



# City of Palo Alto

## City Council Staff Report

(ID # 6614)

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**Report Type: Special Orders of the Day Meeting Date: 3/21/2016**

**Summary Title: Partnership Presentation: Palo Alto Players**

**Title: Community Partner Presentation: Palo Alto Players at the Lucie Stern Community Theatre**

**From: City Manager**

**Lead Department: Community Services**

Diana Lynn Berenstein and Patrick Klein, the Managing and Artistic Directors of Palo Alto Players, will make a presentation with production images, outlining the Palo Alto Players' upcoming season and their history in successfully staging great performances at the Lucie Stern Theatre. A soloist will perform a selection from the theatrical production INTO THE WOODS.

Palo Alto Players became the Peninsula's first theatre company in 1931 when a group of 100 like-minded citizens gathered together to create a theatre dedicated to its community. Initially, productions were held at a makeshift performance space in the Palo Alto Community House adjacent to the train station (now MacArthur Park Restaurant). Soon after, Lucie Stern invited the Players to be the resident theatre company at the Community Theatre. In 1974, the Community Players dissolved their ties with the Parks and Recreation Department, becoming an independent company. Since that time, the City of Palo Alto has continued to support the Palo Alto Players with performance, rehearsal and shop space.

Since that time, in partnership with the City, Palo Alto Players presents five fully staged productions at the Lucie Stern Theatre. Palo Alto Players is one of the City's three theatre partners, along with Theatre Works and West Bay Opera. These partnerships provide high quality performing arts programs for the community and the City provides the facilities at no cost.