



April 7, 2008  
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## **CATS Comes to Performing Arts Center on 25th Anniversary Tour**

SAN LUIS OBISPO – In celebration of its 25th anniversary season, CATS – the show that revolutionized musical theatre – is returning to San Luis Obispo for two performances only, on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 29 & 30, 2008, with a special family-friendly early curtain of 7 p.m. at the Cohan Center.

Cal Poly Arts presents the new Center Stage event, which is the only production in North America sanctioned by composer Andrew Lloyd Webber. With original direction by Trevor Nunn and choreography by Gillian Lynne, this was the show credited with the British invasion of Broadway.

On May 11, 1981, CATS opened at the New London Theatre in the West End and became the longest-running musical in the history of British theatre. When CATS opened at the Winter Garden Theatre in New York City in 1982, it continued to live up to its motto, "Now and Forever," becoming the longest-running musical on Broadway. It ended its almost 19-year run in 2000.

Based on T.S. Eliot's "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats," with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, CATS won seven 1983 Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Best Book of a Musical, Best Lighting, and Best Costumes.

In October of 1991, CATS became the longest continuously-touring show in American theatre history. Five continents, 26 countries, over eight and a half million audience members, and 25 years later, CATS is still America's most beloved family musical.

A pre-show lecture by Cal Poly Dance professor Moon Ja Minn Suhr will be held in the Philips Recital Hall at 6 p.m. prior to each performance.

General public tickets for the performance range from \$56 to \$68 and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088. Order on-line at [www.calpolyarts.org](http://www.calpolyarts.org).

For more information on all Cal Poly Arts events, including audio and video samples, please visit [www.calpolyarts.org](http://www.calpolyarts.org).

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