

Press Release



July 25, 2005

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“HOPE ON FIRE” BENEFIT CONCERT
TO HELP SUPPORT NETWORK FOR BATTERED WOMEN
Fundraiser features singers Vienna Teng and Deborah Levoy in concert

“HOPE on Fire” will ignite Silicon Valley at a special benefit concert for the Support Network for Battered Women (SNBW) on Saturday, August 13, 2005, 5-8:30 pm at the private residence of Atherton’s Vice Mayer, Charles Marsala. The outdoor garden concert, presented by Heart of Silicon Valley (HOSV) and electronics corporation Philips, will feature talented local singer/songwriters, Vienna Teng and Deborah Levoy, and cellist Marika Hughes.

All proceeds from the concert, reception and silent auction will benefit SNBW, a non-profit organization in Mountain View that empowers our diverse community to live free from domestic violence. Heart of Silicon Valley, another local non-profit, raises funds for different charitable organizations by bringing people together through music in intimate venues on the Peninsula.

“We are thrilled to be partnering with Philips in presenting this benefit,” says Yvonne Wolters of Heart of Silicon Valley. “Their generous support, and that of our talented musicians, is invaluable in helping to focus attention on the need to provide resources and hope to battered women in our community.”

“HOPE on Fire” takes its inspiration from the song of the same name composed by headliner and local celebrity singer/songwriter/pianist Vienna Teng. The song, which appears on Teng’s second CD *Warm Strangers*, has risen as high as number two on Amazon’s.com Best-Seller List.

Stanford-educated Teng has been setting off sparks with her music ever since she quit her job as a Cisco Systems software engineer and appeared on the David Letterman Show in 2002. Since then she has appeared on the CBS Early Show and NPR Weekend Edition. When she is not filling the house at sold-out concerts, she has found time to open for such artists as Joan Baez, Patty Griffin, and the Indigo Girls.

Teng’s jump from corporate code warrior to full-time musician was a long time coming. In fact, she began studying classical piano at age five, wrote her first song at age six and had an album’s worth of instrumentals composed by age 16.

With lilting vocals reminiscent of Tori Amos and lush strings that underscore her intricate piano arrangements, the *Mercury News* has called Teng “a child of Chopin and Sarah McLachlan.” Her creative improvisational style coupled with her love of classical music, reflected in her taking on the name “Vienna”

after the Austrian city of composers, has resulted in songs described as “short stories of love, death, struggle and hope.” Teng notes that such stories also depict the lives of many domestic abuse victims.

Singer/songwriter Deborah Levoy will open for Vienna Teng at the August 13th benefit concert. Levoy has performed both solo and with her band throughout the West coast and in New England. With two acoustic albums under her belt and numerous awards, she has recently expanded into edgier territory, collaborating with songwriter/guitarist Josh Coleman. “She has a beautiful voice that can soar and scat, get folksy and funky, and enchant crowds.” –*Daily Hampshire Gazette*

The **Support Network for Battered Women** whose mission is to empower the diverse community to live free from domestic violence, provides multiple services, including: 24-hour toll-free crisis line, emergency shelter, counseling, information, referrals, support groups, safety planning, legal services and community education presentations. In 2003-04, SNBW staff and volunteers responded to more than 4,000 crisis calls, sheltered 177 women and children, assisted 339 clients with legal services, and provided 4,506 in-person counseling sessions. All services are completely confidential, either free or low-cost, and are offered in both English and Spanish.

Heart of Silicon Valley, an all volunteer organization, was founded in 2002 when a group of people, mostly in their twenties and thirties, realized that they could make a difference by working together for a worthy cause. Fueled by the desire to contribute to the community in a personal way, HOSV raises funds for different charitable organizations by bringing people together through music in warm venues, usually homes, on the Peninsula. HOSV provides a means for professionals, philanthropists, musicians, and businesses to work together to raise money and visibility for non-profits. To date, HOSV’s over \$100,000 in grants have benefited inner-city at-risk children, after-school enrichment programs, young adults with cancer, foster youth and others.

Royal Philips Electronics of The Netherlands is one of the world's biggest electronics companies and Europe's largest. With activities in healthcare, lifestyle and technology and 159,700 employees in more than 60 countries, it has market leadership in medical diagnostic imaging and patient monitoring, color television sets, electric shavers, lighting and silicon system solutions. Through Philips’ social investments it continues its tradition of supporting the communities where its employees live and work. Philips is a co-sponsor of this event, and is the largest donor for the Support Network for Battered Women.

Tickets (tax-deductible) for “HOPE on Fire” featuring Vienna Teng and Deborah Levoy on Saturday, August 13, 5-8:30 pm, are \$35-\$65 (premier seating) per person. The outdoor garden concert, which includes a reception and silent auction, will be held at the home of Atherton Vice Mayor Charles Marsala at 33 Emilie Ave. Pre-purchase tickets at www.hosv.org or at the door, as available. For event/sponsoring organization info, see: Support Network for Battered Women (www.snbw.org), Philips (www.philips.com), Heart of Silicon Valley (hosv.org) or contact Yvonne Wolters, ywolters@earthlink.net, 650/856-8041 or Corey Takimoto, corey.takimoto@philips.com, 510/332-3922.

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Calendar Listing

• Benefit Concert

CONTACT: Yvonne Wolters, Heart of Silicon Valley, ywolders@earthlink.net
Corey Takimoto, Philips, corey.takimoto@philips.com

WHAT: “HOPE on Fire” featuring Singer/Songwriters **Vienna Teng** and **Deborah Levoy**
Outdoor Garden Concert, Reception and Silent Auction
to Benefit Support Network for Battered Women

WHO: Produced by Heart of Silicon Valley (HOSV) and Philips

WHEN: Saturday, August 13, 2005, 5:00-8:30 pm

WHERE: 33 Emilie Avenue, Atherton

COST: Tickets (tax-deductible): \$35-\$65 per person
Pre-purchase at www.hosv.org or at the door, as available

INFO: www.hosv.org; www.snbw.org; www.philips.com
Yvonne Wolters, ywolders.earthlink.net, 650/856-8041
Corey Takimoto, corey.takimoto.Philips.com, 510/332-3922

NARRATIVE:

“HOPE on Fire” will ignite Silicon Valley at a special benefit concert for the Support Network for Battered Women (SNBW) on Saturday, August 13, 2005, 5:00 - 8:30 pm in Atherton. The outdoor garden concert, presented by Heart of Silicon Valley (HOSV) and international electronics corporation Philips, will feature talented local singer/songwriters, Vienna Teng and Deborah Levoy, and cellist Marika Hughes. All proceeds from the concert, reception and silent auction will benefit SNBW, a non-profit organization in Mountain View that empowers our diverse community to live free from domestic violence. Heart of Silicon Valley, another local non-profit, raises funds for different charitable organizations by bringing people together through music in intimate venues on the Peninsula. “HOPE on Fire” will be held at the home of Atherton Vice Mayor Charles Marsala at 33 Emilie Ave. Pre-purchase tickets at www.hosv.org or at the door, as available. For event/sponsoring organization info, see: Support Network for Battered Women (www.snbw.org), Philips (www.philips.com), Heart of Silicon Valley (hosv.org) or contact Yvonne Wolters, ywolders@earthlink.net, 650/856-8041 or Corey Takimoto, corey.takimoto@philips.com, 510/332-3922.

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