

# Celebrate **MOMMS!**

*As we reflect on all that mothers do for our lives and communities, we spotlight 10 amazing examples.*

*By Kristen Howerton*

## Cover Story

### SUSAN EGAN HARTMANN

Susan Egan Hartmann is an actress whose work has been seen on television, stage and screen. She played Belle in the original cast of "Beauty and the Beast"; Sally Bowles in "Cabaret"; and Millie in "Thoroughly Modern Millie." However, her biggest role to date is being a mom to two girls, Nina, 5, and Isla, 2. She lives in Irvine and always strives to not lose sight of her own dreams while being a mother.

"It's tough to focus on your own goals and resist the gravitational pull to become lost in the lives of your kids," Susan says. "Let's face it: They're wonderful. Fresh, new, full of promise! But being the mom of two girls, I also want to exemplify a woman who does have a wide array of interests and passions."

Susan does this by trying to incorporate her girls into her creative activities, bringing them along to

### Creativity



see the workings backstage.

"I've promised Nina that when she turns 7, I'll take her when I travel sometimes," she says. "When I'm learning music, Isla loves to dance or draw to it."

Susan says that as cherished as

her time is with them, she wants her girls to see her working hard for something.

"I want them to witness me dedicating myself to my work and seeing the challenges and rewards that go along with that focus."