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Nov. 15, 2006

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Cal Poly Arts Brings Irish Tenors to Campus for Christmas Concert

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA – Since they first joined voices in 1998, The Irish Tenors have given countless traditional favorites their own signature sound, proving themselves to be gifted interpreters of a wide range of material.

The New York Times declared: "To hear the Irish Tenors sing...is paradise."

On Tuesday, December 12, at 8 p.m. in Harman Hall at the Christopher Cohan Center, Cal Poly Arts presents the wildly successful Irish Tenors in a festive holiday concert. (Limited seats available as of press time.)

Lyric tenor Finbar Wright, romantic tenor Anthony Kearns, and operatic tenor Karl Scully join for "Irish Tenors Christmas" -- a blend of traditional carols and classic Irish ballads in a majestic pops-style yuletide concert, backed by a 48-piece orchestra.

National appearances on "The Today Show," "Good Morning America," "Live With Regis And Kelly," "20/20," and "A&E Breakfast With The Arts," have helped make the Irish Tenors a household name.

Such popular songs as "My Heart Will Go On" (made famous by Celine Dion), "Fairytale Of New York" (previously recorded by Kirsty MacColl and The Pogues) and even Jimmy Kennedy's "South Of The Border" (Down Mexico Way) have received the Tenor treatment.

These songs are comfortably listed in the Tenors' repertoire, alongside "Danny Boy," "My Wild Irish Rose," and "Fields Of Athenry."

For many, Anthony Kearns and Finbar Wright are synonymous with Irish music. When former Irish Tenor John McDermott announced he was going to concentrate on solo engagements, a wide search began for a third tenor.

Few vocalists are capable of the bright, ringing tone and high-wire -- not to mention high C -- performance skills that denote a tenor; the high-level scouting resulted in the popular Karl Scully becoming the newest member of the Irish Tenors.

The magic the Tenors captured on "The Irish Tenors" (1999), "Home For Christmas" (1999), "Live In Belfast" (2000), and "Ellis Island" (2001), and their Razor & Tie releases -- "We Three Kings" (2003), "Heritage" (2004), and the 2005 "Sacred, A Spiritual Journey" -- has resulted in millions of albums sold.

Not content to rest on these laurels, however, The Irish Tenors tour constantly, thrilling old fans and winning new ones all around the globe.

In the United States, they are one of the most successful Irish touring

acts, second only to the rock band, U2.

Tickets for the performance range from \$46 to \$58, with student discounts available, 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.

Sponsored by Al and Patty Moriarty, Embassy Suites Hotel, and KCBX 90.1 FM.

For audio and video samples of Cal Poly Arts events, visit www.calpolyarts.org.

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