

Variety Children's Charity of Northern California

Who's in the Club? Variety Celebrity Spotting



Laura Dern, of Jurassic Park, The Mask and I Am Sam

From indie film promotions to public service announcements, the Preview Room has been attracting a "who's who" of actors and directors bringing attention to pet projects, political actions and lifetime achievements. Sean Penn was recently spotted shooting a spot in opposition to Proposition L which was on the November 2nd ballot. Shot in our own

Preview Room, the ad was run in the trailers of your favorite local theatre prior to the election. Laura Dern recently followed up Mark Ruffalo's visit with a screening of the award winning *We Don't Live Here Anymore*. After the film, Dern discussed the Sundance winner with the audience. Renowned aerial photographer Robert Cameron and forty guests viewed his classic film *Above San Francisco*. A member of the Royal Photographic Society, Cameron's work documents San Francisco and other cities over the past 70 years from the sky. For information on using the Preview Room contact David Repp at 415.781.3893.

Something Truly Heartfelt

Fruitcakes, sweaters, toasters, socks? What about giving something you know will be appreciated? Give a gift that will make a difference! Make a donation



to Variety Children's Charity in honor of your loved one, neighbor or colleague. We will also provide a free, small gift box, tissue paper and bow. These small tokens will remind your recipient of your great generosity for years to come. The hearts also make cherished party favors, stocking stuffers and place setting décor! While large donations are common, any amount will be appreciated. Donations of at least \$2.00 are necessary to cover the cost of the hearts, packaging and mailing. Any amount over \$2.00 is tax deductible. Simply mail your check to Variety along with a note indicating how many hearts you would like and where to send them.

BBF Holiday Party

Help Variety celebrate the Blind Babies Foundation Tactile Holiday Party on Saturday Dec. 11th. The party is a chance for children with visual impairments and their families to relax and reconnect during the holiday season. BBF (founded by Variety) has been serving children with visual impairments since 1949, and each year BBF kids and their siblings come to play, smell, touch and listen in activities and interactions. Each child receives special one-on-one attention from volunteers,

while parents have a chance to mingle, relax and share family stories and situations. And since no party would be complete without toys, BBF kids are one of the groups that will benefit from the TOT event on the 5th. **This is your chance to roll up your sleeves and volunteer with Variety kids. We need you to help decorate, prepare lunch foods, wrap gifts and play with the kids. Please contact Variety at 415.781.3894 to lend a hand. The event is from 10:30am – 2:00pm at the Preview Room.**



Little Elves in Santa's Garden

Sunny Hills Children's Garden makes toys for Blind Babies

'Tis the season of redundant toy commercials, endless shopping lists and hours in the mall. Wasn't it easier when a crayon and construction paper were all you needed to bring a smile for the season? However, handmade gifts are not a thing of the past, and at Sunny Hills Children's Garden the tradition stays alive with the Little Elves program. They are already hard at work making tactile toys for the Blind Babies Foundation. With so many toys designed for sighted children, the kids at Sunny Hills are using the textures of pinecones, yarn, bells and more to make toys that are fun to discover through touch, sound and smell. This unique program not only educates children on the importance of helping others, but also in discovering different ways of exploring the world. Through one source of funding (a grant from Variety) two groups of children benefit by learning and exploring, a creative solution that enriches Sunny Hills, the Blind Babies Foundation, and Variety. This incredible project is a one-of-a-kind program that fills a need for children at Sunny Hills and for children with sight impairment. At Chef's Best, the annual Variety fundraising dinner in February, the Sunny Hills gang will give you a chance to see their hard work and hear the story from the Little Elves themselves.



A Toy and a Cocktail How a Party is Playing Santa

The Toys for Tots' Holiday Party is inspired by Variety member Derek Barnes and his close New York pal, Greg Lynn. They felt it was time to hijack the TOT event that is famously successful in NY, and host it on the west coast, San Francisco. More than 250 friends will gather at Harry Denton's Starlight Lounge on Sunday, Dec 5th for an afternoon of schmoozing and schnapps... or champagne or vodka, depending on your palate – all for the entry price of one brand-new unwrapped toy. All toy donations will be distributed prior to Christmas

to shelters that Variety serves in San Francisco. Thank you Variety members!

Upcoming Events

December 1	Board Meeting
December 2	Art Opening
December 5	Toys for Tots
December 7	Variety at Work
December 11	Blind Babies Party

Board Meeting: Board Meeting
Art Opening: Glenna Evans
Toys for Tots: TOT Drive-Drake Hotel
Variety at Work: The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie
Blind Babies Party: Beyond the Sea
Member Screening: BBF Holiday Party
Member Screening: Coach