

FRANKLY SPEAKING

A NEWSLETTER FOR AND BY MARIN COUNTY EMPLOYEES

The Joy of FRIENDship: Changing Lives

More than 4,000 free Marin Center event tickets are distributed annually to seniors, students, and those with physical or mental challenges in our community.

"Your generous donation of tickets to these fantastic shows has truly changed the lives of the developmentally disabled adults in our program. They are still talking about shows that happened three years ago!" ■ This thank-you note from a local nonprofit is typical of the comments the nonprofit Friends of Marin Center (FOMC) receives from over 100 local agencies and schools in the FOMC Outreach Program. More than 4,000 free Marin Center event tickets are distributed annually to seniors, students, and those with physical or mental challenges in our community. ■ FOMC also funds improvements to the Marin Center that benefit all who attend. Improvements include the refurbished Redwood Foyer, Showcase Theatre, dressing rooms, and the much-appreciated extra women's restroom. ■ Members of FOMC receive many benefits, including an allotment of free event tickets, Marin County Fair tickets, receptions in the Toyon Room, preferred seating, opportunities to meet the performers, and much more. Check the website at friendsofmarin-center.org for details. ■ But the best benefit of membership is the joy of creating magic for those who otherwise would



Photo by Jaye Hill

FOMC Outreach guests outside Marin Center ready to enjoy their free tickets to a performance

not be able to attend Marin Center performances. After Cedars of Marin residents attended the Marin Symphony as Outreach Program guests, their house manager wrote, "The setting was beautiful, and the minute the conductor walked onto the stage I could see the excitement in the faces of these residents. They leaned forward in their seats and as the first note was struck there were smiles all around." ■