

BHEF Asks Parents for Contributions

By Lauren Creamer
Courier Staff

A call for help has been made to Beverly Hills Unified School District parents and community members, asking for contributions to the Beverly Hills Education Foundation (BHEF).

In response to a reduction in funding from the State of California to the BHUSD, the Board of Education voted 5-0 to make reductions, cutting \$2.7 million out of the budget.

BHEF President Maralee Beck says everyone should help keep the schools financially sound.

See ('BHEF,' page 13)

Affaire in the Garden Will Mark 30 Years

The Affaire in the Garden Art show on May 17th and 18th will celebrate thirty years this year and will kick-off with a VIP anniversary party on May 9th and an art show in the Municipal Gallery.

According to Recreation and Parks Director Steve Miller, the show will feature Mayor's Purchase award pieces which have accumulated over the 30 years of the show's history and been featured throughout the city since the show's inception. It will begin May 12th, continue through the 18th and be open limited hours.

"This year's event will be slightly expanded," Miller said. "We are renovating the park area on

See ('Garden,' page 13)



SHOWING GREAT COURAGE—Fashion designer Stella McCartney (center) was honored with "The Courage Award" at the 7th Annual "An Unforgettable Evening" gala held at the Beverly Wilshire Hotel. Sponsored by Saks Fifth Avenue and Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, the annual event raised \$1.5 million for Cedars-Sinai Research for Women's Cancers. McCartney was recognized for her ongoing crusade to raise awareness for the cause. Her mother, Linda McCartney, lost her two-year battle with breast cancer in 1998. Pictured above (with McCartney) are Honorary Event Chair Rita Wilson (left) and Faith Hill (right), who supplied the evening's spectacular entertainment. Over the past eight years, Saks Fifth Avenue and Cedars-Sinai Research for Women's Cancers have raised over \$15 million for research toward a cure for gynecologic and breast cancers.

Photo by Alex Berliner

BHHS Principal Bushman Retires

By Norma Zager

After careful consideration, Beverly Hills Principal Ben Bushman has decided to retire at the end of this school year.

In a letter sent to his staff Thursday, Bushman cited the reasons for his decision and thanked everyone for their years of service.

Bushman began his teaching career at Long Beach Poly High School in 1963 as a teacher and coach. He came to BHHS in September, 1965 as a teacher and football coach. From 1972-1980 he was athletic director, then director of student activities from 81-83. From 83-89 he was assistant principal and became principal in 1989.

See ('Bushman,' page 10)

BH Celebs Tie on a Yellow Ribbon

A contingency of celebrities led by Loma Luft, Alana Stewart, Ann Turkel and Nancy Sinatra are spearheading an effort to "tie one on" in Beverly Hills. On Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. they will begin at Will Rogers Park on Sunset and Beverly Drive and move down Beverly, tying yellow ribbons on the trees.

The list of celebrities continues to grow and Luft insists that many Hollywood celebrities want to show support for the troops.

Luft and her group are asking people to put their politics aside and join neighbors and stars in lining the trees with ribbons.

See ('Yellow Ribbon,' page 20)



CROHN'S & COLITIS FOUNDATION HONOREES—At the Los Angeles Chapter of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America's 27th Annual "Miracle of Laughter" dinner, Judy Resnick (left) was honored with the organization's Humanitarian Award, and Dr. Oliver Goldsmith received the Physician of the Year Award. Chapter president Cathy Greenly (right) did the honors.



THE GIFT OF MUSIC—Music Center Board Chair Andrea Van de Kamp (left) announced a \$2.5 million gift from longtime Music Center supporters Larry and Eris Field (right) of Beverly Hills at a ceremony, launching construction on Grand Avenue for the county's Pedestrian Improvement Project.

Photo by Howard Pasamanick

CRYPTOREALISM *and its creator* DAVOOD ROOSTAEI

A phenomenon is making rounds through the current international art scene. Its name: "Cryptorealism". Its creator: Davood Roostaei.

