

For Immediate Release

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## **ORCHESTRATION! TAKES ITS FINAL BOW** **Musical Instruments Support Local Arts Groups**

Livermore, CA — (NOVEMBER 13, 2007) — An enthusiastic crowd of art and music lovers spent the afternoon in the Bankhead Theater on Sunday, November 4th, where the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center's *Orchestration!* instruments, 47 one-of-kind works of art, were displayed for the final one-day exhibition and auction. The event reception included hors d'oeuvres from Zephyr Grill & Bar and wines from Wood Family Vineyards, as well as an opportunity to meet some of the participating artists. Bidding gained momentum when Margene Rivara's guitar "Days of Wine and Roses," designed with Tiffany Copper Foil Technique and Swarovski crystals, went on the auction block. Jeffrey M. Cohen topped the afternoon's action with a final bid on Margene's guitar of \$28,500.



*Artist Margene Rivara with Auction Winner Jeffrey M. Cohen*

Auction proceeds will support the Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton and the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, with an honorarium returned to each of the artists in recognition of their work. Pleasanton Cultural Arts Foundation Campaign Director Debbie Look notes, "We were thrilled to partner with the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center for the *Orchestration!* project, knowing that the proceeds will benefit the entire Tri-Valley region. The new Bankhead Theater in Livermore and the planned Firehouse Arts Center in Pleasanton will provide complementary arts and cultural experiences for all of our residents to enjoy."

Len Alexander, LVPAC's Executive Director, added, "The *Orchestration!* project provided both LVPAC and the Firehouse Arts Center with a unique and amazing platform to help introduce the two new arts centers to the greater Tri-Valley. We were delighted and honored to receive so many wonderful artistic creations from the community's professional and volunteer artists. The scope, complexity and imaginative interpretations of the instruments underscore the vitality and excitement of both the visual and performing arts in the Valley. Special thanks go to the many volunteers and artists who worked on the project and to LVPAC staff members Françoise Bousset and Nancy McKenzie who oversaw the logistics of acquiring and preparing the instruments for the initial and final exhibits."

*Orchestration!* invited artists and individuals in Pleasanton, Livermore, Dublin, San Ramon, Danville and Sunol to create their own unique or whimsical masterpiece — an artistic musical instrument. Submissions were painted, decorated or creatively transformed through a variety of artistic means and ranged from a violin transformed into a magical bird, a guitar made of glass, Cynthia Lait's "Cello Submarine," a "You are My Sunshine" banjo and almost every conceivable idea in between!

*Orchestration!* was coordinated by representatives from LVPAC, the Livermore Art Association, the Pleasanton Art League, the Pleasanton Cultural Arts Foundation, Livermore Chamber of Commerce, Livermore Downtown Inc., as well as citizens from each community. Artists were selected through a jury process. Following the initial exhibit at LVPAC's Bothwell Arts Center last spring, the instruments were displayed throughout the Tri-Valley to help raise awareness of both the Firehouse Arts Center and the Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center.

For more information please visit <http://www.livermoreperformingarts.org>.

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