

Louis G. Spisto, CEO/*Executive Producer*
Jerry Patch, *Co-Artistic Director*
Darko Tresnjak, *Co-Artistic Director*



Jack O'Brien, *Artistic Director Emeritus*
Craig Noel, *Founding Director*

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THE OLD GLOBE PRESENTS FREE STUDENT MATINEES
FOR THE WORLD-PREMIERE, GLOBE-COMMISSIONED
PLAY *IN THIS CORNER*

LOCAL BOXER AND OLYMPIC FESTIVAL GOLD MEDALIST PAUL VADEN TO
SPEAK TO STUDENTS IN POST-SHOW SEMINAR

San Diego - The Tony Award®-winning Old Globe proudly continues its **free student matinee program** with the world-premiere of the Globe-commissioned play, *In This Corner*, by Steven Drukman, directed by Ethan McSweeney. Students from local schools will attend one of three performances scheduled for **January 23, January 30 and February 6, all at 10:30 a.m.**

Following the performances, students will have the opportunity to hear from **Paul Vaden**, professional boxer and **Olympic Festival Gold Medalist**, who will speak to the students about the positive influence of boxing, such as discipline and training, and how it helped to shape his own life. A brief boxing demo will follow. As a youth, Vaden began his training at **Jackie Robinson Family YMCA** in National City, an institution that participates in Globe outreach education activities and provides many programs and sports training for youth.

“The Student Matinee Series is such an important component of our educational offerings,” said Lou Spisto, CEO/Executive Producer of the Globe. “And now we’ve added an exciting talk-back element with former Olympic boxer, Paul Vaden, which provides a unique way for students to translate what they’ve just seen into their own lives.”

The Globe’s free student matinee program began in January, 2006 with the Globe’s world-premiere, Broadway-bound production of *THE TIMES THEY ARE A-CHANGIN’*. To date, **the Globe has donated over 7,000 tickets to students for its productions**. The program will continue in 2008 with special 10:30 a.m. student matinees for *Dancing in the Dark*, *The Glass Menagerie* and *Beethoven, As I Knew Him*. The Globe will donate over 3,000 tickets to student groups for these shows

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As a result of the donated tickets, students from the following schools will be able to attend the performances of *In This Corner*: **Mark Twain High School, Palm Academy, Polinsky Children's Center, John Muir School, School of Creative and Performing Arts, Twin Oaks High, and San Diego High: LEADS, International Studies, School of Communication, and VAPA.**

In This Corner is set in 1938, when there was no bigger sporting event than the bout between German boxer Max Schmeling and American "Brown Bomber" Joe Louis. World War II is about to change how Americans view the world around them and this fight elevated Louis from African-American hero to All-American icon. In 1970, the two men reunite in the most unlikely of places: a psychiatric ward. The Cassius Carter Centre Stage becomes the ultimate arena and every seat is ringside as the decisive battle begins – for honor, country, and for self-respect.

Paul Vaden is a San Diego native who got his start in boxing at the age of eight at the Jackie Robinson YMCA in National City. He holds the highest win record in amateur boxing history (327 wins, 10 losses) and was a U.S. Amateur Champion in 1989 and 1990. In 1989 he was First Team All-American, and at the Olympic Festival of the same year he was U.S. World Team Member and won the Gold Medal in Boxing. His professional accomplishments include 29 wins (16 by knockout), 3 losses, he was the International Boxing Federation Intercontinental Champion in 1994, the IBF World Jr. Middleweight Champion in 1995, the USBA Champion in 1999. Today Paul is a TV and radio boxing analyst, a spokesman for Everlast Inc., and a nationally recognized motivational speaker.

For tickets or more information on *In This Corner* or the upcoming 2007/2008 season, please call the Globe Ticket Office at **(619) 23-GLOBE** or visit www.TheOldGlobe.org.

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The internationally-acclaimed, Tony Award®-winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theatres in the country and has stood as San Diego's flagship arts institution for 71 years. The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 15 plays and musicals on its three stages, including its highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theatre artists from around the world, such as Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan and Chita Rivera, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Full Monty and Damn Yankees, have been developed at The Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country.

Highlights of the Globe's 2007/2008 Season include the world premiere musical, A Catered Affair, written by Harvey Fierstein and John Bucchino, the West Coast Premiere of Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt's Oscar and the Pink Lady, the 10th Anniversary production of Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!, In This Corner, by Steven Drukman, Howard Korder's Sea of Tranquility, as well as the world premieres of Dancing in the Dark and Beethoven, As I Knew Him. Under the leadership of Executive Producer Louis G. Spisto, and Co-Artistic Directors Jerry Patch and Darko Tresnjak, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.