

Turn on the TV, tune into the radio and visit the Internet to hear the winning Artys theme song today

BY AMY MAGINNIS-HONEY
DAILY REPUBLIC

FAIRFIELD — Move over Irving Berlin and "White Christmas," the final mixed and mastered Artys theme song debuts today on the Daily Republic Web site. It also debuts on the Artys theme song contest Web sites, Vacaville's KUIC 95.3 FM, Brenden Theatres in Vacaville and Channel 26 in Fairfield.

This multi-media release will showcase the words and music of Vallejoan Dalt Williams, who bested about 30 entries in the competition that wrapped up in July.

Patty Penrod, a well-known local singer and actress, sings the lyrics.

The Artys recognize outstanding theater work in Solano County. The winning



PENROD



WILLIAMS

song was played to a packed house in September at the annual Artys awards show.

For the grand prize, Williams, a jazz musician and retired music teacher, earned recording time at the Biklops Studio in San Jose to record the track.

"It's wonderful," Williams said of the song's recorded version. "I'm happy everyone is going to get to hear it. I thought it worked out pretty good."

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Since he composes music on a computer, Williams said he had a pretty good idea how the song would sound and thought the recording was on target with his expectations.

"I'll be calling and e-mailing a few of my friends in the area to listen to it. It's been a lot of fun. That's what I'm trying to do in my retirement, have fun," he said.

The winning song took Williams a few weeks to compose, he said in earlier conversations with the Daily Republic. "I had a tune in mind based on the words 'the Artys,'" he said. "Then I got to thinking, 'What is the Artys and what does it include?' I had a concept of something that was showy and that was Hollywood in nature."

The vocals of Penrod, an Artys winner herself, have been described as Ethel Merman-esque, circa 1940, which she considers a high compliment.

"The song itself is very reminiscent of 1940s musical theme songs because of Dalt being of that generation," she said. "I felt I could lend that kind of flavor to it, that big voice, big band feel."

Penrod said she was honored to do the song. "I'm proud of Dalt and Kevin (Ryan, the contest organizer). Everyone is just so nice and supportive," she said. "They did a lot for little personal gain to promote theater in Solano County, which I'm

You can sing along with the winning song:

*It's the Artys
The Artys
Time for recognition and parties
Actors and directors the technicians, too
Will all await that moment of honor due
Solano County we're here to hand out the bounty
To those on our stages
Yes they are the best
We celebrate tonight their quest.
We pay tribute to each town's show cause they give the theater a chance to grow
The College of Solano and high schools too
We also given them their due
The Artys
The Artys
Time for recognition and parties.
All the cast is waiting and they're aglow
So now it's the time, time for the show
Repeat the lyrics after the musical interlude*

proud to be part of."

KUIC will be playing the song on the airways today. Brenden Theatres will play it during the day and Channel 26 adds it to the rotation today as well.

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