"We Create Community Through People, Parks, and Programs"

For Immediate Release



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# The City of Redwood City presents **Zoppé - An Italian Family Circus** The 7<sup>th</sup> Generation

REDWOOD CITY – The Circus is coming to town! Redwood City is pleased to welcome, for the sixth year, Zoppé, An Italian Family Circus from October 11th through October 20th for spectacular two-hour performances that will enthrall the entire family!

The Zoppé Family Circus welcomes guests into the intimate 500 seat tent for a one-ring circus that honors the best history of the Old-World Italian tradition. Starring Nino the clown, and featuring his son Julien, the circus is propelled by a central story (as opposed to individual acts) that showcases acrobatic feats, equestrian showmanship, canine capers, clowning and plenty of audience participation. The Circus evokes something from a picture book: the clown, the trapeze, the dancing dogs, the ring and the tent, created to be reminiscent of the one-ring European family circuses of the last century and will thrill and amaze children and adults alike with its breathtaking stunts and astonishing acrobatics.

This year features two new exciting acts: a double trapeze act called the Daring Jones Duo, who will inspire audiences with disciplined artistic and athletic risk, and A Unicycle Built for Two, an upbeat, stylish act that blends the unicycle, acrobatics, and light-hearted romance.

The Circus Tent now has a new home at Red Morton Park, specifically 1455 Madison Ave. There are multiple parking lots distributed around the park and it is an easy stroll to the tent. On your stroll, see why Red Morton Park was voted Bay Area Parent Magazines "Family Favorite" park of 2013 with it's vast green lawns perfect for lounging, flower gardens, and kid's playground. Plus, participants who bike to the park will be awarded with a FREE small popcorn!

The Zoppé Family Circus is a once-a-year event not to be missed, so get your tickets early!

#### **Press Information**

Blurb/PSA

The Zoppé Family Circus welcomes guests into the intimate 500 seat tent in Red Morton Park in Redwood City from October 11 through the 20th for matinee and evening show times. This one-ring circus honors the best history of the Old-World Italian tradition and stars Nino the clown, along with his son Julien. The circus is propelled by a central story (as opposed to individual acts) that feature acrobatic feats, equestrian showmanship, canine capers, clowning and plenty of audience participation. Ticket and info at: <a href="https://www.redwoodcity.org/events/zoppe.html">www.redwoodcity.org/events/zoppe.html</a>

Hi-res Photos by Justin Miel at: <u>http://www.hopeinsite.com/rwc/zoppe/Justin\_Miel/</u>

### **Ticket Prices**

Oct. 12-13: Youth \$13/Adult \$18 Oct. 19-20: Youth \$15/Adult \$20 Other dates: Youth \$10/Adult \$15 Front Row Seats All Ages: All dates except below: \$20 Oct. 12-13: \$23 Oct. 19-20: \$25 Ages: Youth 2-11, Adults 12+ Children under 2 must sit on laps - NO CAR SEATS

#### **Ticket Purchase**

Online at: http://www.redwoodcity.org/events/zoppe.html Sales end at 4pm on 10/10 for 1st weekend, and 10/17 for 2nd weekend. Tickets will then only be available at the Circus Tent. Or As of 10/11 - at the Circus Tent (cash only) 2 hours prior to the first showtime of the day.

TICKET HOTLINE: 650.780.7586 for up-to-date information about tickets and sold out shows.

## **CIRCUS SCHEDULE**

10/11: 4pm & 7pm 10/12: 12pm, 3pm & 7pm 10/13: 12pm, 3pm & 6pm

10/16: 6:30pm 10/17: 6:30pm 10/18: 4pm & 7pm 10/19: 12pm, 3pm & 7pm 10/20: 12pm, 3pm & 6pm

#### About The Zoppé Circus:

The Zoppé Family Circus has an amazing, unique story. The Zoppè Family Circus emerged more than 160 years ago to become one of the legendary circuses in all of Europe. And like many good legends, it begins with a boy and a girl falling in love. In 1842, a young French street performer named Napoline Zoppè wandered into a plaza in Budapest, Hungary, looking for work. There, his eyes glanced upon a beautiful equestrian ballerina named Ermenegilda, who captured the hearts and minds of the crowd with her grace and showmanship. More importantly, this talented beauty captured Napoline's heart.

However, since Napoline was a clown, Ermenegilda's father saw him as beneath her and disapproved of their relationship. The two ran away to Venice, Italy, and founded the circus that still bears their name. Alberto Zoppè, Napoline's great-grandson, inherited the circus almost 100 years later.

Alberto's children, Giovanni, Tosca and Carla, along with their spouses, have all been active at one time or another in the family business. Giovanni revived the Zoppè Family Circus in America three years ago, and has since been building its reputation with audiences and critics as an enchanting exhibition of traditional European circus.

## On the treatment of their animals...

The Zoppe Circus uses only domestic animals - dogs and horses - who are the personal pets of their owners. As family-owned pets, the animals are raised, transported and housed with expert, loving care. Some of the dogs in the show have been rescued from animal shelters by the Zoppe family.

More info at: http://www.redwoodcity.org/events/zoppe.html http://www.zoppecircus.com Video at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\_embedded&v=IG\_Jc2FpkrE#t=34

The Zoppé Circus is sponsored by the City of Redwood City Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department.

Visit Redwood City's award-winning website at www.redwoodcity.org for information about the City and its services, the community, recreation programs, education, and local business. Take a look at the variety of City webcams at www.redwoodcity.org/webcam, and subscribe to Redwood City's email newsletter or other documents by visiting www.redwoodcity.org/egov.

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