

ARIEL PERFORMING ARTS  
2277 Fifth Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101  
619-997-4477 • [www.arielperformingarts.com](http://www.arielperformingarts.com)

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Contact:

Ron Tov, 619-997-4477

Email: [rontov@arielperformingarts.com](mailto:rontov@arielperformingarts.com)

## **SAN DIEGO PREMIERE OF “ZANNA, DON’T!” SET FOR APRIL**

“**Zanna, Don't!**”, the 2003 Off-Broadway musical about a magical high school matchmaker who challenges the way we view love, will receive its San Diego Premiere on April 17, 2009.

### **ABOUT THE SHOW**

A 2003 nominee for Outstanding Off-Broadway Musical, “**Zanna, Don't!**” is a musical fairy tale set in a mythical world where everyone is gay. On the Heartsville High School campus, same-sex pairings are the norm and intolerance for heterosexuals is rampant; chess champs trump football quarterbacks in popularity and sex appeal, and a school musical about straights in the military sparks major small town controversy. Meanwhile, Zanna, the school's magical matchmaker, is determined to make sure everyone in town, gay and straight, is happily paired up. The show's high-octane score runs the gamut from pop, funk, R&B and Broadway to touching ballads and dance club mixes.

### **THREE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT “ZANNA, DON’T!”**

1. It has absolutely nothing whatsoever to do with “Xanadu”, the recent musical based on the Olivia Newton John film.
2. “**Zanna, Don't!**” is the show that brought Jai Rodriguez to light, playing Zanna, before he shot to fame on television’s *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy*, as the culture consultant.
3. Tim Acito wrote the book, music, and lyrics, with additional book and lyrics by Alexander Dinelaris.

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AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS

“**Zanna, Don't!**” was nominated for and won several theatrical awards during the 2003 season:

Drama Desk nominations: Best Musical, Best Music, Best Book, and Best Lyrics.

Outer Critics Circle Award nomination: Outstanding Off-Broadway Musical.

Lucille Lortel nominations: Outstanding Musical, Outstanding Choreography (winner), and Outstanding Featured Actress.

“**Zanna Don't!**” was also awarded the 2003 GLAAD Media Award for Outstanding New York Theater Production and voted Favorite Off-Broadway Musical in the Broadway.com Audience Awards.

THE SAN DIEGO PREMIERE

Presented by the independent production company, Ariel Performing Arts, “**Zanna, Don't!**” will be directed by Bob Korbett, with musical direction by Amy Dalton. Performances are scheduled for Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays at 7:30 p.m. from Friday, April 17 through Sunday, May 10, 2009, at the new Washington Street Arts Space located at 116 West Washington Street in Hillcrest. With 60 seats surrounding the stage on three sides, this “black box” space provides an intimate setting for Zanna and Company. Ticket prices range from \$25 to \$28, with discounts for seniors, students and active military. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.zannasd.com](http://www.zannasd.com) or by calling 619-692-1875.

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For additional information, please visit [www.zannasd.com](http://www.zannasd.com) .

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**LISTINGS**

**ZANNA, DON'T!** is a musical fairy tale about a matchmaking teen who turns relationships upside down, challenges our point of view and changes the world. Not your sister's High School Musical! San Diego Premiere, April 17-May 10. Friday-Sunday 7:30 p.m. \$25-28/general, \$20-23/seniors, students, military. Washington Street Arts Space, 116 West Washington St., Hillcrest. (619) 692-1875. [www.zannasd.com](http://www.zannasd.com).

**ZANNA, DON'T!**, April 17-May 10: San Diego Premiere. Set in a mythical land where everyone is gay, this musical fairy-tale has a high-octane score that runs the gamut from pop, funk, R&B and Broadway to dance club mixes and touching ballads. A 2003 nominee for Best Off-Broadway Musical. Friday-Sunday 7:30 p.m. \$25-28/general, \$20-23/seniors, students, military. Washington Street Arts Space, 116 West Washington St., Hillcrest. (619) 692-1875. [www.zannasd.com](http://www.zannasd.com).

**ZANNA, DON'T!**, April 17-May 10: San Diego Premiere. In this musical fairy tale, everything is reversed--the captain of the chess team is the coolest guy in school, the quarterback of the football team can't seem to fit in, and being gay is the prevailing norm. Zanna, Heartsville High School's magical matchmaker is determined to make sure everyone in town, gay and straight, is happily paired up. Friday-Sunday 7:30 p.m. \$25-28/general, \$20-23/seniors, students, military. Washington Street Arts Space, 116 West Washington St., Hillcrest. (619) 692-1875. [www.zannasd.com](http://www.zannasd.com).

**ZANNA, DON'T!**, April 17-May 10: San Diego Premiere. This award-winning musical fairy tale is set in a topsy-turvy world where everyone is gay. To the tune of a catchy high-octane score, Zanna, the high school matchmaker, tackles heterophobia and challenges the way we view love. Friday-Sunday 7:30 p.m. \$25-28/general, \$20-23/seniors, students, military. Washington Street Arts Space, 116 West Washington St., Hillcrest. (619) 692-1875. [www.zannasd.com](http://www.zannasd.com).