



## News & Events

University News & Information

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### **Sheila and Yosef Tiber Awarded Cal Poly 2003 President's Arts Award**

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Generous and tireless supporters of the arts, Sheila Tiber and her husband, the late Yosef Tiber, have been selected to receive the Cal Poly President's Arts Award for 2003 in recognition of their significant contributions to the arts and cultural environment of San Luis Obispo.

Yosef Tiber, a retired physician, passed away in September 2001. His legacy, however, continues to play an essential role in drawing high-quality arts events to the Central Coast.

Sheila Tiber remains a committed patron of the arts and dedicated supporter of several other causes.

The President's Arts Award will be presented during a special ceremony on Feb. 22, before the Moscow Festival Ballet company's performance of "Giselle" in Harman Hall in the Performing Arts Center.

"Sheila and Yos have provided inspiration and vision for the entire community," said Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker. "Their recognition that the arts enhance our humanity has enriched us all, and for this we gratefully express our appreciation."

The Tibers have been members of the Cal Poly President's Round Table since 1982. In 1993, they established the Sheila and Yosef Tiber Scholarship Fund at Cal Poly, which provides annual scholarships to incoming and returning students. Yosef also served as a member of the College of Liberal Arts Advisory Board.

Harry Hellenbrand, chair of the President's Arts Award Nomination Committee and dean of the College of Liberal Arts, said, "The Tibers were a unanimous choice of the committee. They have done so much for Cal Poly Arts, the Cohan Center -- the arts community in general on the

Central Coast. We all wish Yos were here to celebrate with us, but we are with him in spirit. They are so deserving.”

The Tibers were among a handful of visionaries whose early dedication and diligence led to the founding of the Performing Arts Center San Luis Obispo. Yosef Tiber served on the board of the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center from 1997 to 2001.

“Throughout their time in this community, Yosef and Sheila Tiber have brought passion and generosity to their many commitments, not least of which has been the artistic and cultural life of San Luis Obispo County,” said Warren Sinsheimer, who served with Yosef Tiber on the Board of Directors for the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center.

Sheila and Yosef Tiber were charter subscribers and contributors to Cal Poly Arts, a nonprofit organization operated by Cal Poly and a major presenter of performing arts events on the Central Coast.

“Sheila and Yos Tiber have been an unflagging source of support, encouragement and advice since Cal Poly Arts’ inception,” said Ralph Hoskins, director of Cal Poly Arts. “They are the most perfect friends an arts organization could ask for: loyal, involved, honest, knowledgeable, generous and enthusiastic. Especially enthusiastic.”

In 1988, the Tibers traveled to Japan with the Cal Poly Wind Orchestra (formerly the Symphonic Band), at the invitation of orchestra director and Music Professor William Johnson. While planning the trip for the 75-member ensemble, Johnson anticipated the possibility of illness or an accident among the members of the group, and recalled that Yosef was a retired physician and Sheila a former nurse.

“Our first night in Tokyo, Yosef called to inform me that one of our students had been injured,” Johnson said. “We went to the hospital with the young man. Yosef showed me the X-rays, and it was obvious that the student would have to remain in the hospital for the remainder of the trip. Yosef took care of all of the hospital arrangements, and three weeks later we returned to Tokyo, picked up the young man from the hospital, and returned home. It is people like the Tibers that you never forget.”

They have sponsored numerous concerts and other events at both Cal Poly and in the community. They have supported the Mozart Festival and the San Luis Obispo Symphony for more than 25 years. Yosef Tiber served on the symphony board.

The Tibers are longtime supporters of Cuesta College and several community programs.

Sheila Tiber lives in San Luis Obispo.

The President's Arts Award, established in 1988, honors a person, family or organization that has contributed significantly to the cultural environment of San Luis Obispo County. Honorees are selected for their exceptional commitment and devotion to the arts and the community.

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