

# Benefitting Sunflower Hill

July 23, 2021

Bankhead Theater

# THANK YOU

#### **Dear Sunflower Hill Supporters,**

Welcome to the Sunflower Showcase! Thank you for celebrating with us this evening! We're very thankful to have so many supporters joining us virtually and in person as we raise funds to support the mission and vision of Sunflower Hill!

This past year has underscored the importance of staying connected to the people we love, having places where we feel like we belong, and finding ways to continue to grow and develop. We have felt your support and enthusiasm each step of the way and have truly enjoyed celebrating each success together.

We're excited to have robust programmatic offerings onsite at Irby Ranch, at the Sunflower Hill Garden, and virtually. A parent of one of our program participants recently shared with me that her son has learned important kitchen skills in our Cooking with Teacher Abby series. She said that the class has enabled her son to feel confident that he can now cook on his own - and be successful in his newfound independence!

The need for housing options is great, and we are working diligently to partner with developers to create additional housing choices for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. To that end, we're thrilled to be moving forward with a new community in Lafayette and have a very strong potential for one in Dublin. Your support ensures that we are able to continue this meaningful work!

We're very grateful to all of you, our donors, volunteers, Board Members, and Committee Members for being a part of Sunflower Hill. We hope you find the program this evening inspiring!

All my best,

Edie Nehls
Sunflower Hill Executive Director





# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### 6:00 PM

Check-In for VIP Ticket-Holders
VIP Reception | Art Show | Silent Auction | Wine Toss Game

#### 7:00 PM

Check-In For Starring Role & Supporting Cast Ticket-Holders
Art Show | Silent Auction | Wine Toss Game
Guests begin to take their seats in the theater

#### 7:30 PM

Program Begins
Heads & Tails Game in the theater
Silent Auction Closed
Bar Closed

#### 7:45 PM

Virtual Guests Tune-In

#### 8:00 PM

Futures Explored Short Film on "Inclusion"
"Living Independently" Remarks from Jennifer Crandall, Irby Ranch Resident

#### 8:15 PM

Live Auction

#### 8:45 PM

Sunflower Hill Year-in-Review Video Fund-A-Need

#### 9:00 PM

Performance by Kodi Lee, America's Got Talent Season 14 Winner

#### 9:30 PM

Raffles Winners Announced Program Concludes





# PROGRAM INFORMATION

### **Celebrity Emcee**

Regina Stoops: Comedian, Writer, and Award-Winning Storyteller

#### "Inclusion" Film

Futures Explored Film & Media Studio Students

### Remarks on Living Independently

Jennifer Crandall, Irby Ranch Resident

#### Live Auction & Fund-a-Need

Damon Casatico, Auctioneer

### **Musical Performance**

Kodi Lee, Season 14 Winner of America's Got Talent





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Brian Joyce and Kimberly McFadden















# **Regina Stoops**Celebrity Emcee & Comedian, Writer, and Award-Winning Storyteller

Comedian, award-winning storyteller, and writer Regina Stoops takes her audience on an entertaining journey through a life filled with so many causes she has run out of room on her car's bumper. Her

thought provoking honesty and humor are the perfect foil for a life of adversity, diversity and suburban chaos.



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#### **Futures Explored**

#### Film & Media Studio Students

Futures Explored Film and Media Studio offers a vocational program for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, designed to provide working knowledge of film production and then build upon those skills with continuing studio participation.



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# Jennifer Crandall Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch Resident

Jennifer, who is deaf, is an Irby Ranch resident who has been living independently for four years. She participates in nearly all Irby Ranch activities and encourages other residents to

participate, using her confidence and enthusiasm as a great mentoring tool to help other residents overcome social hurdles.

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# Damon Casatico Auctioneer

Damon founded Charity Benefit Auctions in 1993. While Damon gets a lot of attention for his night of auction performances, it's his time spent with clients that he credits most for his

success. It is Damon's belief that, "if you don't know who you are raising the money for and how it will be spent, then you aren't going to be very compelling."







#### Kodi Lee

#### Season 14 Winner, America's Got Talent

Tonight's headline entertainer is a 25-year old blind and autistic musical prodigious savant who is one of only approximately 25 people in the world today who possess his extraordinary



abilities. His gift helps bring awareness to autism and many other charitable organizations around the world. He has performed at Carnegie Hall in New York City, has received over 50 million views on YouTube and was personally invited to perform at Tony Robbins' 60th birthday party. Kodi will be joined on stage after a few songs by his younger brother, Derek. Derek has been performing with Kodi for many years, and he currently shares the stage with Kodi with his guitar and smooth harmonies. Derek is also currently pursuing an acting career in Hollywood so keep an eye out for him!

