



SILICON VALLEY CONCIERGE ASSOCIATION

valley access

ELECTRONIC MAGAZINE

JUNE 2011

www.siliconvalleyconciierge.com



Congrats to the winners of this year's Best of the Best in 2011 SVCA Hospitality Awards Event held on Friday, May 13 at the Santa Clara Convention Center

Best Concierge
Mimi Mozayeny from Marriott San Mateo



Best Event Venue
The Mountain Winery

Best Family Attraction
Children's Discovery Museum

Best Hotel
Hotel Los Gatos

Best Kept Secret
Japantown San Jose

Industry Recognition Award Winner
Steve Borkenhagen



Mike Borkenhagen, Steve Borkenhagen, & Randy Zechman

Best Bar / Lounge
Koji Sake Lounge

Best Restaurant Casual
McCormick & Schmicks San Jose

Best Restaurant Ethnic
Mezcal Mexican Restaurant & Bar

Best Restaurant Upscale
Parcel 104

Best Spa
Burke Williams Santana Row

Best Transportation Service
Lone Star Limousine

Best Winery
Guglielmo Winery

SVCA Board Members of 2011



(Photos from event by: Carol Holweger)

The SVCA Board Members would like to Thank all of the Sponsors that helped make this year's awards outstanding. Three Cheers to the following:

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Special Thank You to:
Master of Ceremonies: Mr. Steve Van Dorn
Presenter: Randy Zechman
PowerPoint: World 2Do
Chairperson: June Suzuki
Awards: Shawna Dedrick
Award Presenters: Lillian Scoyen & Gay Rose
Raffle Ticket Sales: Silicon Valley Tour Assn.
Registration: JoMar Labs
Flowers: Chris Citti
Photographer: Carol Holweger
SVCA 2011 Board Members



A Program of Arts Council Silicon Valley



The Western Regional Puerto Rican Council is proud to present the annual *Día de San Juan*. Gather under "la bonita bandera de la Isla del Encanto" —Puerto Rico— to sing, dance, eat, play, and rejoice. It's a day to celebrate and learn about Puerto Rico and its history, music, food and culture.

Date/Time: Sunday, June 25th from 11am – 7pm

Location: History Park

Email wrprc@hotmail.com or visit:

www.artsopolis.com/event/detail/441214827.



South First Fridays - Art Walk

Presented by South First Fridays at [SoFA District](#) Ongoing *South First Fridays* is an eclectic evening of arts and culture in downtown San Jose's SoFA District every first Friday of the month. During this event, many venues host opening receptions with special programming and live music. Participating art venues include Anno Domini, MACLA, San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles, SLG Art Boutiki and Gallery, Phantom Galleries, and more



Free Dance Lesson at The Fairmont

Presented by The Lobby Lounge at [The Lobby Lounge at The Fairmont San Jose](#) Ongoing Want to "trip the light fantastic," but want to brush up on your dancing skills so that you don't *really* trip? Every Friday, a free half-hour of instruction is offered, followed by dancing to a live band. Join the fun! Contemporary and classy light fare is served daily from 12pm to 12am, and the menu boasts over five hundred cocktails and martinis.

DISCOVER

Science, Technology, and The Future

In Good Taste:

Dine Downtown San Jose

The annual Dine Downtown San Jose event returns June 22-July 3 to showcase the area's unique eateries. Special menus that highlight the best of each restaurant's culinary repertoire offer a great way for diners to experience San Jose's lively dining scene.

The 12-day event kicks off with a City Bites sampler event on June 22, 4-6pm. Featuring chef specialties from participating restaurants, City Bites encourages diners to explore the downtown area, scope out new restaurants, sample their fare, and make reservations.

In the days to follow, starting at 5:30pm each evening, participating restaurants offer special three-course prix-fixe menus ranging from \$20-\$40. Each menu has been thoughtfully prepared by talented chefs to exemplify the restaurant's unique flair.

Featured restaurants include 19 Market (Vietnamese fusion: 19 N. Market St.); Affinity Restaurant & Lounge (New American: Downtown Hilton, 300 Almaden Blvd.); Arcadia Modern American Steakhouse (New American: Downtown Marriott Hotel, 100 W. San Carlos St.); Azucar (Latin: 71 E. San Fernando St.); Bella Mia (Italian: 58 S. First St.); Billy Berk's (American: 99 S. First St.); Fahrenheit Ultra Lounge & Restaurant (Asian fusion: 99 E. San Fernando St.); Loft Bar and Bistro (New American: 90 S. 2nd St.); P.F. Chang's China Bistro (Asian fusion: 98 S. Second St.); and many more.

