

California Polytechnic State University

Dec. 3, 2004

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### **Master Showman Paul Anka Coming to Cohan Center Jan. 7**

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- With over 60 million records sold to date and 33 Top 40 hits to his credit, Paul Anka is an industry legend. The New York Times wrote, "Mr. Anka could give lessons on showmanship."

On Friday, January 7, 2005 at 8 p.m. in the Christopher Cohan Center, Cal Poly Arts presents Paul Anka with his dynamic 12-piece band for an all-hits concert, celebrating Anka's 45th anniversary in show business.

Paul Anka is one of music's most prolific songwriters. He has achieved success in virtually every venue: stage, screen, television, and recording. With over 124 albums released, Anka has been named "the 21st most successful artist" in Billboard magazine's history.

His musical compositions are internationally-known, have been performed well over 150 million times, and were recorded by some of the great names in the entertainment industry, including Frank Sinatra ("My Way"), Buddy Holly ("It Doesn't Matter Anymore"), and Tom Jones ("She's A Lady").

Anka gained fame at 16 as a 50's teen idol, with appearances on TV's "American Bandstand" and major hits on the charts -- "Diana," "Lonely Boy," "Puppy Love," "You Are My Destiny," and "Put Your Head on My Shoulder." His continued success throughout the decades was highlighted with top songs in the 70's, "(You're) Having My Baby" and "Times of Your Life."

With well over 900 songs to his credit -- performed by such diverse artists as Barbra Streisand, Linda Ronstadt, The Sex Pistols, Nina Simone, Gypsy Kings, and Robbie Williams -- Anka has also successfully collaborated with songwriters David Foster, Carol Bayer Sager, Richard Marx, Michael McDonald, Michael Jackson, and many others.

Anka's biggest contribution to television was the most recognized show theme song in history: "The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson," which has been performed over 1,400,000 times. He was nominated for an Academy

Award for writing the theme music and title song for the film, “No Way Out,” starring Kevin Costner. His theme song for Louis Malle’s “Atlantic City” took top honors at the Venice Film Festival.

Paul Anka continues to tour ten months out of the year and recently signed an unprecedented three-year deal with The MGM in Las Vegas, as well as with the Mohegan Sun in Connecticut and a multi-year deal with The Borgata in Atlantic City.

Tickets for the performance range from \$44 - \$68, 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](http://www.pacslo.org).

Sponsored by Patricia McNamara in loving memory of Francis McNamara and by Al and Patty Moriarty and Avila Village Inn.

For audio and video samples of Cal Poly Arts events, visit [www.calpolyarts.org](http://www.calpolyarts.org).

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