

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Junior League of Oakland-East Bay, Inc. Premier's Artful Living Home Tour 2004 on November 5-6 to Benefit Children at Risk

Inaugural Event Focuses on the Integration of Art and Architecture and Features Homes Designed and Owned by Renowned Bay Area Architects, Contractors and Designers

LAFAYETTE, CA. – Oct. 4, 2004 – The Junior League of Oakland-East Bay, Inc. (JLOEB) is proud to unveil the *Artful Living Home Tour 2004* in Lafayette, California. In partnership with *diablo Magazine*, the JLOEB will offer a special tour on November 5th and 6th of five unique residences built or remodeled by leading Bay Area architects, contractors, and designers. Several of the homes on the tour are the private signature residences of the designers and builders themselves, and all of the artfully designed and meticulously crafted homes are sculpted into their landscapes. All proceeds from the *Artful Living Home Tour 2004* benefit JLOEB's community projects, which focus on *Children at Risk*, including the *Super Stars Literacy Project* at Hoover Elementary School in West Oakland.

"The *Artful Living Home Tour 2004* gives everyone from design enthusiasts to the public a peek into the world of architecturally-distinctive residences in Lafayette, while at the time offering people a terrific way to make a difference in the lives of the children we help everyday," said Dinah MacFarlane, *Artful Living Home Tour 2004* Committee Chair. "The tour is both unique and educational – focusing on an integral perspective of architectural style, landscape design, interior design and/or furnishings – and is sure to spark diverse discussions as well as help inspire tour participants to build or remodel their dream homes."

Home Opener

Prior to unveiling the architecturally rich and diverse tour of homes, the JLOEB will host the *Artful Living Home Tour 2004* Kick-off Party and Shopping Event on Thursday, November 4th from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Lazy K of Orchard Nursery in Lafayette. All proceeds—including ticket sales and 10 percent of all purchases at the Kick-off event—benefit JLOEB's community programs serving *Children at Risk*. Guests will enjoy live music and entertainment, indulge in wine and hors d'oeuvres, and shop amidst festive holiday décor. The evening features live jazz by Afterglow, delicious food prepared by Rick and Ann's Catering of Berkeley, lively libations, wine tasting by Rios Lovell Winery, dessert from Walnut Creek Baking Company, and coffee from Peet's Coffee & Tea. Tickets for this pre-tour event are \$40 per person and include all food and beverages.

Homes Sweet Homes

Artful Living Home Tour 2004 begins Friday, November 5, and continues through Saturday, November 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily. The event requires both walking shoes and driving, but is worth the price of admission as it represents an eclectic selection of homes in a variety of architectural styles. The five featured homes include: a completely-remodeled, California ranch with old-European design and a contemporary flair; a modern residence with sweeping hillside views designed and owned by the architect; an inviting Arts and Crafts revival home built by the owner with quality craftsmanship; a contemporary remodel with Asian antiques and a stunning and, at times, humorous indoor and outdoor art collection; and a charming Cape Cod farmhouse where people will feel like they're on an East Coast vacation in the backyard.

Women Building Better Communities

The Junior League of Oakland-East Bay, Inc. (www.jloeb.org) is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. The JLOEB offers women the opportunity to implement change in the community in three major ways: projects, grants and outreach. The common thread in the JLOEB community work is the League's dedicated mission focusing on *Children at Risk*.

"The Junior League of Oakland-East Bay, Inc. has been dedicating its fundraising and volunteer resources to improving the conditions of vulnerable children and their families in Alameda and Contra Costa counties since 1935," said Sabrina Benjamin, 2004-2005 President, Junior League of Oakland-East Bay, Inc. "The *Artful Living Home Tour 2004* provides an exciting opportunity for members of the community to play a part in the work that we do. Their ticket purchase opens the door to the fun of exploring some of the most beautiful and interesting homes in the area while supporting the League's continued efforts on behalf of children."

Tickets for the *Artful Living Home Tour 2004* are \$30 per person in advance and \$35 on the days of the event. Tickets for both the Kick Off Event and the *Artful Living Home Tour 2004* can be purchased at several East Bay business locations, including: Lazy K of Orchard, and are also available via the JLOEB Website, www.jloeb.org, or by contacting the Junior League office at 925.284.3740.

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