

## Not to be missed

### WORKSHOPS & LECTURES... continued

**The Lamorinda Democratic Club's Friday, Jan. 11 meeting** will feature Emmerge California Executive Director Kimberly Ellis, who will talk about Emmerge California's successful efforts to help change the face of California politics by identifying, training and encouraging women to run for office, get elected and seek higher office. The club meeting begins at 7:15 p.m. at the Lafayette Library and Community Center, 3491 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, followed by the presentation at 8 p.m., which will also include a panel discussion featuring Emmerge California graduates Carlyn Obringer, Katie Ricklefs and Monica Wilson. Admission: \$5; students free. For info, call (925) 567-3367 or visit [www.lamorindademoclub.org](http://www.lamorindademoclub.org).

**Montelindo Garden Club. The club will meet at 9 a.m.** Friday, Jan. 18 at the Orinda Community Church, 10 Irwin Way. The speaker, Don Dillon, Jr. from Four Winds Growers, will discuss growing citrus in the Bay Area. For more info, call (925) 254-3906.

**Jan Term Speaker Series. Unlikely Inspiration. Kaya Oakes**, author of *Slanted and Enchanted: The Evolution of Indie Culture* will speak at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 22 and Lisa Kristine, an acclaimed humanitarian photographer who specializes in images of remote indigenous cultures in more than 100 countries on six continents, will speak about *Shining a Light on Modern-Day Slavery* at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31 at the Saint Mary's College Soda Activity Center, 1928 St. Mary's Road, Moraga. Free. For more info, call (925) 631-4771 or visit [www.stmarys-ca.edu](http://www.stmarys-ca.edu).

**Lafayette Community Garden and Outdoor Learning Center** class "Building Healthy Soil" from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9 at the Lafayette Community Garden across from the Reservoir. These classes are interactive, informative and fun so come join us and prepare to get your hands dirty! It can be muddy and cold in the winter so dress appropriately. Classes are free although a \$5 donation is appreciated. To register, visit [www.lafayettecommunitygarden.org](http://www.lafayettecommunitygarden.org), and click on classes.

### OTHER

**Hospice of the East Bay Support Group for Adults.** The Pet Loss Support Group meets from noon to 1:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month at the Tony LaRussa's Animal Rescue Foundation, 2890 Mitchell Drive, Walnut Creek. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to pre-register please call (925) 887-5681 or visit [www.hospiceeastbay.org](http://www.hospiceeastbay.org).

**Stars to the rescue presented by ARF. Adopt two kitten kindergarteners** for the price of one, or a purr-fect cat two years or older for half-off the adoption fee! Standard adoption criteria apply. Please join Tony La Russa and ARF Saturday, Jan. 5 at the Leshner Center for the Arts, 2890 Mitchell Drive, Walnut Creek. For more info, call (925) 296-3153 or visit [www.arf.net](http://www.arf.net).

**Hospice of the East Bay Support Groups for Adults.** The Widow and Widowers' Support group meets on Thursdays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. from Jan. 3 through Feb. 21 at the Pleasant Hill campus, 3470 Buskirk Ave., Pleasant Hill. Pre-registration is required. For more info, or to pre-register call (925) 887-5681 or visit [www.hospiceeastbay.org](http://www.hospiceeastbay.org).

**Operation Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief. This program is organized** by local teen volunteers of Club Be the Star You Are. The club needs monetary donations to ship books and resources to families on the East Coast who suffered the devastation of Hurricane Sandy. \$25 ships five new books; \$50 ships a dozen new books; \$100 ships a full case. Checks may be sent to Be the Star You Are!® 501c3, P.O. Box 376, Moraga, Ca. 94556 or make a contribution on line via Paypal. For more information please visit [www.bethestaryouare.org/donate.htm](http://www.bethestaryouare.org/donate.htm) and [www.btsya.com/hurricane\\_sandy\\_relief.html](http://www.btsya.com/hurricane_sandy_relief.html).

**SEED (Special Education Enrichment Development) Foundation of Lafayette** is co-funding

a 12-week behavior management course for Lafayette parents. By teaching positive behavioral strategies, parents will gain tools and strategies to support their child in home and community settings. The class will be held on Wednesday nights, 6:30 to 9 p.m., Jan. 9 through March 27 in the Maggie Mae Lounge at Lafayette United Methodist Church, 955 Moraga Rd. For more information or to register please call (925) 788-0451 or email Robin Hauge at [robinhaugelclinic@gmail.com](mailto:robinhaugelclinic@gmail.com).

**Lamorinda Dogs is looking for your support.** Lamorinda Dogs is building a pet recovery network in Lamorinda and helping pet owners document and prepare for disasters. Send donations to Lamorinda Dogs, 101 Alta Mesa Court, Moraga, CA 94556 or go to [www.lamorindadogs.org](http://www.lamorindadogs.org).

**Hospice of the East Bay Support Groups for Adults.** The support group Adults Who Have Lost a Parent meets Mondays from 6 to 8 p.m. Jan. 28 through March 25 at the Pleasant Hill Campus, 3470 Buskirk Ave. Pre-registration is required. For more info, or to pre-register please call (925) 887-5681 or visit [www.hospiceeastbay.org](http://www.hospiceeastbay.org).

**Come Play MahJongg! MahJongg is a game of skill, strategy,** and certain degree of chance. Bring your card, a mahjongg set and a snack to share (optional) every Tuesday from 1 to 3:30 p.m. in the Cedar Room, Lafayette Community Center, 500 St. Mary's Road, Lafayette. Cost: \$1 for members; \$3 for non-members. For more info, call (925) 284-5050.

