a number of musicals. Please join us for an evening in celebration of Saroyan's musical talents. The highlight of the program will be a recently rediscovered and never before performed collaboration between William Saroyan and Allan Hovhanes titled *Girgaki Picnic*.

Friday, September 5, 2008**William Saroyan International Prize for Writing Award Ceremony****Green Library****Stanford Campus****557 Escondido Mall, Palo Alto, California****2:30 PM-4:30 PM****Admission Free**

Join us as we award the 2008 William Saroyan International Prize for Writing. This award, given by Stanford University Libraries in partnership with the William Saroyan Foundation, recognizes newly published works of fiction and non-fiction. The prize is designed to encourage new or emerging writers and honor the Saroyan literary legacy of originality, vitality and stylistic innovation. In recognition of that originality, the ceremony will take place among an exhibit of Saroyan's artwork, and we'll also present two new publications from Heyday Books that celebrate Saroyan's literary legacy: David Kherdian's *Forgotten Bread*, and an expanded version of *The Essential Saroyan*.

Sunday, September 7, 2008**One-Man Performance with Todd Wronski****Woodward Park Library****944 E. Perrin, Fresno, California****2 PM****Free to the Public**

Actor, director, drama professor, and playwright Todd Wronski will perform a one-man show based on the life of William Saroyan, entitled *In My Case An Exception Should be Made: An Audience With William Saroyan*. Through the 90 minute "audience" with Saroyan, we learn of his birth, his experiences in the Fred Finch orphanage and his meteoric rise to the top of the worlds of literature, film and theatre. Mr. Wronski's professional credits include work with the Guthrie Theater, the Dallas Theater Center, Pennsylvania Centre Stage, Florida's Annie Russell Theatre, New York's Cider Mill Playhouse and performances at the Edinburgh International Festival Fringe. For more information contact the Woodward Park Library at (559) 433-3135.

Tuesday, September 9, 2008**One-Man Performance with Todd Wronski****Sunnyside Library****5566 E. Kings Canyon, Fresno, CA 9372****7 PM****Free to the Public**

Actor and drama professor, Todd Wronski will perform a one-man show, *In My Case An Exception Should be Made: An Audience With William Saroyan*. The show is based on the life of William Saroyan. For more information contact the Sunnyside Library at (559) 255-6594.

Wednesday, September 10, 2008**Reader's Theatre****California Armenian Home****6720 E. Kings Canyon, Fresno, California****6:30 PM****Free to the Public**

Local actors under the direction of Christien Sweeney will perform a reader's theater production of a Saroyan work. A group discussion will follow the play. For more information contact the library at (559) 251-8414.

Thursday, September 11, 2008

Todd Wronski One-Man Performance: *In My Case An Exception Should be Made: An Audience With William Saroyan.*

Triple X Fresno Chapter

630 S. Argyle, Fresno, California

6:30 PM Dinner

7:30 PM Show

Admission for Dinner and Show is \$30

Enjoy an Armenian dinner and a Saroyan dramatic tribute with actor and drama professor, Todd Wronski, who will perform his one-man show, *In My Case An Exception Should be Made: An Audience With William Saroyan.* The show is based on the life of William Saroyan. For more information contact Varoujan Der Simonian at (559) 224-1000.

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Book Discussion: *Essential Saroyan*

Auberry Library

33049 Auberry Road, Auberry, California

6:30 PM

Free to the Public

Chris Henson, CSUF faculty member in the English Dept., will lead a discussion on the book, *Essential Saroyan*, a compendium of excerpts from Saroyan's fiction and nonfiction works along with selected short stories and plays. Register for this program at the Auberry Library by September 1, 2008 and received a free copy of this book. For more information contact the Auberry Library at (559) 855-8523.

Saturday, September 20, 2008

Reader's Theatre

Bear Mountain Library

30733 E. Kings Canyon, Squaw Valley, CA 93675

Potluck Dinner 6:00 PM

Program 6:45 PM

Free to the Public

Local actors under the direction of Christien Sweeney will perform a reader's theater production of a Saroyan work. A group discussion will follow the play. For more information contact the Bear Mountain Library at (559) 332-2528.

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, September 26-28, 2008

Grand Armenian Festival: Salute to Saroyan!

Armenian Home of California

6720 E. Kings Canyon

Fresno, California

Friday: 5 PM-Midnight

Saturday: 10 AM-Midnight

Sunday: Noon-5 PM

Join the Armenian Cultural Foundation at the Armenian Home of California for their annual festival celebrating Saroyan's culture with traditional Armenian food and dance. Enjoy food, songs, and dance while experiencing the harvesting of the grapes and preparing delicious *purpoor*. For more information, contact the Armenian Cultural Foundation at (559) 233-2315.

Monday, October 2-11, 2008 (dark on October 6)**Theatrical Performance: *Slaughter of the Innocents*****California State University, Fresno, Theatre Arts Department****John Wright Theatre (Fresno State University Campus)****All Performances 8 PM (except Sunday, October 5)****October 5 at 2PM****Tickets \$12 (discount for group tickets of 10 or more)**

William Saroyan's powerful drama, *Slaughter of the Innocents*, will be presented by the Fresno State University Theatre Arts Department. The play involves a government in an unnamed country, set some time in the future, that has gone crazy! It has suspended all civil rights and is now holding witch hunt trials in every conceivable place including Archie's Bar, where the play is set. Archie becomes a willing accomplice to murder until he can't stand it any more and rebels even though he knows his life is now in jeopardy. For more information contact the University Theatre Department at (559) 278-2216.

Saturday, October 11, 2008***Performance Portraying William Saroyan* by David Fox-Brenton****Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church****3673 N. First, Fresno, California****Social Hall****6 PM Mezza****6:45 PM Shish Kabob Dinner****8 PM Performance****Reservations \$40**

Enjoy a delicious dinner and one-man show with David Fox-Brenton, in a Saroyan tribute: *Performance Portraying William Saroyan*. Mr. Fox-Brenton has been acting in theatre, film and television in England, Canada and the United States. The dinner and show is a fundraising event for the California Armenian Home (in Fresno) and the Centennial. For reservations and more information contact the Pilgrim Armenian Congregational Church at (559) 229-2915.

Tuesday, November 19, 2008**Public Lecture****San Joaquin Valley Town Hall Lecture Series****William Saroyan Theatre****Downtown Fresno, Inyo and M Streets****10:30 AM****Tickets \$20.00**

The San Joaquin Valley Town Hall Lecture Series will feature a panel presentation on the life and writings of William Saroyan. Town Hall panelists will include Bruce Janigian, Saroyan's attorney; Richard Rodriguez, journalist and author; and Jon Whitmore, President of Texas Tech University; and Annette Keogh, curator of the William Saroyan Collection at Stanford University will moderate these distinguished panelists for a lively discussion. For more information about the speakers and tickets, please contact (559) 444-2180 or www.valleymtownhall.com.