Critics, agents and other vanguard members of the art elite have been taken by surprise by this new art movement. Incredible, they whisper, that after all the artistic revolutions of the centuries, all originating in the West, a man should step into the spotlight upon the exalted stage of world art hailing from, of all places, the far off esoteric East. Davood is an artist who wants to revolutionize the present art epoch. He is the one who nonchalantly casts aside all the rules of post-modernism to give birth to a brand new stylistic direction.

There are no doubts that this artist could ever be pigeonholed into prevailing commercial enterprises. He is an eccentric, a man teeming with ecstasy, a spiritually charged energy source. In contrast to all the stars presently in vogue in today's conventional art world, he is deeply consumed by a vision. He wants to convey a message, and his artistic ability to convey this message is equally as grand and provoking to the droves of critics as is his highly self-confident style.

Just over forty years old, Davood Roostaei is already a legend. Even his heritage is the stuff of legends. Davood is of royal heritage, his family line that of the Qadjar Dynasty which ruled Persia from 1798 to 1925. He was born in the city of Sarah, right in the very middle of Persia. Translated into English, the name of this city means "mirage", and was not so named without reason. The hot desert wind swirling through the region meets with the cool moist air descending from the mountains to create a daily delight of the most magnificent mirages. Imaginary pictures, in which near and far, dreams and reality, the here and now and the hereafter continually evolve and merge into one another, a wondrous cryptorealistic play of imagery.

Davood Roostaei is an artist of many faces and facades. He looks like a matador, further encouraged by his fondness for donning the attire of one; yet at other times he will emphatically swathe himself within meager Sufi garb. He is Saint Martin, sharing his coat with the beggar, and he is a man of highest peerage, moving easily within the circles of the mighty rich and famous as one of their own. He has shaken hands with more than just a few of the main players in this world, and he has painted their portraits—never showing disrespect, yet only rarely depicting them in a flattering light.

Collections of cryptorealistic paintings were shown in Berlin, Amsterdam, St. Petersburg, Paris—at the noble Hotel de Criloin near the Elysee Palace—Beverly Hills Hotel, Friars Club of California, etc. Huge response returned by the international art world was noted during a private showing at the Metropol Palace in Monte Carlo. Despite his successes enjoyed on the European art stage, celebration of the headstrong magical painter from the East as a star, Davood Roostaei preserved his intellectual and spiritual independence. He never allowed himself to be led astray from his own chosen path. His relationship to the demimonde of the rich and beautiful is double-edged. Their imperfect luster, their deceiving appearances, their morbid twilight fascinates him as much as it repels him. After all, he himself comes from a fairy-tale family which once commanded fantastic wealth.

Davood Roostaei has continually drawn attention to his artistic concept with spectacular charity actions. What he gives for beneficent purposes, he gives with his whole heart. In the last 15 years he has dedicated the profits of more than five million dollars and numerous paintings to world charities, youth and educational organizations.

Just in 1996, he dedicated the profits of \$100,000 from his painting "Day of Freedom" to the University Hospital of Hamburg. That same year, \$50,000 was donated for the benefit of the cancer-stricken children, nuclear power accident victims in Chernobyl and young heart patients and the hospice movement.

In 2000, the City of Hamburg bought his painting "Light and Shadow" for \$300,000, and he dedicated the profit to the city's orphanage.

In 2001 he elaborately painted entire automobiles, which were then auctioned to benefit AIDS relief and which both brought in six-figure sums.

Last year he donated his paintings to many different youth organizations over the world, including the Youth Support Institute of America.

Davood Roostaei doesn't paint for the benefit of his own fame, but for the benefit of the higher fame of God, the greatest of all artists. Thus, he is constantly striving to broaden the vocabulary he bases his art upon with new means of expression. His paintings reveal further nuances when rotated or turned, each new angle of viewing imparting new insights. Depending on one's distance, the illumination or the angle of viewing, these paintings appear in a whole new light.

As we've entered a new century, a new millennium, Davood Roostaei gives art visionary and prophetic inspiration to accompany it on its further journey. His paintings are departures for new shores, bridges across the planetary age. Davood Roostaei revolutionizes perspective once again in his cryptorealistic art. He brings the remote, enraptured and cryptic into the foreground and pushes the evident and apparent into the background. He embraces the symbol, the transparency and transcendence of the visible world.