When: June 22-July 3

MORE INFO: Find additional restaurant information and menus at sjdowntown.com/dinedowntown; 408/279-1775

Above: Diners sample Billy Berk's fare during a City Bites event.

What's the Fuzz?

They may look all warm and fuzzy, but these foul-mouthed, edgy puppets are far from family friendly. **San Jose Stage Company** presents Avenue Q (June 1-July 3), the Tony-winning Broadway satirical musical that turns wholesome family shows like Sesame Street inside out. Featuring a cast of people and puppets who tell the story through risqué humor and hilarious songs, this smash hit two-act musical will leave you rolling with laughter in the aisles. That's strictly adults-only. Wed-Thurs, 7:30pm; Fri-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 2pm. (San Jose: The Stage, 490 S. First St.; 408/283-7142)

Working Title

TheatreWorks presents the hip Broadway hit, Title of Show (June 1-26), a new comedic musical that brings new meaning to the phrase "art imitates life." Inspired by the real-life adventures of five down-on-their-luck theater geeks, this is an uproariously innovative new musical written by a pair of undiscovered writers about a pair of undiscovered writers writing a new musical. Jeff and Hunter are furiously cobbling together an original work for the New York Musical Theatre Festival, with the deadline only three weeks away. Thankfully, friends Susan and Heidi join them to form a songwriting, storytelling, Tony Award-winning dream team—or something close to it. Dizzying and delightful, this quirky Broadway hit is an unabashed love letter to the agony, ecstasy, and idiocy of making musical theatre. Tues-Wed, 7:30pm; Thurs-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 2 & 8pm; Sun, 2 & 7pm. (Mountain View: Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St.; 650/903-6000)

Stephanie Soong [; VALLEY ACCESS ELECTRONIC MAGAZINE / 3



Image taken by Donna West – Local writer & Meeting Planning

San Jose, CA – a tourist attraction? Absolutely!

A not-the-usual business, new in downtown San Jose which I actually welcome is *San Jose Walking Tours*. Downtown San Jose has many interesting items to learn of history to current events – many of our millions of visitors (and even residents) actually miss out.

I found this brand new face and business to our downtown area in my connections and Google alert searches from the internet. I quickly made the connection to *Ilana Eydus, San Jose Walking Tours*, and recently explored our San Jose streets with Ilana and one of her groups soon after.

Ilana's tours are a breath of fresh air which includes a mixture of history and current stories. And, yes, she included a few details and stories which were new to me as well! Ghosts haunting downtown and how to decode the hidden messages on buildings. And, of course, who was the legislature of a 1,000 drinks?

I won't give away her details of the tour; I was mesmerized listening to Ilana, a local guide. It is not always about downloading the latest phone application of what to do. Each local guide I always listen to has their own research with entertaining stories which come alive for people. Well paced, there is time for questions and to look around on her tours. And very affordable, at \$10 per person!

Ilana has lived in San Jose, CA all of her life and graduated from Santa Clara University. She loves sharing the city's secrets with people. Ilana is excited of the challenge to answer all questions from everyone on these walking tours.

Remember, it is common sense to make reservations in advance – respective of your local host. Let her know that you want to go so she may prepare for you.

It is okay to support other businesses – work together. Don't just sit there, call someone new or old and connect.

My Thumbs Up for this: a Jose Walking Tours – any day

<http://www.sanjosewalkingtours.com/index.html>

Reservations required Saturday & Sunday at 11:00 am

And by appointment other days of the week

Reservations made online at the website

Email: sanjosewalkingtours@gmail.com

Donna West

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CIRQUE DU SOLEIL.



Creation has been the driving force behind Cirque du Soleil for the past 27 years

June 16, 2011 marks the 27th anniversary of *Cirque du Soleil*. From its beginnings on June 16, 1984, this young Quebec company has never stopped growing, and creation has been the key driving force behind this growth. *Cirque du Soleil* pays tribute to the creators who have contributed over the years to the creation of 31 unique shows through their imagination, creativity and desire to explore unknown territories. Today, *Cirque du Soleil* continues to bring wonder and delight to spectators around the world.

The magic of *Cirque du Soleil* in the Bay Area

By the end of 2011, *Cirque du Soleil* will be presenting 22 different productions worldwide, each bringing to stage the worlds imagined by prominent creators. Spectators in the Bay Area can attend performances of **TOTEM** under the blue-and-yellow Grand Chapiteau in San Francisco at AT&T Park as of October 28, 2011 and in San Jose at the Taylor Street Bridge as of March 2, 2012. Written and directed by Robert Lepage, **TOTEM** traces the fascinating journey of the human species from its original amphibian state to its ultimate desire to fly. The characters evolve on a stage evoking a giant turtle, the symbol of origin for many ancient civilizations.

