

Variety Children's Charity of Northern California

Variety@Work Fills Metreon Theatre

130 Variety kids and members joined together on Saturday, January 8th, to commandeer a theatre in the for a private VIP screening of *Racing Stripes*. The Metreon gave Variety an exclusive theatre for the kids we serve and our members to come together for a viewing of the newest Warner Brothers family film. Families attended from San Francisco's Raphael House, Hospitality House, La Casa de las Madres, Bay View Hunters Point and a hand full of other shelters and day centers. With last month's screenings of *The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie*, *Coach Carter*, and *The Incredibles*, hundreds of disadvantaged kids from San Jose, San Francisco, and the Peninsula have gotten the chance to gab with their friends about the newest films as they head back to school — one more way Variety is enhancing the lives of children in Northern California.



Foresight 2005: What's Ahead

At Variety the work never ends, and we couldn't be happier! With momentum from advancements made last year, 2005 is stocked with new programs, new funding and more involvement with kids in Northern California. By grabbing hold of our mission and focusing on what we want to achieve, Variety in 2005 will be even more effective at enhancing and saving lives.

The Bay Area has many organizations focused on homeless, abused, in need, and disabled children, but many of these shelters and programs are strapped for money, staff, and resources. Variety supplements these services with programs designed to enhance lives with outings to museums, amusement parks, and contributions of cash where it's needed. Our ongoing program, *Variety@Work*, has an ambitious line-up of monthly outings for disadvantaged kids in 2005, enhancing the lives of the children we serve. We will bump up the number of events we offer, enabling us to reach out to more shelters and centers than ever before.

We are saving lives with immediate funds when families need it the most with our new Emergency Assistance Campaign, to be

publicly kicked off by our first annual Radiothon March 1st & 2nd, on Mix 106.5. This fund provides instant help with costs of education, clothing, gas money or other needs for children with cancer and their families. By focusing on individuals, Variety can arrange fundraisers and member events that other children's resources cannot and we continue to give grants to after school programs and family shelters around the Bay Area. In this facet, our programs are essential to the lives of children in the Bay Area and our fundraisers are vital to children's shelters and centers.

Even with all our new programs and involvements, Variety still holds dear the programs and events we've always offered. We have helped families with premature babies through the *Samantha Marie Memorial Fund*, funded artistic expression in the *Tenderloin* at Hospitality House, and given a healing hand to the kids at the *Sunny Hills Children's Garden*. We are committed to continuing our support through 2005.

With new programs that directly affect lives by supporting shelters and day centers for kids, Variety is the daily vitamin, bolstering activities and funds for shelters, kids, and families in Northern California.

Variety-ebay Challenge!

The Incentive: To raise money for an incredible charity that greatly improves the lives of children in Northern California by selling items on eBay and donating all or a portion of the proceeds to Variety. In addition, the highest generator will win a great gift bag full of prizes and will be featured in one of Variety's forthcoming newsletters! The best time to sell is now, but the deadline is February 28, 2005 to give you a chance to sell those much appreciated but unneeded holiday gifts you've received. GOOD LUCK!

eBay Selling Instructions:

1. Take a few digital photos, draft a description of your items, then go to www.eBay.com
2. Register as an eBay seller, or log on.
3. Look at the list of Categories on the eBay home page and scroll to the bottom. Click on "Giving Works (Charity)"
4. Click on "Sell Now" and choose "Variety Children's Charity of Northern California" - be sure to choose the correct one - other Variety chapters have eBay accounts as well.
5. Click Register with MissionFish.

Upcoming Events

January 19	Film Forum
2004: A Year in Review	
February 19	Chef's Best
Variety's Black Tie Event	
February 23	Board Meeting
Board Meeting	

*If you have difficulty listing your item, email MissionFish customer service. They are extremely helpful.

A Living Legacy: Generosity that Perseveres

Variety Kids face disadvantages everyday, from disability and illness to abuse and homelessness. For over 80 years, your commitment to Variety has helped raise children when an extra hand is needed. A lifetime commitment in service or funding can transform their world, creating a lineage of charity. Your commitment to the community can continue on into the future, and one way to ensure that the children are secure is to make a promise to leave a legacy. By choosing a charity or program that shares your values as a beneficiary, you can commit now to begin effecting change for generations to come.

Mr. Henning supported several important causes that reflected his beliefs during his lifetime, and in preparing for his death, he made sure to leave a legacy by making Variety Children's Charity of Northern California a beneficiary of his estate. On behalf of the children we serve, we honor Mr. Henning for having the foresight, concern and commitment to make a difference in the lives of children through his bequest. The kids of Variety are the children of the community, our children, and to ensure that future generations will succeed, we ask that you please consider leaving a legacy with a charity that expresses your beliefs. If you would like to learn how to leave a legacy in your community, please contact Variety Children's Charity at 415.781.3894, or speak with your financial advisor.