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FOUNDATION for the
PERFORMING
ARTS
CENTER

Swanson PAC Community Access Fund Gives 9 Community Arts Groups extra funding to grace the PAC Stage in Upcoming Season

SAN LUIS OBISPO, August 2016—the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center, through the newly created Clifton Swanson PAC Community Access Fund, has awarded \$27,300 in grants to 9 community arts group who are scheduled to perform at the PAC during the 2016-17 season. Receiving funds from the first annual Swanson grant are: Central Coast Dance and Music Academy (CDMA), Cuesta Master Chorale, Festival Mozaic, OperaSLO, Orchestra Novo, SLO Civic Ballet, SLO Symphony, Vocal Arts Ensemble, and the San Luis Obispo Youth Symphony.

Applicants for the inaugural Swanson grant needed to have their date for presenting at the PAC reserved for next year to qualify, among other financial qualifications. Interim Executive Director Justin McMillan facilitated the applicant review process, which took place in April. Commenting on the addition of the Swanson Fund to the Foundation’s community support efforts, McMillan remarked, “The Foundation exists in part to support our talented local performance groups’ access to the PAC stage. We are pleased to be able to increase our support this year and in years to come through the Swanson Fund, and hope this grant helps pave the way for more community performance groups to perform at Harman Hall than ever before. We are so grateful to our generous donors who made this grant possible, and our committee members who worked tirelessly to get this program established.”

This year’s grantmaking program is made possible through the generous support of the Foundation’s donors who came together to further the mission of the Foundation of keeping the PAC accessible, extending new support to our community performance groups. In addition to this new 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 took the stage at the PAC last year, comprising over 100 shows.

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L to R: Clif Swanson, Mi Young Shin – SLO Youth Symphony, Zette Harbour – Orchestra Novo, Tara Behnke – Coastal Dance and Music Academy, Sarah Maggelet – Vocal Arts Ensemble, Bettina Swigger – Festival Mozaic, Leslie Michel – Civic Ballet of San Luis Obispo, Liz Summer – SLO Symphony, Sharon Dobson – OperaSLO, Linda Wilkes – Master Chorale, Carol Nelson-Selby – OperaSLO

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

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