



About Rhoda...

The Rhoda Klitsner "Follow Your Dream" scholarship fund was established in memory of Rhoda Klitsner, artistic director of the Diablo Theatre Company (formerly the Diablo Light Opera Company).

The national touring company of the musical *Oklahoma!*, choreographed by Agnes de Mille, came through Sacramento when Rhoda was a young ballet dancer. She was entranced with the show, especially the dancing, and dreamed that one day she would dance in a Broadway show choreographed by Agnes De Mille.

After marrying in 1952, Rhoda and Stu Klitsner took off for New York in their 1950 Ford convertible so Rhoda could follow her dream. After several years of struggle, Rhoda's dream finally came true when she was cast by Agnes de Mille in the Broadway show *A Girl in Pink Tights*, starring the French singer and dancer Jeanmarie.

Rhoda and Stu moved to Walnut Creek in 1957 to raise their family. In 1962 Rhoda joined the then Diablo Light Opera Company (DLOC), which had been a Gilbert and Sullivan group, as a choreographer for their first Broadway-style musical comedy, *Brigadoon*. With the production of *The Most Happy Fella*, Rhoda began both directing and choreographing many of the company's shows and was very influential in the growth of the company.

Rhoda felt fortunate to have found the Diablo Theatre Company and to have had the opportunity to develop her directing and choreography talent. She found joy in working with the families involved in the company's shows, and was proud of the company's artistic achievements. And she never forgot that one of the reasons she was so content was that she had followed her dream.

We know Rhoda would be very pleased that the contributions from her family and friends, in her memory, have helped other talent young people to follow their dreams.