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Longtime Cal Poly Supporter Phyllis Madonna Named Open House Grand Marshal

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Phyllis Madonna, owner of the famed Madonna Inn and a generous Cal Poly supporter, will serve as the 2012 Open House Grand Marshal. The Open House Committee will honor Madonna during the Poly Royal Parade on Saturday, April 14.

Madonna moved to San Luis Obispo in 1948 after she married her husband, Alex Madonna (who died in 2004). During her many years here, she has worked to better her community by hosting a fashion show in support of the local women's shelter. And she had made generous donations to Cal Poly, including sponsoring the Cal Poly basketball team.

In addition, the Madonna family has become a Cal Poly legacy; all four of Phyllis Madonna's children attended the university, and her granddaughter is now a student.

Cal Poly's 19th annual Open House will take place April 12-14. The event allows admitted and current students, their supporters, alumni, and the San Luis Obispo community the opportunity to explore all that Cal Poly offers.

Cal Poly opens its campus to the public April 14 for the Poly Royal Parade, starting at 9 a.m. The parade starts at the corner of Grand Avenue and Perimeter Road and then travels north toward Via Carta, ending at Dexter Lawn. Seating is available along the route.

Activities following the parade include a Kids' Fair, live music, the Cal Poly Tractor Pull, the Cal Poly Rodeo, and more.

For more information about Cal Poly's Open House weekend, visit http://orientation.calpoly.edu/openhouse or call the Open House office at 805-756-7576.

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