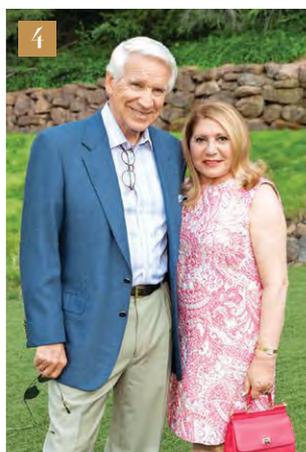


# on the SCENE

BY CAROLYNE ZINKO

SOCIETY & CULTURE



## HIGH NOTES

The 14th annual **Festival Napa Valley** raised a record \$2.6 million for arts education in Napa Valley.

- 1.** The opening night dinner at Meadowood
- 2.** Alex Chases and Katherine Speyer
- 3.** Rick and Karen Walker
- 4.** Timothy and Athena Blackburn
- 5.** Shahpar and Darioush Khaledi
- 6.** Opera singers performed on the Meadowood hotel lawn.

**THE PARTY** The fine arts festival, a national draw, featured 10 days of concerts, and winery lunches and dinners. The Opening Night: Opera Under the Stars dinner and concert at Meadowood featured opera stars **Joyce El-Khoury**, **Francesco Demuro** and **Lucas Meachem** with the **Blackburn Music Academy Orchestra**. **THE GUESTS** Festival board chairman **Timothy Blackburn** and his wife, **Athena**, a former software executive, were joined by festival CEO **Rick Walker** and his wife, **Karen**; museum patrons **Jan** and **Maria Manetti Shrem**; Hillsborough arts patron **Gorretti Lui**; vintners **Craig** and **Kathryn Hall**; Italian Consul General **Lorenzo Ortona** and many others. **THE HIGHLIGHTS** Highlights included concerts by **Patti Lupone**, **Seal** at the Arts for All gala, NASA astronaut **Donald Pettit** leading guests outside to point out the space station flying overhead (timed to the 50th anniversary of the Apollo landing), a Sleepover at the Museum concert and narrated story for 1,000 kids at the Lincoln Theater, and a \$430,000 gala night auction bid for a private **Tony Bennett** concert and dinner at the Napa Reserve.

PHOTOS BY DREW ALTZER PHOTOGRAPHY