For ticket information, please visit at www.cirquedusoleil.com/totem.

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Hanna Hannah: *Frames of War*

June 18 - September 10, 2011

Frames of War is an exhibition of new paintings by Santa Cruz-based artist Hanna Hannah that exposes a stark confrontation of terror and beauty. Hannah's works are created using fine brushes and casein paint and mixed media on paper and include fifteen floor-length panels as well as a series of formally framed works.

San Jose Institute of Contemporary Art | 560 South First Street | San Jose | CA | 95113

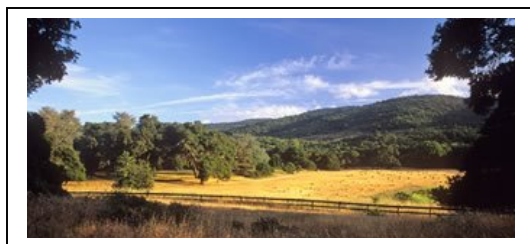
Music in the Park 2011 Band Line Up

13 free shows each Thursday June 2 through Aug 25.



- 6/2- GREG KIHN BAND (Classic Rock)
- 6/9 – THE ORIGINAL STONE CITY BAND* (Funk/R&B) – *(Rick James' original band)
- 6/16- FREDDIE MCGREGOR (Reggae)
- 6/23 - WHITE ALBUM ENSEMBLE (Beatles Tribute)
- 6/30 –NATURAL VIBRATIONS (Hawaiian Reggae/Rock/Soul)
- 7/7- LED ZEPAGAIN (Led Zeppelin Tribute) opener – ZeBop! (Santana Tribute)
- 7/14 – Special Artist TBA June 5 (Power Pop)
- 7/21 – THE ENGLISH BEAT (Ska/New Wave)
- 7/28 – CRACKER (Alternative/Americana/Rock)
- 8/4 – DREDG (Alternative Rock)
- 8/11 – MARCIA GRIFFITHS (Reggae/Soul)
- 8/18 – SERGENT GARCIA (World/Latin/Reggae)
- 8/25 – PETE ESCOVEDO ORCHESTRA (Latin Jazz)

- Shows start each Thursday at 5:30 p.m.
- Plaza de Cesar Chavez, Market and San Fernando streets, downtown San Jose
- Concerts are free to the general public
- Food and drink are available at the show.
- Check www.sjdowntown.com for details.



FILOLI TO PARTICIPATE IN BLUE STAR MUSEUMS PROGRAM

Filoli one of more than 1,300 museums and cultural institutions across America to offer free admission to military personnel and their families this summer 86 Cañada Road, Woodside, CA 94062

Today Filoli announced its participation in Blue Star Museums, a partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts, Blue Star Families, and more than 1,300 museums and cultural institutions

across America to offer free admission to all active duty military personnel and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day 2011.

“Blue Star Museums recognizes and thanks our military families for all they are doing for our country, and simultaneously begins young people on a path to becoming life-long museum goers,” said NEA Chairman Rocco Landesman. “Last year the success of the inaugural year of the Blue Star Museums program showed that partnerships between the nation’s museum and military communities are a natural,” said Blue Star Families Chairman Kathy Roth-Douquet.

This year, more than 1,300 museums and cultural institutions in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and American Samoa are taking part in the initiative, including more than 500 new museums this year. The effort to recruit museums has involved the partnership efforts of The American Association of Museums, the Association of Art Museum Directors, the Association of Children’s Museums, and the American Association of State and Local History. This year’s Blue Star Museums represent not just fine arts museums, but also science museums, history museums, nature centers, and 70 children’s museums. To find which museums or cultural institutions are participating, visit www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums.

About Blue Star Museums

Blue Star Museums runs from Memorial Day, May 30, 2011 through Labor Day, September 5, 2011. The free admission program is available to active-duty military and their immediate family members (military ID holder and five immediate family members). Active duty military include Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and active duty National Guard and active duty Reserve members. Some special or limited-time museum exhibits may not be included in this free admission program. For questions on particular exhibits or museums, please contact the museum or cultural institution directly. To find which museums are participating, visit www.arts.gov/bluestarmuseums. The site includes a list of participating museums and a map to help with visit planning. Museums that wish to participate in Blue Star Museums may contact bluestarmuseums@arts.gov or Wendy Clark at 202-682-5451.