# Jean King





#### Jennifer Crandall

Jennifer is a resident at Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch and enjoys participating in cooking classes with Chef Claudia. Prior to her move to Pleasanton, she was a regular volunteer at the San Jose Martin Luther King, Jr. Library for 23 years. Jennifer's



hobbies include crafting, babysitting at her church, sewing, knitting, cooking, puzzling, visiting the Pleasanton Farmer's Market, working on her family history, and teaching sign language. Jennifer is a versatile artist, and she enjoys using paint, brushes, stickers, hot glue, feathers, markers, clay, and pottery when creating her art. Jennifer especially enjoys making holiday crafts and teaching others the joy of crafting.

#### **Della Dixon**

Della loves living at Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch. When asked about her experience as an Irby Ranch resident she responded, "I love it here! I feel at peace here. I feel free and accepted that I have friends here." Della enjoys painting and cooking, especially her favorite dish of enchiladas. Della enjoys using oil, acrylic,



watercolor, and sometimes chalk and pastels to create her art. When reflecting on her creative process, Della expressed that "I want people to enjoy my art and creativity. When I paint, I think about how I'm feeling at the moment. The artwork describes my emotions. It helps me feel positive and encourages me to enjoy my life."





#### **Shannon Fogarty**

Shannon is an Administrative Assistant for Sunflower Hill, and she is also an Irby Ranch resident. In her spare time, Shannon loves creating arts and crafts activities, going for walks, exercising, making new friends, and cooking with her support worker. Shannon likes her art to be bright and cheery, and she generally uses different types of liquid paint or acrylic markers,



colored pencils, and glitter pens on construction paper or poster board paper. Shannon provided the following commentary about her two art pieces: "I chose a nature heart art display because it's in the shape of a heart. I selected different pictures of flowers from actual pictures I took. In the middle I added another flower to make everything shiny. The second piece is from an online activity with different types of flowers, including sunflowers. I love to be artistic and creative with different types of plants and flowers."

#### Paul Ford

Paul attends the RES Success Community Based
Day Program, and he is a former Sunflower Hill
Garden Program participant. In his spare time, Paul
enjoys visiting libraries and perusing mathematics
and music books. Paul's mother taught him how to
play the piano, and he has been playing every day
since he was 4 years old. His favorite piece of
music to play is Mitch Miller's "March From The River Kwai."







#### **Patrick Harkins**

Patrick attends the Kaleidoscope Day Program in Dublin and also participants in Sunflower Hill's Cooking with Teacher Abby series. Patrick also volunteers with Kaleidoscope and the SPCA.

In his spare time, he enjoys listening to all kinds of music, dance, riding in his family's side-by-side off-road toy, bowling, Zumba, cooking, eating, and visiting Lake Tahoe.

Patrick uses paints, crayons, pencils, paper, and sometimes objects to create his art. He feels like creating is another way for him to talk. Patrick also likes using his hands to make things.







#### **Robby Houghton**

Robby Houghton is a young man with moderate autism who has been drawing and painting since the age of 5. A resident of Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch, Robby has participated in various garden programs, cooking classes and popcorn chats. He also served as a dishwasher at Stable Café. He loves dancing, music, bowling, swimming, celebrating holidays and all things Disney. His



preferred art medium is acrylic markers, allowing him to visually depict intricate details. He specializes in painting garden stakes, Christmas trees, gourds, rocks and birdhouses. His work is currently on display at Studio Seven Gallery in downtown Pleasanton.

His displayed art for the Showcase is:

A Sunflower Day – an original painting that was accepted by the City of Pleasanton in 2015 for inclusion in the utility box beautification project. Robby's box is at the corner of Case and Valley Avenues, directly across the street from Phoebe Hearst Elementary.

Ready to Garden! – a collection of the various garden stakes Robby specializes in.

Got Rocks? - Whimsical garden rocks featuring beloved characters and holiday favorites.

Grey Cat Birdhouse - Let's hope the cat is not too hungry!





#### Becca Lengyel

Becca currently attends the RES Success Community Day Program and participates in the Hands-On Garden Groups at the Sunflower Hill Garden, and Cooking Classes with Teacher Abby. Becca's hobbies are creating art, playing video games, card games, building with Legos, Dungeons & Dragons manuals and role play. She also assists her grandmother with



her exercise program. Becca uses pencils, pens, paints, mostly acrylics, and glow-in-the-dark and metallic finishes, chalk (sculpted), recycled items, canvas, paper, and refinished items, such as acorns, stones, shells, wood.

