

**THEATRE.....**Great fun is taking place in our theatre with our annual intergenerational production, **“Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.”** This year director *Gai Jones* has selected this wonderful fantasy from Roald Dahl, based on his own experience working in a chocolate factory in which competing companies tried to steal each other’s secrets. **“Charlie”** has been re-created as a play, musical, two film versions, a theme park ride and a video game. The cast of nearly 50, adults and children, is a family affair with kids and parents working together building sets and making costumes. Performances are Friday & Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Sunday at 2 p.m. No performance on May 1 with two on May 2 at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Call 640-8797 or log on to [ojaiAct.org](http://ojaiAct.org) to reserve seats. Plays April 30 through May 23.

Coming up next month.... **The Ventura Improv Company** returns to our stage on Sunday, June 6, for an evening of fun and games. Last year’s fundraiser was a sold-out performance, and such a good time was had by all that we’re doing it again this year. 7 p.m. Call 640-8797.

One of the greatest musicals of all time, **“Cabaret,”** opens on our stage June 25. Not only does it have stunning songs and fascinating characters, it also has a compelling storyline. *Tracey Williams* will direct, *Lenny Klaif* will produce, *Jimmy Calire* will do the music and *Edmund Arredondo*, costumes.  
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**ART.....**From May 7 to June 3 we will host the 4<sup>th</sup> annual members only exhibit from the **Santa Barbara Printmakers**. One hundred members strong, the Santa Barbara Printmakers are a group of artists dedicated to promoting and producing art that uses hand and press printing techniques for the purposes of artistic exploration and expression. This includes etching, monotype, woodblock, collagraph, linocut, clay, lithography and digital programming. The members are comprised of emerging as well as established artists. The showcases will feature the three dimensional works of *Warren Brown* and *Curt Mossestad*. Reception for all artists is Sunday, May 9, 2 p.m. Everyone welcome!

*Erin Gafill*, fifth generation California artist from Big Sur, will offer a Creativity Workshop, **“The Passion of Painting,”** Saturday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The program will focus on eliminating all but the nonessential forms, examining what matters and making your mark. Create pieces that explore personal inspiration, learning techniques for seeing, thinking, drawing, and self-examination. To register, call 831 646-9000.

The following Saturday, May 15, the Ojai Group, *Kristy Vantrease*, *Barbara Wiles*, *Patty Van Dyke*, *Diane Hanley* and *Mary-Gail King* will present an **Ink Resist Workshop**. The workshop will not only be informative but fun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. To sign-up or for more info call Diane at 484-7594 or Patty at 657-3525. After signing up a materials list and more info will be sent to you.

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**LITERARY ....** On Monday, May 10, at 7 p.m. poet and performer *Christine Jordan* will present **“The Ojai Show, Notes on a Country Childhood.”** Jordan spent her childhood on a ranch in upper Ojai and remembers folk dancing at the Art Center as a 10 year old. She has crafted a play which has been performed a number of times in the Los Angeles based on 15 poems she wrote while reflecting on her Ojai childhood Q & A following. Refreshments will be provided. \$5 donation.

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We are thrilled to join forces with *Performances to Grow On* to present, **“A Catholic Girls Guide to Losing Your Virginity.”** Fantasy, romance and sexual awakening will fill the stage for three nights, May 28, 29, 30. This play premiered in Los Angeles in 2006 and has been selling out ever since. It tells the hilarious story of Lizzy, a witty and soulful Midwesterner, living in New York – the big city of her dreams, who realizes her priest has a better sex life than she does. What to do? The play describes her hilarious attempts, with a variety of men, to solve her problem, with a surprising outcome. 8 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door. Opening night reception with the author/actors, \$35. Call 646-8907 or log on to [www.ptgo.org](http://www.ptgo.org) (click on special attractions).

**The 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Art in the Park** takes place Saturday, May 29, and Sunday, May 30, in beautiful Libbey Park. Artists from near and far set up booths under the ancient oaks and tree lined paths of the park displaying some of the best art you’ll ever see. Everything from pastel to sculpture to jewelry to wood to ceramics and a lot more. Music & food add to the festivities. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

