Written by Karah Van Kammen



The stage is set for Valley Youth Theatre's annual fundraising event, VYTal Affair on Saturday, August 19th beginning at 5:30pm at Herberger Theater Center. The 2017 gala, Soirée in the Swap is themed after Valley Youth Theatre's current production of SHREK THE MUSICAL. The fantasy filled evening will feature cocktails, heavy hors d'oeuvres, silent and live auctions, and "Shrek-takular" musical performances by stars of Valley Youth Theatre.

Established in 1989, Valley Youth Theatre (VYT) is an award-winning, professional quality, non-profit theatre dedicated to helping young people achieve their full potential through meaningful engagement, education and excellence in the performing arts. Alumni include award-winning celebrities like Emma Stone, Jordin Sparks, Kimiko Glenn, Chelsea Kane, Charity Dawson, Krystina Alabado and many others.

VYT is the winner of nearly 100 National Youth Arts awards, voted "Best Star-Making Machine" and "Best Live Theater" on <u>azcentral.com</u>, heralded as "Best Place to Take a Bow" by Phoenix Magazine and rated one of the "Top Ten Places to Become a Future Star" by The Arizona Republic. VYT produces six main stage shows each season including two at the Herberger Theater Center. The annual event is a wonderful opportunity to support a local non-profit as well as experience the talent of the young stars of VYT.

"This is our 18th year presenting VYTal Affair, our premier fundraising event," says Bobb Cooper, Producing Artistic Director of Valley Youth Theatre. "Not only does Valley Youth Theatre offer the opportunity to perform, but most importantly, we offer a safe, supportive, positive environment in which youth learn time management, teamwork, presentation skills, and build self-esteem. The funds raised at VYTal Affair are indeed vital to our operation so that we may continue to inspire children to be the best that they can be!"

Ticket prices are \$250 or \$125 depending on seating for the performance. For more information or to purchase tickets call the Valley Youth Theatre Box Office at (602) 253.8188 Monday thru Friday 10am – 4pm or visit www.vyt.com.