Becca shared the following commentary on the pieces she selected to display at the Sunflower Showcase:

The fairy house sculpture is made of chalk, metal wiring, paint and enamel sealant. This image popped into my head and I decided to make this as a personal challenge. I craft mostly to meet personal challenges and as a form of relaxation.

The painting of the comet was based on my interest in science and hones the technique of painting light on a dark background.

I created the griffin painting to hone my precision in line, perspective and realism. I like mythical creatures and like to create my own creatures too.





#### Jessi Pagán

Jessi is a recent graduate of the Roy Johnson Adult Transition Program in Castro Valley. She will be attending the Project SEARCH Program through the Pleasanton Unified School District in September. She enjoys baking, playing the piano and drawing. This is her first time playing at a fundraising event.



#### Paulo Pilarta

Paulo attends the RES Success Community Based Day Program, and he is a former Sunflower Hill Garden Program participant. Paulo enjoys playing and collecting video games, drawing, exercising with his elliptical exerciser, and journaling. Paulo enjoys creating art with watercolor, crayons, colored pencils, colored markers, and sharpie pens. Paulo had the following commentary to share about his art pieces



that he has chosen to display at the Sunflower Showcase:

The first 2 paintings I drew and painted are Chocolate Hills in Bohol with chocolate chips and M&Ms candy on the side, and Mount Mayon Volcano and Casgawa Church Ruins with a few notable additions like the Bahay Kubo.

The last painting is basically a purple sunset of Halfmoon Bay's Poplar Beach with some neat additions and extra detail on the picture. Yes, there are some flaws and some imperfections, like my grammar, but I hope they'll appreciate my pictures."



#### Peter Truelsen

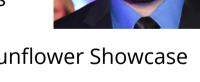
Peter attends the RES Success Community Based Day Program, and he is also a former Sunflower Hill Garden Program participant. In his spare time, Peter enjoys listening to the music of Leo Rojas and looking at science and airplane books. Peter primarily uses pens, Sharpie markers, paper, and canvas to create his artwork. Peter has a strong interest in computers, drones, sonars, robots, and



remote-controlled technology, and he enjoys making schematic drawings of his inventions.

#### Chris Wagner

Chris is a resident at Sunflower Hill at Irby Ranch and a student at Las Positas College. He also has a part-time job at Lucky's. In his spare time, he enjoys writing, playing Uno, hiking, bowling, and seeing movies. Chris remarks that he enjoys making words connect when he writes poetry. He feels his poems



come from the heart, and he hopes guests at the Sunflower Showcase enjoy his poetry as much as he does.





# **AUCTION DONORS**

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Alyson Johnson at Bella Fresh Salon
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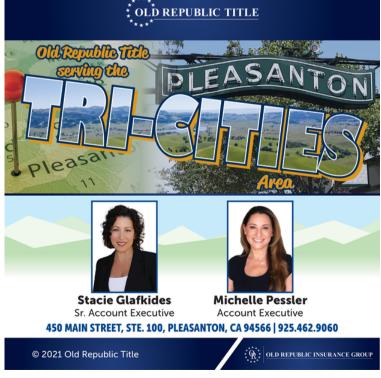
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The Blake Muller Family

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Many thanks to the Sunflower Hill Garden Volunteers and Program Participants who arranged the flower bouquets!





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# SUNFLOWER HILL STAFF

**Rachel Clark, Communications & Administration Manager** Andrea del Rio, Garden Manager **Shannon Fogarty, Administrative Assistant** Pratimajit Kaur, Residential Programs Manager Abby Lourenco, Programs Manager, Non-Residential **Edie Nehls, Executive Director** Sarah Renton, Advancement Coordinator Michael Roberts, Annual Giving Manager Rebecca Speakman, Administrative & HR Coordinator Caitee Valdez, Residential Programs Coordinator Pamela Zielske, Advancement Director





# **AUCTION CHECKOUT**

#### **Thank You For Bidding Generously!**

#### **Check Out Information - In Person Guests:**

Check out is simple. All auction, raffle, or wine toss winners are required to make payment at the end of the event. You have the choice of checking out yourself by simply scanning the QR code on your paddle and entering your credit card information. Upon check out, you will receive a receipt, which you can take to one of our tables in the lobby to claim your items. If you need assistance with check out, or if you would prefer to pay by check or cash, please proceed to the lobby, and one of our staff members or volunteers will be able to assist you.

