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NEWS RELEASE FROM CAL POLY ARTS:

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

World-renowned Pianist André Watts to Play the PAC

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA – Pianist André Watts burst upon the music world at the age of 16 when Leonard Bernstein chose him to make his debut with the New York Philharmonic in their Young People's Concerts, broadcast nationwide. Two weeks later, Bernstein asked Watts to substitute at the last minute for the ailing Glenn Gould in performances of Liszt's "E-flat Concerto" with the New York Philharmonic, thus launching his career in storybook fashion.

More than 45 years later, André Watts remains one of today's most celebrated and beloved piano superstars.

On Thursday, April 5, 2012 at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center's Cohan Center, Cal Poly Arts presents ANDRÉ WATTS in concert, with a program that includes Scarlatti's "Sonata in F minor" and "Sonata in A Major;" Haydn's "Sonata No. 58 in C Major;" Beethoven's "Sonata in D, Op. 10," and Liszt's "Etude de concert No.3."

"Watts' technique has gained in brilliance and strength, while his insights have become exquisitely penetrating and detailed." (The New York Times)

A much-honored artist who has played before royalty in Europe and heads of government in nations all over the world, Watts was selected to receive the Avery Fisher Prize in 1988. At age 26, he was the youngest person ever to receive an Honorary Doctorate from Yale University and he has since received numerous honors from highly respected schools including the University of Pennsylvania, Brandeis University, The Juilliard School of Music and his Alma Mater, the Peabody Conservatory of Johns Hopkins University. In June 2006, he was inducted into the Hollywood Bowl of Fame to celebrate the 50th anniversary of his debut (with the Philadelphia Orchestra).

Patrons are invited to attend a free pre-concert lecture presented by Music Dept. faculty member Alyson McLamore at 6:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center's Pavilion.

Student and adult tickets for the performance range from $24 to $54 and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Center Ticket Office, 11 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.

24-hour on-line ordering is available at www.calpolyarts.org.

10% discount offered to groups of 10 or more. (Not applicable to student rates)

Sponsored by Jeffrey D. & Sharon Armstrong, Foundation for the Performing Arts Center in honor of Center Circle Members, and KCBX 90.1 FM

For more information on all Cal Poly Arts events, including audio and video samples, please visit www.calpolyarts.org.

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