

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Nicholas Anthony  
Phone: 805-541-5401  
Email: [Nicholas@fpacslo.org](mailto:Nicholas@fpacslo.org)



FOUNDATION *for the*  
PERFORMING  
**ARTS**  
CENTER

**Foundation for the Performing Arts Center announces Swanson PAC Community Access Grants**

SAN LUIS OBISPO, May 24, 2017—the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center, through the Clifton Swanson PAC Community Access Fund, has awarded \$23,000 in grants to 7 community arts groups who will be performing at the PAC for the 2017-18 season.

“The Swanson Fund allows San Luis Obispo’s vibrant performing arts groups to innovate and reach new audiences,” said Foundation Director Leann Standish. “Many of these groups also engage San Luis Obispo students helping to ensure invaluable access to the arts.”

This is the second consecutive year that the Foundation has awarded Swanson grants. The staff and volunteer committee met with last year’s applicants to learn more about the needs of the community’s resident companies, all while critical NEA funding was being threatened. Groups reported needing support for productions including the



Nutcracker and Madama Butterfly as well as the SLO Youth Symphony, all of which were performed in the Performing Arts Center’s Harman Hall.

This year’s recipients include: Central Coast Dance and Music Academy (CDMA), Cuesta Master Chorale, OperaSLO, SLO Civic Ballet, SLO Symphony, Friendship Through Dance, and the San Luis Obispo Youth Symphony.

photo cred. Heather Nyugen

This year’s grantmaking program is made possible through the generous support of donors who contributed to the Foundation’s mission of keeping the Performing Arts Center accessible by extending additional support to our community performance groups. In addition to the Swanson Community Access Fund, all community arts groups performing at the PAC receive a 75% rental discount (\$3,750) from the Foundation and its partners, Cal Poly and the City of San Luis Obispo. More than 26 community groups presented over 100 shows at the PAC last year.

**About the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center**

Established in 1986, the Foundation provides and promotes an extraordinary and accessible center for the performing arts that elevates the arts in our community, in collaboration with our partners, California Polytechnic State University and the City of

**Board of Directors**

- John Rolph  
*President*
- Maryellen Simkins  
*Secretary*
- Trudie Safreno  
*Treasurer*
- Jill Anderson
- Sharon Armstrong
- Anthony Brizzolara
- Kathleen Choal
- Kristin Flynn
- Joey Leslie
- Ziyad Naccasha
- Skylar Stuck

**Honorary Board**

- Libbie Agran
- Jim Eckford
- Robert Haas
- Brendan McAdams, Jr., M.D.
- Clifton Swanson
- Matt Trevisan

**Executive Director**

- Leann Standish

San Luis Obispo. For more information on the Foundation, its mission, values and programs, please visit: <http://fpacslo.org>

**For more information contact:**

Nicholas Anthony  
Foundation for the Performing Arts Center  
PO BOX 1137  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406  
805-541-5401  
[Nicholas@fpacslo.org](mailto:Nicholas@fpacslo.org)