

A Pet Project



Photo courtesy of Rachel Paap

Posters like this one are popping up all over Hollywood and the surrounding area to encourage spaying, neutering, and pet adoption.

BY KRISTEN ORSBORN

Just because Bob Barker is retiring from daytime television doesn't mean Hollywood residents have an excuse not to get their pets spayed or neutered.

Rachel Paap, the city's newly appointed director of animal welfare, has just launched a new ad campaign touting the benefits of spay and neuter programs and directing low-income residents to low-cost animal care resources.

"I've always believed that we have an overpopulation issue, and that it needs a marketing aspect," Paap said. "It comes down to a lack of information out there."

Paap worked with local neighborhood council to fund

the ad campaign, featured on bus shelters through the area. One hundred posters were printed and produced in the targeted area to spread the word about the importance of spaying and neutering, in addition to information on reporting animal abuse and how to adopt from city shelters. Two out of the four ads are in Spanish.

Paap teamed up with famed pet photographer, Peter Nash, who has worked with a large number of celebrity clients.

"We have the resources, intelligence and the hearts to put an end to needless killing of companion animals in Los Angeles," Paap said.

According to Paap, the city of Los Angeles euthanized approximately 20,000 animals last year.

Universal Ballet Returns with "Nutcracker"

Universal Ballet returns to Los Angeles with four performances of its acclaimed production of "The Nutcracker" running Thursday, November 30 through December 2.

"The Nutcracker" is a magical treat that is a holiday favorite for the entire family. Universal Ballet's "The Nutcracker" is from the original Mariinsky Theater version created by Vasily Vainonen in St. Petersburg in 1934. The charm of the children on stage adds to the magic, captivating the audience and drawing them into the fairy world. Uncle Drosselmeyer weaves his delightful magic at the Christmas party, and again in the silence after midnight when everything becomes still. Little Clara awakens and finds herself in the midst of a battle waged by her beloved Nutcracker doll against the odious Mouse King and his minions, who have all grown larger than life.

After helping the Nutcracker defeat the Mouse King, Clara and her Nutcracker are magically transformed into a princess and prince traveling through a beautiful winter forest with dancing snowflakes. They then embark on a fairytale adventure over the sea to the Land of Sweets, and the Festival of the Toys begins. Life-sized dolls perform dances from many countries, and the majestic Rose Waltz

inspires Clara to perform a splendid pas de deux with her Prince and four handsome cavaliers. The scene fades to Clara and her doll as they awaken on Christmas Day.

Based in Seoul, Korea, with dancers and staff from more than 14 nations, Universal Ballet continues to be one of the leading forces of dance in Asia, both dedicated to preserving the rich tradition of Russian classical ballet as well

as creating its own new contemporary works.

"The Nutcracker" will be performed at the Shrine Auditorium at 665 W. Jefferson Blvd. The schedule is November 30 and December 1 at 8:00pm; and on December 2 at 2:00pm and 7:00pm. Tickets can be purchased at the Shrine Auditorium box office, through Ticketmaster Phone Charge (213)480-3232 or through ticketmaster.com.



Photo courtesy of Universal Ballet

Universal Ballet will perform "The Nutcracker" through December 2.

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