Awards he has received include the Diamond Award of 1998, (Germany), Ambassador Award of 2000 by the Jewish Federation, (Germany) and many more. Together with the Car Design King George Barris, the Director of famed memory Stanley Kramer, legendary Jermaine Jackson, international phenomena artist Davood Roostaei was honored at the 1st Annual Golden Youth Awards Black Tie Dinner Gala in association with the Petersen Automotive Museum, at the Friars Club (Beverly Hills) on December 7th, 2002.

He presented his unique collection and received the Golden Youth Revolution in Visual Arts Award 2002.

INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN ARTIST DAVOOD ROOSTAEI attended the 12th Annual Night of 100 Stars Oscar Gala for the benefit of Martin Scorsese's Film (preservation) Foundation at the Beverly Hills Hotel.

Davood joined almost 200 Academy stars that attended this event and helped raise \$200,000 for the Foundation.

"We are truly elated that Davood Roostaei celebrated with us the art of acting in America. We are pleased that he has chosen us and by his presence aids in the preservation of our nation's motion picture film stock," stated Edward Lozzi, Media Coordinator for The Night of 100 Stars Oscar Gala.

Over 100 from around the world media covered the red carpet event including Entertainment Tonight, Access Hollywood, E-Entertainment Television, AMC, Reuters Television, Hollywood Reporter, Daily Variety, People Magazine, Us Weekly, In Touch Magazine, Wireimages.com, the BBC, RTL German Television, LA Weekly, Entertainment Weekly, ABC's Good Morning America, NY Daily News, New York Post, the Armed Forces Network, and too many more to mention. The Daily News stated, "This Oscar party is the biggest of all."

For additional information about Cryptorealism and its creator Davood Roostaei write to GoldenYouth2002@aol.com or visit www.davoodroostaei.com

Photos by Alex Idelman



Davood Roostaei and Irwin M. Shaeffer



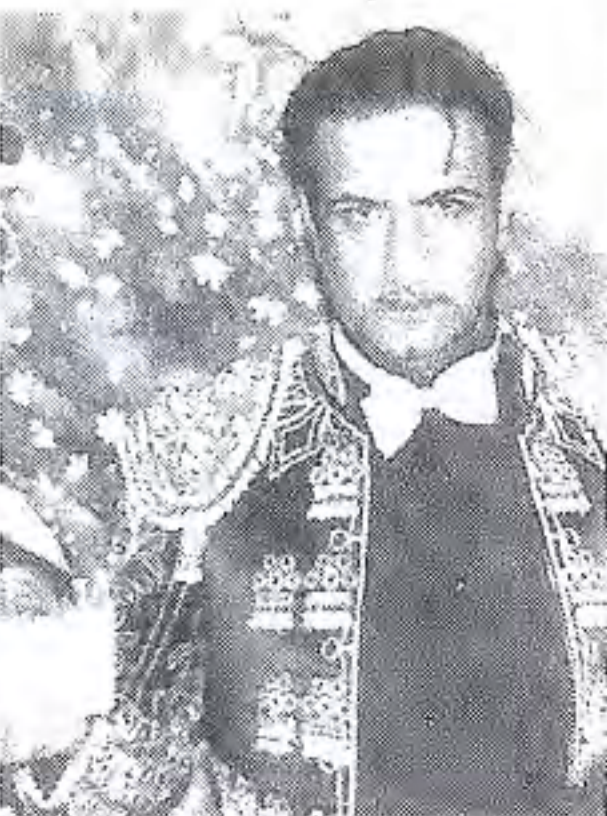
Jack Rourke, Davood Roostaei with his Friend



Boris Brezhnev, Mr. Blackwell, Ida Myers and Davood Roostaei



Norby Walters, Davood Roostaei and Boris Brezhnev



Davood Roostaei



Lou Ferigno, Davood Roostaei and Edward Lozzi



Davood Roostaei and Elizabeth Von Schlesinger