



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 2, 2009

Contact:

Elena Bicker
925-296-3116
ebicker@arf.net

PRODIGIES FOR PETS BENEFITS SPAY/NEUTER INITIATIVE
Musical prodigies support Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation

WALNUT CREEK, California – January 2, 2009 – Please join host Tony La Russa as he presents *Prodigies for Pets* on Friday, January 9, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. With proceeds benefiting the Animal Rescue Foundation's (ARF) spay/neuter initiative, four groups of musical prodigies accompanied by their mentors, will perform at Leshner Center for the Arts in Walnut Creek, California.

Roberto Granados, a 10-year-old classical, flamenco, rock guitarist will appear with his mentor, Jason McGuire. Holly Stell, 15-year-old opera singer will be accompanied by 13-year-old soloist Charlie Baggett and world renowned harpist and violinist, Carlos Reyes. Country pop singer, 15-year-old Madison Cain will appear with 19-year-old singing sensation Manuel Romero, accompanied by Journey's Jonathan Cain, Weston Cain on drums and Miles Schon on guitar. Moving Arts Dance will perform original choreography to music composed by Marc Russo and Steve George, with appearances by Karl Perazzo and Myron Dove.

Individual tickets, with prices starting at \$25 are available by calling 925.943.SHOW.

Prodigies for Pets is a prelude to ARF's *Stars to the Rescue XVIII* gala on Saturday, January 10, 2009 at 6:45 p.m. at Leshner Center for the Arts. *Stars to the Rescue XVIII*, sponsored by Purina ONE, Chevron, ASPCA, Maddie's Fund, Headsets.com, Inc., Heffernan Insurance, Otis Spunkmeyer, Inc., Prostate Cancer Foundation and others, Stars will showcase Graham Russell and Russell Hitchcock of 1970's Air Supply fame, Tony Orlando, Billy Bob Thornton and The Boxmasters, comedian Will Durst, and others.

Tickets are priced at \$300, \$100 and \$50 and are available today for purchase by calling 925-943-SHOW.

ARF saves the lives of loving dogs and cats that have run out of time at public shelters and gives another chance at life to dogs and cats that otherwise would be killed. ARF provides the care and attention they need, including spay or neuter surgery, until ARF finds them a new home of their own.

ARF's People Connect programs strengthen the human animal bond for the elderly, residents of assisted living centers, teens at juvenile hall, high school students, grade school students and young children through programs that are national models of excellence. ARF programs allow people to experience the unconditional love and acceptance of dogs and cats. People Rescuing Animals...Animals Rescuing People...®

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