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Cal Poly Alumni Big Band to Be In Full Swing At Madonna Inn Ballroom Aug. 23

SAN LUIS OBISPO—The Cal Poly Collegians Alumni Big Band promises a night of lively music and dancing at its annual concert from 7 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23, in the Madonna Inn Ballroom.

The 20 Cal Poly Collegians – all Cal Poly alumni – bring the best of Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Benny Goodman and Les Brown to San Luis Obispo every August. This year the band and two current Cal Poly students will present a dynamic program of big band jazz and swing for listening and dancing.

The student musicians are jazz vocalist Kristen Choi and trombonist Zachary Fisher, joint winners of this year’s Cal Poly Collegians’ Jazz Scholarship.

The all-male Collegians are the predecessor to today’s University Jazz Bands at Cal Poly.

Today’s alumni band members represent classes from 1948 to 1963. They hail from Arroyo Grande, Atascadero, Pismo Beach and San Luis Obispo, as well as from other locales in California, Arizona, Oregon, and as far away as Massachusetts.

The Collegians Alumni Big Band has gathered every year since the mid-60s to renew old friendships and play their favorite tunes, according to band member Bob Alberti. The alumni band has performed for enthusiastic audiences at a variety of local venues, including Edna Valley Vineyards, Mission Plaza, Atascadero Lake Park, and the 1996 pre-opening sound check at Harman Hall in the Christopher Cohan Center’s Performing Arts Center.

Admission to the concert is free; voluntary contributions for the Collegians’ jazz scholarship at Cal Poly are invited. For more information about this and other Saturday night dances at the Madonna Inn, call 543-3000. For more information about the Cal Poly Collegians Alumni Big Band, go to the Collegians’ Web site at http://music.calpoly.edu/collegians

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