



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 25, 2015

LOS ALTOS STAGE COMPANY

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**Los Altos Stage and Los Altos Youth Theatre
to co-present Chitty Chitty Bang Bang**

Los Altos Stage Company (LASC) proudly announces its second co-production and collaborative project with the Los Altos Youth Theatre (LAYT), *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*. A family musical production including both youth and adult performers, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* opens at the Bus Barn Theater in Los Altos on July 17 and runs through August 2, 2015.

Originally billed as “the most phantasmagorical musical in the history of everything,” *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* is a fantastic musical adventure featuring an out-of-this world car that flies through the air and sails the seas. It tells the story of eccentric inventor Caractacus Potts who, with the help of his children, Jeremy and Jemima, and the ever-lovely Truly Scrumptious, sets about saving a former Grand Prix-winning race car from the scrap heap. Soon they discover the car has magical properties, including the ability to float and take flight! After word gets out about its extraordinary abilities, trouble ensues when the evil Baron Bomburst decides he wants it all to himself, launching Caractacus, Jeremy, Jemima, and Truly on a series of high-flying high jinx to save the miraculous motorcar.

Based on the timeless novel by famed James Bond author and creator Ian Fleming, the production features the music and lyrics by the legendary Sherman brothers, composers of *Mary Poppins*, and features an original script and fresh adaptation for the stage by Ray Roderick and Jeremy Sams. This stage adaptation of *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* features a beloved score, including memorable classics such as *Truly Scrumptious*, *Toot Sweets*, *Hushabye Mountain* and the Oscar-nominated title song, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*.

In addition to the production, LASC and LAYT are providing the youth performers with a deeper educational experience through a series of intensive performance workshops taught by the adult performers in the production, all skilled educators. Through this combination production/workshop format, participating youth have the unique opportunity to work and learn alongside professional actor/educators in a fully produced, high-quality production. The actor/educators serve as coaches and mentors to the younger performers, providing invaluable instruction and encouragement throughout the rehearsals and performances.

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang is directed by Jillian Toby Cummings, a local actor, director, and teacher who has staged productions at Los Altos Youth Theatre, Theatre in the Mountains, and schools throughout the South Bay. Adult actor/teachers include Gary Beyton as Grandpa Potts; Danny Martin as Caractacus Potts; and Deborah Rosengaus as Truly Scrumptious.

Twenty-five local youth divided into two separate casts fill out the production, including: Adam Fallick and Alexander Sanchez as Jeremy Potts; and Megan Branstad and Sophia Sturiale as Jemima Potts. Additional youth performers include: Nils Forstall, Anna Feenstra, Catrina Riordan, Ellen Schwartz, Rachel Bratt, Madeleine Meier, Rohan Kumar, Suhail Kumar, Jamie Minden, Anjali Ramanathan, Logan Ramanathan, Jenna Haynie, Paige Hom, Adrian Carter, Summer Vance, Chris Blake, Sam Saunders, Bella Sturiale, Micaela DeVincenzi, and Rachel Minden.

Performances are Thursday through Saturday evenings at 7:30 pm (excluding Thurs, 7/30), and Saturday and Sunday matinees at 2 pm. An additional performance will be held on Wednesday July 29 at 7:30 pm. Ticket prices are \$15 for youth/senior and \$20 for adult.

Opening night gala tickets for July 17, which include a festive garden party reception immediately following the performance, are \$30 for youth/senior and \$40 for adult. Twenty dollars of each gala ticket is a tax deductible donation that goes directly to supporting this project.

Tickets are available on-line at www.losaltosstage.org or by calling the Los Altos Stage Company Box Office at 650-941-0551.

The Los Altos Stage Company is a quintessential American neighborhood playhouse, serving Los Altos and the greater South Bay area, and paying tribute to the full canon of American musicals, comedies, and dramas. This 20-year-old theater company strives to bring together a diversity of theater enthusiasts, practitioners, and supporters to create, explore and celebrate the rich tapestry of American culture and experience through live theater. The Los Altos Stage produces five to six shows annually at its intimate 99-seat theater located on the Los Altos Civic Center campus.

The Los Altos Youth Theatre is an educational theater program of the City of Los Altos dedicated to developing skills and interest in the dramatic arts in young people ages 10 to 21. Growing out of a series of theatre programs, and dating back to the beginning of the Los Altos Recreation Program in 1952, LAYT operates year-round, producing three shows per year at the Bus Barn Theater.

If you'd like more information about *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* or this educational project, please call Gary Landis, Executive Director, at Tel: 650-941-5070/Cell: 415-269-7349 or email Gary at [garylandis@losaltosstage.org](mailto:garylendis@losaltosstage.org).

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Calendar Listing

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang

July 17 – August 2, 2015

Los Altos Stage Company and Los Altos Youth Theatre
Bus Barn Theater

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Tickets: \$15-\$20 (excluding opening night)

On the Web: <http://www.losaltosstage.org>

Contact: Box Office: 650-941-0551

