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California Polytechnic State University

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MEDIA CONTACT: LISA WOSKE

(805) 756-7110

lwoske@calpoly.edu

TICKET CONTACT

(805) 756-2787

www.pacslo.org

Cal Poly Arts Announces 2005-06 Season Performances

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Emmylou Harris, "Tap Dogs," Dave Barry, John Cleese, "42nd Street," and appearances by critically acclaimed classical performers are among the many highlights of Cal Poly Arts 2005-06 season, announced this week.

Season tickets for the new 2005-06 Cal Poly Arts subscription series are now on sale at the Performing Arts Center Ticket Office, and general tickets will be available soon.

"The 2005-06 season offers an exciting mix of pure entertainment, profound artistic experiences, and everything in between," promises Cal Poly Arts director Ralph Hoskins. "There are big names, names destined to be big, and a wide variety of artistic styles and disciplines featuring the top talent available."

Patrons ordering just four or more events will qualify as a season subscriber and receive priority seating, substantial season ticket discounts, and advance notification of special added, high-profile celebrity Center Stage events throughout the year.

The Cal Poly Arts full-color season brochure, describing over three dozen events being presented at the Christopher Cohan Center and the Alex and Faye Spanos Theatre, is now available from the Ticket Office as well.

This season, national Broadway musical touring companies will stage the toe-tapping "42nd Street," Rodgers & Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!" and the razzle-dazzle of "The Will Rogers Follies."

Other stage offerings include Dave Gorman's "Googlewhack! Adventure" -- a smash hit both in New York and Los Angeles -- and Arthur Miller's "The Price," mounted by the esteemed A Noise Within theatre company.

Those looking for a lighthearted evening and a deep belly laugh will be pleased to see that the new season line-up includes comedy greats John Cleese, the Smothers Brothers, and nationally-syndicated humorist Dave Barry.

Back by popular demand, audience members can look forward to returning favorites such as Grammy-winning singer/songwriter Emmylou Harris, the whimsical visual theatre of Imago, and the stompin' rhythm that is "Tap Dogs."

World music and dance are well represented by Nuevo Ballet Espanol's "Flamenco Directo," Shanghai Acrobatic Troupes' new show, "Chi," South Africa's Soweto Gospel Choir, England's Black Watch brigade, and Celtic favorite Mary Black joining Maura O'Connell, Sharon Shannon, and Cara Dillon in a showcase entitled "A Woman's Heart."

Blues and jazz will fill the halls as the season opens with a Rockin Blues Revue featuring Eric Bibb, Robben Ford and Chicago-style blues legend John Mayall. Sparkling vocalist DeeDee Bridgewater and the Hollywood Jazz Orchestra offer a tribute to Ella Fitzgerald, and a swinging concert rings in the holidays with style in "A Manhattan Transfer Christmas" with orchestra.

Known for their gorgeous melodies and insightful lyrics, acoustic pop duo Indigo Girls make their Central Coast debut with a concert featuring their latest collection of songs from their acclaimed "All That We Let In" release. Windham Hill mainstay pianist George Winston performs selections from favorite works and his new release, "Montana - A Love Story."

Emmy-winning night-clubber Dale Gonyea headlines a charming, intimate evening staged in the Cohan Center Pavilion, complete with cabaret-style table seating and a light food/dessert/ beverage menu including beer, wine and champagne.

Classical music is a cornerstone of any Cal Poly Arts season and the 2005-06 season is no exception, with the world-renowned Aulos Chamber Orchestra performing Handel's "Water Music Suite in F Major" and Bach's "Brandenburg Concerto No. 5."

Revolutionary classical guitarist Paul Galbraith delivers his specially-created transcriptions of Ravel, Ponce, and Martin, as well as Mozart's "Baroque Keyboard Suite" and Bach's "French Suite No. 4" and the masterful Canadian Brass quintet proves once again why they are "...the world's leading brass ensemble." (*Washington Post*)

The Royal Carl Rosa Opera shines in a delightful full-stage production of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Mikado" and Teatro Lirico d'Europa returns to San Luis Obispo with their successful new offering, Rossini's treasured comedy "The Barber of Seville."

Folk and ethnic music fans will enjoy heartland minstrel Greg Brown, ukelele master Jake Shimabukuro – fresh from a Jimmy Buffet tour -- and the Mammals, a band of string players with a rock and roll heart.

Dance enthusiasts have a range of choices: from the Russian National Ballet performing the sumptuous 19th Century story ballet, "La Bayadere" to the contemporary dance and innovative showmanship of Aspen Santa Fe Ballet and the Parsons Dance Company.

And the popular, low-cost Cal Poly Arts Family Event series offers a full range of fun, with Eth-Noh Tec's "Asian Treasure Bag of Stories," Montreal's Theatre Sans Fil's "The Dream Catchers," the Kennedy Center's "Alexander, Who's Not Not Not Not Not Not Going to Move!" and the zany antics of The Flying Karamazov Brothers (who neither fly nor are brothers).

Visit the newly-redesigned, user-friendly Cal Poly Arts web site (www.calpolyarts.org), featuring all event and ticket information, as well as links to season artist audio/video samples and websites. There are also now web site functions that allow visitors to interact more specifically with Cal Poly Arts.

For a Cal Poly Arts new season brochure and all season ticket ordering information, please contact the Performing Arts Center Ticket Office between 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays at (805) 756-2787.

Patrons may also fax orders to (805) 756-6088, order on-line at www.pacslo.org, or stop by the Ticket Office at One Grand Avenue in San Luis Obispo.

Single tickets and orders of three or less events are on sale to the public as of September 6, 2005 and are filled on an as-available basis once season ticket orders are completed.

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Cal Poly Public Affairs

California Polytechnic State University

San Luis Obispo, CA 93407

805.756.7266

polynews@calpoly.edu