**Stitchers Unite! Valley Stitchers and Fiber Arts Guild** will meet Monday, Jan. 7, at the Faith Lutheran Church, 50 Woodsworth Ln., Pleasant Hill, to watch Robin Berry demonstrate her medieval embroidery and re-enactments. Arrive before 10 a.m. to go through our sales tables full of different arts. Guests are welcome! For info, call Sheila Rogstad at (925) 945-1338.

**Nature Walk and Bird-Watching. Delight in the beauty** that unfolds around each bend, all the while learning to identify a variety of birds every Wednesday from 9 to 11 a.m. beginning Jan. 16. Bring a water bottle; binoculars will be helpful if you have them. Please call Lafayette Senior Services at (925) 284-5050 to find out weekly meeting location.

**Community Service Day: member volunteers of Lafayette** United Methodist Church will be serving those in need and the public is invited to participate Saturday, Jan. 26. Service projects will be available for all ages and skill levels, benefiting the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, Bay Area Rescue Mission, Juvenile Hall - Hall Closet, Shelter, Inc., Monument Crisis Center and Toys for Tots. For more info, visit [thelumc.org/service/changetheworld](http://thelumc.org/service/changetheworld) or call (925) 284-4765.

**The Orinda Woman's Club announces acceptance** of applicants for its major beneficiary awards in 2013. Appropriate applying agencies must meet the following basic criteria: non-profit 501c3; serving women and children in need; Alameda and/or Contra Costa County-based; receiving \$1 million and below as annual income stated on 2011-2012 tax returns. Application forms can be acquired from Orinda Woman's Club, P.O. Box 533, Orinda, 94563 or from Adeline McClatchie Beneficiary Chair at (925) 254-1162 or [Adeline@mcclatchie.com](mailto:Adeline@mcclatchie.com). Two applicants will be selected by general club meeting. Deadline: 7 p.m. March 4. Beneficiary Chair must receive applications before this date for consideration.

### POLITICAL GATHERINGS

**Inauguration Celebration Breakfast and Watch Party.** The breakfast, which will be held Monday, Jan. 21 from 8 to 8:45 a.m. at the Lafayette Library's Community Room, 3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd., will be hosted by the Lamorinda Democratic Club to honor President Barack Obama as he is inaugurated for his second term in office. You must RSVP to guarantee a seat by contacting John Hall at [jdhall@mac.com](mailto:jdhall@mac.com).

## Please submit:

**Events:** [calendar@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:calendar@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Stories:** [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Letters:** [letters@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:letters@lamorindaweekly.com)

**Opinion:** [letters@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:letters@lamorindaweekly.com)

# The Best of 2012

By Derek Zemrak

Time to ring in 2013 and review 2012! It was a great year for the Lamorinda Theatres with increased attendance of over 20 percent. This was the highest attendance at both Lamorinda theatres since 2003, which was before the Century Theater opened in Walnut Creek. To wrap up 2012, here are my picks for the year's best films:

- 1) Zero Dark Thirty (opens Jan. 11 at the Orinda Theatre)
- 2) Lincoln (now playing at the Rheem Theatre)
- 3) Bernie
- 4) Argo
- 5) Amour
- 6) Silver Linings Playbook
- 7) Les Miserables (now playing at the Orinda Theatre)
- 8) Beasts of the Southern Wild
- 9) Django Unchained (now playing at the Rheem Theatre)
- 10) Frankenweenie

Many of the films on my best of 2012 list are either currently screening at the Rheem and Orinda or will be returning in the upcoming months before the Oscars. All are worth a second viewing. Do not miss them on the big screen. There is nothing like seeing a quality movie in a classic movie house. We are lucky to have two beautiful movie palaces in our community.

We have many exciting changes in 2013 including new digital projectors and digital sound to be installed during the first quarter of 2013. The three projectors in Orinda will be installed at the end of January and hopefully the main projector at the Rheem will be installed in February. Many exciting events are already planned for the theatres in 2013 including:

**Jan. 23** - The 70th Anniversary screening of *Casablanca* and *Q & A* with Rosario Tronolone, renowned expert on Ingrid Bergman.

Orinda Theatre was chosen as one of the few theaters across the country to show *Casablanca* in 35MM film on the 70th Anniversary of *Casablanca's* original release date of Jan. 23, 1943.

**Feb. 24** - Oscar Party Gala Night at the Rheem Theatre

The evening includes red carpet photo op, live music, dancing, gift bags, souvenir wine glass, wine, champagne dinner provided by Shelby's Restaurant of Orinda, trivia and door prizes. The Rheem Theatre is the place to be on Oscar Night!

**March 15-17** - East Bay Jewish Film Festival in Orinda

**Sept. 22** - Orinda Classic Car "Speed on the Screen" at Orinda Theatre  
Plus don't forget the Moraga Movers' Classic Movie at 4 p.m. the third Wednesday of each month at the Rheem Theatre and The CAIFF/Diablo Magazine Classic Movie Night at 7 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the Orinda.

**Nov. 7-10** - California Independent Film Festival at the Rheem and Orinda Theatres

Thank you all for your support to the Lamorinda Theatres during 2012. Happy New Year! See you at the movies!

*Derek Zemrak is a Film Critic, Film Producer and Founder of the California Independent Film Festival. You can follow Derek on Twitter @zemrak for the latest Hollywood news.*



Photo courtesy Touchstone Pictures



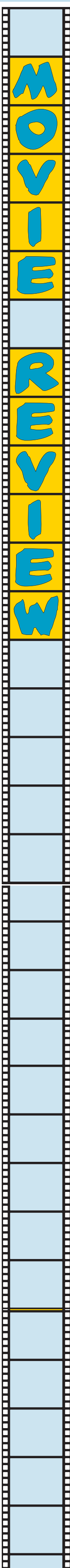
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