About Blue Star Families

Blue Star Families is a national, nonpartisan, nonprofit network of military families from all ranks and services, including guard and reserve, with a mission to support, connect and empower military families. In addition to morale and empowerment programs, Blue Star Families raises awareness of the challenges and strengths of military family life and works to make military life more sustainable. Membership includes military spouses, children and parents as well as service members, veterans and civilians. To learn more about Blue Star Families, visit www.bluestarfam.org.

Questions: Call Filoli weekdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at (650) 364-8300, ext. 509. Visit www.filoli.org for complete information regarding upcoming events, classes and activities.

SANTANA ROW

Summer sizzles with Santana Row's popular
Flavors of Jazz
and **Hot August Nights** music series

Flavors of Jazz returns for a fourth season of cool music and tasty international cuisine. On Tuesday evenings in July and August from 6:30 to 8:30pm, two Santana Row restaurants will host free live performances by local musicians including guitarist Rick Vandivier, drummer Wally Schnalle and trumpeter John Worley. The July 5 – August 30 series includes a wide range of styles, from traditional jazz to Indian- and Reggae-influenced jazz. Full lineup attached.

Hot August Nights – presented by Firesign Entertainment and Santana Row – features the Bay Area's best local musicians every Saturday in August beginning August 5, 2011. Cool off with free, live, outdoor entertainment including Grammy winner and Carlos Santana's front man Tony Lindsay. He and his band kick off the series with their rockin' R&B/Jazz sound. Among his many gigs, Tony is one of four singers who travels with "Dancing with the Stars," the road tour version of the popular TV Dance show.

Making Music with Santana Row's Mountain Winery Mondays Free Mountain Winery Tickets!

San Jose, CA (May 10, 2011) – This summer only Santana Row shoppers can see some of the world's most talented entertainers on stage – free – at Mountain Winery. Every Monday, Santana Row guests who spend \$500 or more in that day receive two free tickets to a concert at the Mountain Winery in nearby Saratoga. Guests simply present same-day receipts at the Santana Row Concierge Center to receive tickets. Tickets are available while supplies last and distributed in chronological order.

This year's concert schedule is a "who's who" of award-winning jazz artists, rockers and everything in between, plus legendary bands and beloved entertainers from television, stage, film and radio. Jethro Tull, Diana Krall, The Monkees, Garrison Keilor, Billy Idol, The Psychedelic Furs, Tears for Fears, Chris Isaak, John Prine and B.B. King are just some of the featured performers in the May – October concert series.

Once the home, winery and vineyards of legendary winemaker Paul Masson, Mountain Winery's ivy-covered stone structure engenders old world ambiance and provides a dramatic stage backdrop for intimate performances under the stars.

For more information, call 408-551-4611 or visit santanarow.com.

The Counter's First Annual Fourth of July Barbeque

Family fun, delicious old fashioned barbeque and rockin' music
in The Park



What: The First Annual Fourth of July Barbeque in the Park. This 21st century burger joint expands into Park Valencia at [Santana Row](#) for a fun, relaxing afternoon of barbeque, beer and music from Bay Area favorites including Gravy Boat.

When: Monday, July 4th from 1 – 6pm; live music throughout the afternoon.

Where: Park Valencia, Santana Row, Olin Avenue just east of Winchester Boulevard.

Cost: \$15/adult – includes unlimited mini-burgers, fries, soft drinks and first Devil's Canyon Brewery beer. Additional beers are \$3. \$8/child – includes unlimited mini-burgers, fries and soft drinks.



Who: [Gravy Boat](#) has been entertaining people around the greater San Francisco Bay Area since 1994, playing a wide variety of great music from the 50's to today, including classic/modern rock, funk/disco, rhythm & blues, alternative, and standards.

For more information: please call 408-551-4611 or visit santanarow.com. Download the free Santana Row App for iPhone or Blackberry Smartphone for an immediate, convenient, all-access pass to Santana Row news, information and incentives. Follow all the fun at [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

Save the Date

Santana Row & SVCA Members Event

September 15th 2011

New Opening at Santana Row

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The Tabard Theatre
www.tabardtheatre.org

Toll House Hotel Los Gatos
www.tollhousehotel.com

The Wax Museum at Fisherman's Wharf
San Francisco
www.waxmuseum.com

The Golf Club at Boulder Ridge
www.boulderridge.com

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NOTE: ARTICLES AND SPECIAL DATES
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