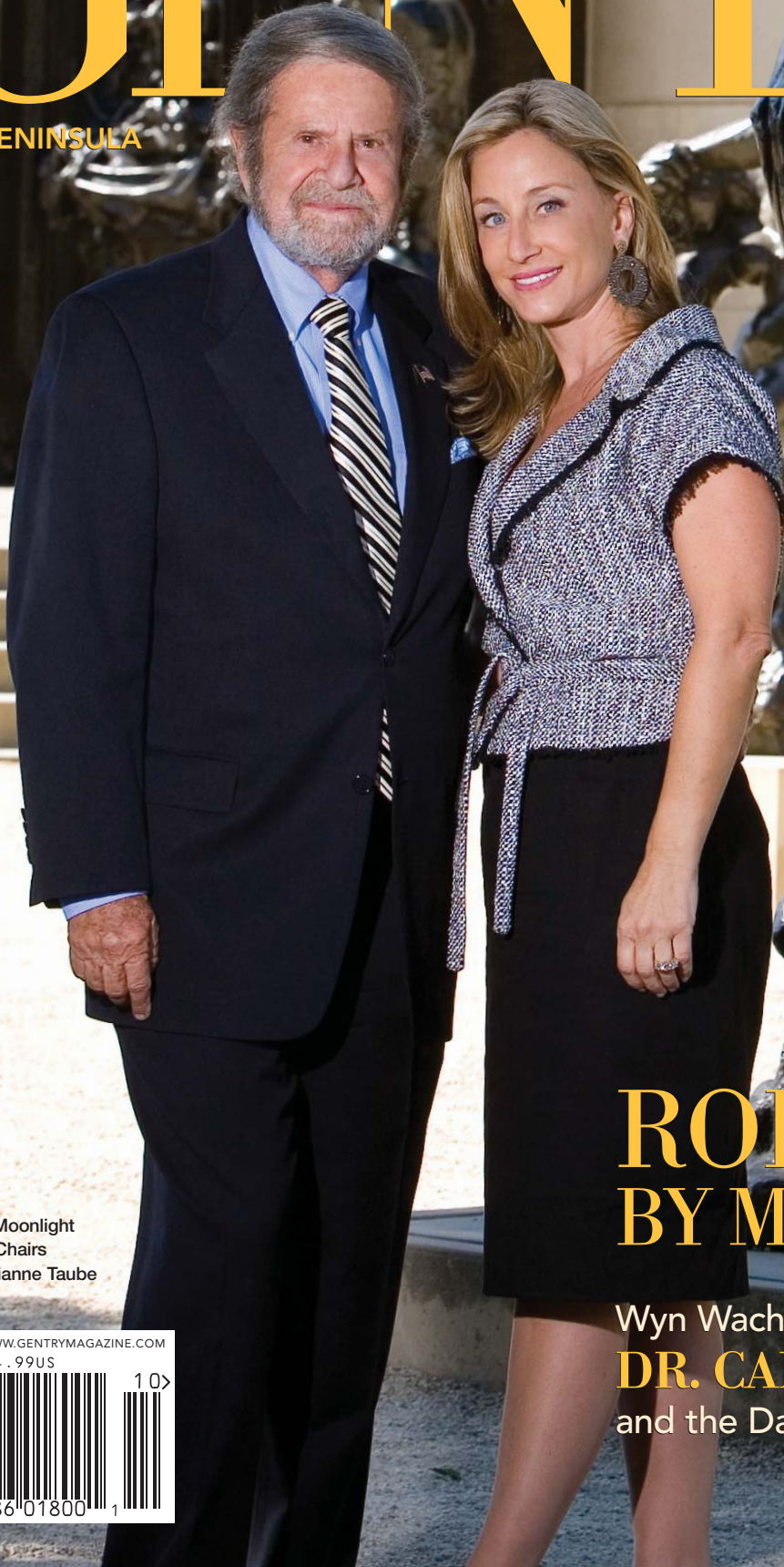


# GENTRY

PENINSULA

OCTOBER 2009



## RODIN BY MOONLIGHT

Rodin by Moonlight  
Honorary Chairs  
Tad and Dianne Taube

Wyn Wachhorst on  
**DR. CAMRAN NEZHAT**  
and the Dawn of Modern Surgery

OCT '09 WWW.GENTRYMAGAZINE.COM  
\$4.99US



# GENTRY

OCTOBER 2009

**54 RODIN BY MOONLIGHT**

The Cantor Arts Center at Stanford will be the setting for one of Silicon Valley's most eagerly anticipated fundraisers—Rodin by Moonlight. Gentry takes a look back at the history of the Stanford Museum and this spectacular event.

**60 IN GOOD HANDS**

Award-winning writer Wyn Wachhorst interviews Dr. Camran Nezhat—the father of modern laparoscopy.

**64 FUNNY IN ANY LANGUAGE**

Carolyn McCusker chats with best-selling author Firoozeh Dumas and discusses life, literature, politics, and the pursuit of perfect arms after 40.

**68 FINISHING TOUCHES—  
A HOLIDAY TOUR OF  
FINE HOMES**

The Junior League of Palo Alto•Mid Peninsula will host a spectacular tour of four exquisite Atherton estates in early December. Gentry takes a sneak peek at this festive fundraiser.

