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TICKET SALES: 805/756-2787

## 'The Crooked Road' Music Project Winds its Way to PAC Oct. 24

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly Arts presents a once-in-a-lifetime chance to experience the vibrant, living musical culture of the Virginian region known as “The Crooked Road.”

The “Crooked Road Project: Mountain Music of Virginia” – a national tour of Appalachian music – will be on stage live at the Christopher Cohan Center on Wednesday, October 24, 2007 at 8 p.m.

“This performance is unique and...a rare treat,” says Joshua Kohn, Programming Manager for the National Council for the Traditional Arts, the tour’s producer. “The energy level and expertise of these young performers and the masters that accompany them is astounding. This traveling celebration of authentic old-time bluegrass, mountain gospel, ballad singing, and flatfoot dance will highlight the hold that these traditions still have in the Blue Ridge Mountains.”

This highly-acclaimed tour is named after Highway Route 58 – an area now known as the Crooked Road Heritage Music Trail – which winds for over 200 miles of the Appalachian Mountains from the western slopes of the Blue Ridge Mountains to the coalfields.

The trail connects major heritage music venues in the Appalachian region, such as the Blue Ridge Music Center, Birthplace of Country Music Alliance, and the Carter Family Fold.

The traditional gospel, bluegrass, and mountain music audiences will hear in Harman Hall was passed down from generation to generation and lives on through a wealth of musicians and instrument-makers along the trail. The music's roots are hundreds of years old, dating back to when the musical traditions of the African banjo and European violin combined and created uniquely American sounds.

The tour features National Heritage Award Fellow and Appalachian guitar master Wayne Henderson; bluegrass banjo virtuoso Sammy Shelor; family old-time string band The Whitetop Mountain Band; old-time fiddle and banjo masters Kirk Sutphin and Eddie Bond; the up-and-coming bluegrass band No Speed Limit; and a young keeper of ancient mountain ballads and songs, 19-year-old Elizabeth LaPrelle.

A pre-concert lecture will be given by Crooked Road Project member and noted folklorist Jon Lohman at 7 p.m. in the Gallery Level Lobby of the Performing Arts Center.

General public tickets for the performance are \$28 & \$34 with student discounts available on all seats, 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.pacslo.org](http://www.pacslo.org).

The Cal Poly Arts performance is sponsored by Peach Tree Inn, with additional support provided by KCBX 90.1 FM.

The “Music from the Crooked Road: Mountain Music of Virginia” tour is produced by the National Council for the Traditional Arts, [www.ncta.net](http://www.ncta.net)

Support is provided in part by Western States Arts Federation (WESTAF), California Arts Council (CAC), National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), and the California Presenters touring initiative.

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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