

Variety Children's Charity of Northern California

Chef's Best: A Gala of Giving

On Saturday, February 25, Variety supporters gathered at the St. Regis Hotel for our annual gala, Chef's Best. Under the glittering lights of the St. Regis ballroom, two hundred people came together to raise money and awareness for programs benefiting disabled and disadvantaged children. Through raffles and auctions, both silent and live, Variety supporters generously contributed to causes such as Variety's Emergency Assistance Program/The Mix 106.5 Compassion Fund, run out of the Lucille Packard Children's Hospital, and the Bay Area Outdoor Recreation Program, a weekend recreation program for kids in wheelchairs. During a very special portion of the evening our guest Noah, along with his canine friend Jura, invited guests to show their commitment to providing skilled companion dogs for children with disabilities. This invitation was heeded with on-the-spot donations, garnering a total of \$8,000. As guests sampled cuisine prepared by chefs from around the world and danced to music courtesy of the Rich Martini Band, Variety's annual Chef's Best was enthusiastically celebrated in the spirit of giving.



Variety Helps MacCanDo Tenderloin Track Youth



Club Serve Inner City Kids

Variety loves extending a helping hand to organizations that bolster the morale of disadvantaged children through activities that foster emotional growth, provide peer support, and encourage the meeting of personal challenges. Most of all, Variety

enjoys supporting organizations that give its kids the opportunity to have fun. The MacCanDo Tenderloin Youth Track Club is one of these organizations, and Variety has assisted the club along in its mission to provide a safe and positive club for inner-city kids. As well as supplying the kids with healthy lunches for each meet, Variety helps to encourage team spirit by underwriting the cost of the Club's uniforms. In addition, Variety's Sunshine Coach Program has provided the club with a van for its transportation needs, so that the kids can compete in track meets throughout the city.

Mother's Day Tea Party

Variety invites you to celebrate Mother's Day with a cup of tea in the comforts of your own home. Make a donation in honor of your mother, grandmother, or she who deserves tribute on this special day, and then sit back and enjoy your complimentary cup of tea. Contact Tina at 415.781.3894 for more information.

Kid's Film Series Brings Smiles to Preview Room

Once a month, Variety's Preview Room opens its doors to kids from various San Francisco after school programs, inviting them to view newly released feature films with their classmates and teachers. These kids, many of whom wouldn't otherwise have the opportunity to see films in a movie theater, are able to enjoy a complete theater experience, complete with popcorn and coming attractions. The excitement and enthusiasm that the kids bring with them make these Friday screenings an especially fun event in which to participate. In February we hosted a full house for *Nanny McPhee*, March brought the antics of *Curious George*, and in April we will show *Shaggy Dog*. As Variety hates to send its guests off empty-handed, the kids leave with books, toys and stickers generously donated by local publicists.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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| April 13 | Art Opening <i>Featuring Bay Area artists</i> |
| April 15 | BBF Egg Hunt <i>Blind Babies Foundation Annual Beeper Easter Egg Hunt</i> |
| April 26 | Board Meeting <i>Preview Room 6pm</i> |
| April 27 | <i>Akeelah and the Bee</i> Members' Screening— <i>Preview Room 6:30pm</i> |

Variety Member Profile: Priscilla Williams



Originally from Boston, MA, Priscilla has been involved with Variety for five years. As an usher for the Opera and Symphony, Priscilla is an avid supporter of the arts, and especially loves to volunteer for San Francisco Film Festivals. She is also an experienced traveler, having visited 268 countries.
Favorite film genre: documentary

Year-End Tax Information: If your donations totaled \$250 or more less goods and services, and you have not received a receipt(s) for your tax records, please contact our office at 415.781.3894.