ON THE COVER: Tad and Dianne Taube will serve as the Honorary Chairs for the 2009 Rodin by Moonlight fundraiser benefiting the Cantor Arts Center at Stanford University. Photography by Jack Hutcheson.



The Junior League of Palo Alto•Mid Peninsula presents

# Finishing Touches

## A HOLIDAY TOUR OF FINE HOMES

December 5 – 6, 2009

With a Special Opening Night Celebration on December 4



### **TIMES:**

Saturday, December 5, 10 AM - 4 PM

Sunday, December 6, 10 AM - 3 PM

### **PARKING & SHUTTLES:**

Shuttles to each of the West Atherton Tour Homes will pick up and drop off at: Sacred Heart Schools  
50 Emilie Avenue, Atherton

### **BOUTIQUE:**

Tour guests will have the opportunity to shop in our Marketplace featuring unique as well as well-recognized vendors and to enjoy a coffee or treat at the Mistletoe cafe. The Marketplace will be located at Sacred Heart Schools.

### **OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATION:**

To kick off the Holiday Home Tour, a special Opening Night Celebration will take place on Friday, December 4, at an exclusive residence that will not be

on the weekend tour. Tickets to the Opening Night Celebration are \$140 per person and include admission to the tour on either the 5th or 6th.

### **GENERAL TOUR TICKETS:**

Advanced Tickets: \$40 per person (Buy four advance tickets and get the fifth ticket free). They may be purchased at [www.finishingtoucheshometour.com](http://www.finishingtoucheshometour.com). Tickets will also be available at the door for \$50.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

[www.finishingtoucheshometour.com](http://www.finishingtoucheshometour.com)

The Junior League of Palo Alto•Mid Peninsula (JLPA•MP) held the inaugural Finishing Touches, A Holiday Tour of Fine Homes, last December and successfully raised approximately \$80,000. This year's tour will include four beautiful Atherton estates decorated for

the season by local interior and floral designers. The Holiday Tour of Fine Homes will kick off with a festive Opening Night Celebration featuring a cocktail party, raffles, and more held at a special fifth, one-night-only home.

Tour tickets also include admission to the Holiday Marketplace featuring hand-picked merchants, raffles, and prizes. Funds raised through the tour directly support JLPA•MP's community projects, including the East Palo Alto Charter School Character Development, First Teachers, Fostering Families, and Done In A Day, as well as multiple community grants to various local nonprofit organizations.

The JLPA•MP membership is comprised of approximately 1,200 local women, with more than 750 sustaining members and provisional member classes that regularly attract 75 or more members each year.

JLPA • MP presents *Finishing Touches: A HOLIDAY TOUR OF FINE HOMES*

## Letter from the Chairs

We are pleased and excited to invite the community to the Junior League of Palo Alto•Mid Peninsula's (JLPA•MP) premier fundraising event, *Finishing Touches: A Holiday Tour of Fine Homes*.

This event is both a fantastic way to tour some of the gorgeous homes in Atherton around the holidays as well as an opportunity to give back to the Peninsula community. As co-chairs of the event, we are privileged to work closely with so many key partners in our community: Sacred Heart Schools, which is generously donating space for our home base and marketplace, local merchants who are contributing everything from food and flowers to valuable time and energy, and, of course, our neighbors and residents who plan to underwrite, volunteer at, or attend the event. *Gentry Magazine* continues to be a generous and consistent partner as well, and to each of our sponsors we offer up a warm and sincere "Thank You."

One of our favorite parts of being involved with JLPA•MP is the opportunity to meet the hundreds of dynamic, unique, and engaging women who make up the League. Our Home Tour Committee is a perfect example of how powerful a force these women can be, and it is truly both a privilege and an honor to plan, grow, and celebrate with every single one of them. Thank you, ladies, for your time, thoughtfulness, and old-fashioned hard work.

Since 1964, JLPA•MP has supported 93 community service projects and has given more than 150 grants to local nonprofit organizations. In supporting the *Finishing Touches Home Tour*, you, too, are contributing to our community by teaching character development to teens in East Palo Alto, encouraging parents to read to their children, and fighting childhood obesity, among many other things.

Join us in December as we enjoy the lovely homes, both for their architectural beauty as well as their holiday "finishing touches," and help us celebrate our community and the opportunities that each and every one of us has to give back.

Warm regards,



**Laura Lee Daigle**

*Co-chair, Finishing Touches: A Holiday Tour of Fine Homes*

**Karen Fryling**

*Co-chair, Finishing Touches: A Holiday Tour of Fine Homes*



Event Designer Sydney Wachhorst created a holiday-inspired table with elegant tableware from Woodside's Emily Joubert and flower arrangements by Blooms by Nicole Hitchcock. These designers and many more will demonstrate their festive flair at the spectacular estates featured on the Junior League of Palo Alto•Mid Peninsula's Finishing Touches: A Holiday Tour of Fine Homes, December 5 – 6.



## *Finishing Touches*

A HOLIDAY TOUR OF FINE HOMES

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### COMMITTEE:

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Karen Fryling, *Co-Chair*  
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