#### **Check Out Information - Virtual Guests:**

All virtual guests will be able to check out from home. Sunflower Hill staff will be contacting you early next week to make arrangements to pick up your items at our office.









# **AUCTION RULES**

#### **AUCTION RULES**

Thank you for participating in the games, auction and paddle raise in support of Sunflower Hill! Please take a moment to review the bidder rules. All bidders must be registered with PayBee. In person bidders will in turn be issued a paddle number with which to bid. In events in which participants use paddles to make bids--done so by holding them in a way that's visible to the auctioneer--only those bidders holding paddles will be allowed to place bids.

#### All Items Sold "As Is"

All items are generally sold "as is," without guarantee made to their value, function or genuineness. For this reason, items are often offered up for inspection for a period prior to bidding.

#### The Auctioneer Determines Bidding

The auctioneer is the only party allowed to determine that a bid has been placed. If an auctioneer misses a bid, the missed party has no right to have the bid reinstated.

#### **Item Values Are Estimates**

Most items offered at auction are given an estimated value by the auction donor. This valuation is only an estimate and is not a guarantee of the object's resale value or its worth.

#### **Auction House Holds No Liability**

Once an object has been legally transferred over to the winning bidder, the auction house ceases holding any liability over the object. Any damages incurred due to its use or misuse is not the auction house's responsibility.

#### **Items May Be Removed from Bidding**

Although items may be listed in a catalog as being available for bidding, the auction house generally reserves the right to remove items from bidding at any time, for any reason.

#### **Items Must Be Taken Away After Purchase**

All items successfully purchased by the bidder must be removed by the winning bidder within a time period set out beforehand by the auction house. The expenses incurred in moving the item are the winning bidder's alone.

#### **Bids May Be Disqualified or Rejected**

The auction house reserves the right to disqualify or reject any bids made during or after the auction, for any reason.

#### You Must Pay Immediately

Most auction houses require that winning bidders pay all or part of the winning bid immediately after the auction. Failure to do so may result in financial penalties or the forfeiture of the item.

#### The Auctioneer Has Final Say

All disputes over matters related to bidding are referred to the auctioneer, who has final say.





# **AUCTION RULES**

#### **AUCTION RULES CONTINUED**

#### **Bidder Eligibility**

You must be at least 18 years of age and able to form legally binding contracts under applicable law, unless purchasing alcohol. All bids made on items that contain alcohol or involve the tasting of alcohol, must be made by individuals 21 years of age or older.

#### **Auction Close**

If an item is offered for online pre-bidding only, then bidding for the item will continue during a silent/live event auction and Auction Close refers to the end of bidding during the silent/live event auction. Otherwise, Auction Close means the end of online bidding or the end of online fixed-price item sale for the item.

#### Your Bid or Purchase is a Contract

When you place a bid on an online auction item, you enter into a legally binding contract to purchase the item from the seller if you are the winning bidder. You are the winning bidder if your bid is the highest bid at Auction Close and your bid is accepted by the seller. When you purchase a fixed-price item, you enter into a legally binding contract to purchase the item from the seller.

#### **Payment Terms**

If you are a winning bidder or purchase a fixed-price item, you agree to pay the seller the full amount of your winning bid (for biddable items) or the sale price (for fixed-price items) plus any applicable sales or use tax on your purchase, as well as any applicable shipping or delivery charges. You agree to honor the seller's requirements regarding method and time of payment.

#### Seller's Terms

When you place a bid on an online auction item or purchase a fixed-price item, you are agreeing to any specific terms and conditions imposed by the seller and included by the seller in the item's description (except in the case that such terms would violate the law.

#### All Bids are Final

Once you have placed and confirmed a bid, your bid can not be retracted (except in the case that the completion of the transaction would violate the law.

#### All Purchases are Final

Once you have confirmed a purchase, your purchase is final and cannot be canceled (except in the case that the completion of the transaction would violate the law.

#### **Tied Bids**

In the case of two bidders placing the same maximum bid, the bid first received by the PayBee system will be deemed the leading bid.

#### **Government Regulations and Taxes**

You are solely responsible for compliance with any federal, state or local tax laws governing your purchase. It is your responsibility to report and pay any applicable taxes. We suggest you consult a professional tax adviser.



# Thank you for your support!

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