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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**GALLO CENTER LAUNCHES  
'VALLEY'S GOT TALENT' CONTEST**

MODESTO, CA—(March 29, 2010)-----With a nod to the continuing popularity of televised talent shows such as “American Idol” and “So You Think You Can Dance,” the Gallo Center for the Arts has announced its own stage version, “Valley’s Got Talent.” The Modesto Bee is co-presenting the public talent show with the Center.

Cash prizes will be awarded to the Grand Prize, Second Place and Audience Choice award winners. In addition to the cash award, the Grand Prize winner will be featured at a Gallo Center for the Arts event during the 2010/2011 Season.

Potential contestants can be singers, dancers, musicians, comedians, magicians or perform a novelty act, and must send a completed application form with a 5-minute CD or DVD of their act by mail to the Center prior to Friday, May 7. Contest rules and application forms are available online at [www.galloarts.org](http://www.galloarts.org), or at the Center’s ticket office, 1000 I Street in downtown Modesto.

“Valley’s Got Talent” is open to non-professional performers only, and contestants must reside in Stanislaus, Merced, San Joaquin, Calaveras, Tuolumne or Mariposa counties. There is no cost to enter.

A committee of Gallo Center executives will select up to 70 contestants to participate in auditions June 4 – 6. A committee of independent judges will then choose the performers to appear in the finals on Labor Day weekend, September 3 – 4, when there will be three public performances to determine the ultimate winners as determined by the judges and audiences.

The Gallo Center’s 2009-10 Premier Partners are Doctors Medical Center, Doubletree Hotel Modesto, Foster Farms and KVIE Public Television.

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