



**THE PERFORMING ANIMAL WELFARE
SOCIETY (PAWS) PRESENTS:**

CIRCUS PAWS

An animal-free live performance

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Tickets: <http://CircusPAWS.com>

World renowned choreographer Doriana Sanchez joins the creative team for Circus PAWS!

San Andreas, CA — The Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) is pleased to announce that choreographer Doriana Sanchez has joined the creative team for Circus PAWS, along with Nathalie Yves Gauthier, director of Le Petit Cirque. Circus PAWS, a benefit for rescued and retired performing animals, will be held September 29- 30 at Avalon Hollywood.

Circus PAWS features animal-free entertainment starring Le Petit Cirque, a troupe of professional young aerial artists, contortionists, and acrobats ages 6 to 14, along with special guest appearances by boy band IM5, singer Katharine Kramer, The Silhouettes from "America's Got Talent", as well as child prodigies Rio Mangini (concert pianist), Julian Pavone (world's youngest pro drummer), and Kaelyn Whaley (world champion 9-year old martial artist). Tickets and information for the three performances are available at www.circuspaws.com.

As a dancer, Doriana's image is forever remembered as the "polka dot dress girl" which opens and closes the iconic film Dirty Dancing. Well known for creating beautiful and extraordinary images for stage and screen, she has gone on to become one of the most successful director/choreographers in entertainment, leading Ryan Seacrest to call her the "dancing queen" on E News!

Most recently, Doriana created and directed Cher's latest extravaganza, Cher at the Colosseum. The show was a huge hit, selling out nightly during its three year, 200-plus performances at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. Doriana also conceived, directed and choreographed Cher's Living Proof tour, which was honored with four Emmy Awards including Outstanding Musical Variety Special. The show was seen by over three million people during its 325 performances, and ranks as one of the most successful tours in history, grossing over \$200,000,000. Doriana was nominated for an Emmy for Best Choreography for the show's HBO special.

Doriana has directed and choreographed numerous live stage productions and concerts, Peter Gabriel's Secret World Tour, and her production of Barry Manilow's Copacabana was nominated for Best New Musical in London. She has worked with musical legends such as Gladys Knight, Natalie Cole, Rita Moreno, Shakira, and David Foster musical prodigies Jackie Evancho and Charice, as well as comedy superstar Ellen DeGeneres.

Doriana's television credits include the Grammy Awards, American Music Awards, Divas Live, Euro VMAs, Blockbuster Awards, and nine seasons as Resident Choreographer on So You Think You Can Dance. She is also a two-time American Choreography Award nominee.

Opposed to the use of animals in entertainment, PAWS has consistently maintained that circus can be great entertainment without the use of live animals, and this show will demonstrate how it can be done, all the while allowing the 28-year-old non-profit animal welfare organization to gain wider awareness from the public.

Individuals who have seen this performance troupe have remarked at how exceptional they are for a variety of reasons:

"(This show) Le PeTiT CiRqUe is magical and entertaining – further proof that a circus needs no animal performers to be spectacular." –*Bob Barker*

"... provides something completely outside of the box, a vibrant circus that stokes the fires of creativity and enthusiasm." –*Stewart Copeland, drummer for the Police*

Additional special guest artists include:

- Julian Pavone, *Guinness Book's youngest professional drummer*
- Kaelyn Whaley, *8-time World Karate Champion*
- Rio Mangini, *Carnegie Hall protégé pianist*
- Luminario Ballet
- Kevin Axtell, *master juggler and fire artist*

Also highlighted in the show is the pending legislation in Congress labeled HR 3359, the Traveling Exotic Animal Protection Act (TEAPA). Introduced on November 2, 2011, in Washington, D.C., by PAWS, Animal Defenders International, Bob Barker and CSI's Jorja Fox, this measure will help end the use of animals in traveling circuses in the United States.

ABOUT PAWS

Founded in 1984, by former Hollywood animal trainer and author, Pat Derby, and her partner, Ed Stewart, PAWS maintains three sanctuaries for captive wildlife in Northern California.

The original **PAWS SANCTUARY**, comprised of 30 acres in Galt, California, is a haven of treasured memories and senior residents enjoying their Golden years, oblivious to the passing of time. As preparations continue with construction of new animal habitats and the relocation of the remaining animals from the Galt facility to the expanded 2,300-acre ARK 2000 sanctuary in San Andreas, PAWS hosted its final Galt Sanctuary open house in May, 2011.

The **AMANDA BLAKE MEMORIAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**, 100 acres in Herald, California, established in Ms. Blake's (Miss Kitty from "Gunsmoke") memory, provides refuge for fallow deer, eland, Muntjack deer and a herd of scimitar-horned oryx. Through this sanctuary, PAWS continues Amanda's commitment to the protection of animals in captivity as well as in the wild.

ARK 2000, 2,300 acres of pristine, natural habitat in San Andreas, California. ARK 2000 is currently home to elephants, lions, bears and tigers, and is the only sanctuary in the United States offering sanctuary to bull elephants.

The story of PAWS began when co-founder, Pat Derby, worked with exotic animals as a trainer on the set of many popular television shows in the 1970s ("Flipper", "Daktari", "Gunsmoke", "Lassie", "Gentle Ben") and other animal films. She was also the trainer and spokesperson for famed Lincoln Mercury "Sign of the Cat" car commercial cougars - Chauncey and Christopher. In the process of developing her own training methods based on trust and love, instead of fear, Pat was shocked to discover a profession rampant with neglect and abuse. Her autobiography, "The Lady and Her Tiger" (Dutton 1976), was the first exposé of the harsh training methods and minimal care which were standard in the entertainment industry.

It was during this time that Pat met Ed Stewart and retired her animals, but stories of abusive training on movie and television sets prompted them to advocate for legislation which would mandate better standards of care and handling for captive wildlife.

Pat Derby has appeared on "Entertainment Tonight", "The Crusaders", "Inside Edition", "Nightline", "Inside America's Courts", "The World's Most Dangerous Animals", "Dateline", "20/20", "Animal Planet", "The Leeza Show", "Montel Williams", "The Today Show", "CBS Evening News", "The Fine Living Network", "Animal Planet", "PBS Television" and other local and national television news and radio programs educating the public on the need to protect wildlife habitat and to control captive breeding of exotic animal species.

Pat Derby and Ed Stewart pioneered a method of elephant handling that uses NO bull hooks, weapons or aversive training techniques. PAWS was the first facility to use this "non-

dominance" technique successfully, and since 1985, the work of Derby and Stewart has been a model for elephant handlers around the world.

PAWS is internationally recognized as a leader in animal welfare; among PAWS' greatest concerns is the treatment of animals in traveling shows, animal acts, television and movies, captive breeding, the exotic animal trade and inadequate standards of care for all captive wildlife.

PAWS also protects wild species and their habitat with international programs established in India, Mexico, Africa and Cambodia to diminish human/elephant conflict and to establish protected areas for wildlife. Pat Derby and Ed Stewart are advisory board members for Elephant Haven, a European elephant sanctuary.

PAWS is a proud member of the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries and is listed as a 4-star charity with Charity Navigator.

