NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 5, 2024

Rachel Butler EVCT Board of Directors Marketing Specialist rachelb@evct.org 910.580.1100

East Valley Children's Theatre (EVCT) presents the final mainstage production of its 27th season, *Xanadu, Jr.*, written by Douglas Carter Beane and music and lyrics by Jeff Lynne and John Farrar. A magical adventure brought to life by a talented cast and crew of youth, under the direction of EVCT's Artistic Director, Bryanna Patrick Blanco, this enchanting musical promises to captivate audiences of all ages. The production takes place at the Mesa Arts Center, where EVCT is a Founding Resident Company. It runs from Thursday, June 13 - Sunday, June 23 with performances at 7:00 PM on Thursdays and Fridays; 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM on Saturdays, and 2:00 PM on Sundays. Tickets are \$16 per person and can be purchased online at evct.org.

Xanadu Jr. recounts the story of a magical and beautiful Greek muse, Kira, who descends from the heavens of Mount Olympus to Venice Beach, California in 1980 on a quest to inspire a struggling artist, Sonny, to achieve the greatest artistic creation of all time – the first ROLLER DISCO! (Hey, it's 1980!) But, when Kira falls into forbidden love with the mortal Sonny, her jealous sisters take advantage of the situation, and chaos abounds. This retro, greek themed, fairytale has music so catchy you will be dancing in your seat!

"This show is going to be fantastic," says Lisa Olson, EVCT Board President. "Anyone who plans on attending is in for a real treat!" EVCT Artistic Director Bryanna Patrick Blanco says, "Xanadu Jr. is a giddy, magical, rock musical with a wholesome story for the whole family. A blast from the past everyone will fall in love with - this show is awesome!!"

EVCT is a professional quality community theatre where children can grow and develop into successful and fulfilled adults. We are managed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors, and staffed by professionals with education and theatrical experience. Kids can take acting classes, join troupes, participate in acting camps, and audition for performances. To learn more, visit evct.org.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Photo 1]: Kira (a.k.a. Clio): Florence Horn, of Mesa and Sonny Malone: Brody Willette-Zebell, of Mesa

[Photo 2]: Kira (a.k.a. Clio): Florence Horn, of Mesa and Sonny Malone: Brody Willette-Zebell, of Mesa

[Photo 3]: Kira (a.k.a. Clio): Florence Horn, of Mesa and Sonny Malone: Brody Willette-Zebell, of Mesa