

National Philanthropy Day Orange County 2010

Nine Outstanding Honorees Announced

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ORANGE COUNTY, CA – Orange County's top philanthropists, business leaders and individuals of 2010 will be honored at this year's 25th Anniversary National Philanthropy Day (NPD) Orange County luncheon celebration for their outstanding philanthropy in the community.

NPD Orange County has become the most prominent philanthropic recognition event in Orange County, with more than a thousand individuals, businesses and support organizations honored since its inception in 1986.

The 25th Annual NPD Awards Luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 17, 2010 at the Anaheim Marriott Hotel located at 700 West Convention Way in Anaheim.

NPD is sponsored by the Orange County Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and is presented by the Orange County Register. For more information regarding the event, visit the web site www.npdoc.org or contact Kathy Ruvolo, event co-chair, at 949-824-3303, Cathy Michaels, event co-chair, at 714-560-0900 or Jess Block, publicist, at 909-706-8525.

2010 HONOREES

DONALD BREN LEGACY OF GIVING AWARD

Donald Bren, Newport Beach

Nominated by: NPD OC Committee

*Ranked by *Business Week* as one of the 50 most generous philanthropists in the nation, it was estimated in 2008 that Donald Bren, Chairman of the Irvine Company and dedicated philanthropist, had given more than \$1.3 billion focused in the areas of education, conservation and research. At the University of California, both privately and through the Donald Bren Foundation, he has directed more than \$60 million to support faculty and programmatic excellence. The Irvine Company and the Donald Bren Foundation have contributed more than \$200 million to K-12 public school on The Irvine Ranch and to higher education institutions. As an arts supporter, Bren has donated millions in charitable contributions to the OC arts community, to such beneficiaries as the OC Performing Arts Center and OC Museum of Art. Additionally, Bren is involved in environmental conservation, guiding major preservation efforts on The Irvine Ranch -- 93,000 acres stretching from the Pacific Ocean to the Cleveland National Forest. In total as a result of Bren's conservation efforts, more than half of the entire ranch -- more than 50,000 acres -- has been permanently preserved as open space and parklands. These lands have been designated Natural Landmarks by both the U.S. Department of the Interior and the State of California.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Marion Knott, Newport Beach

Nominated by: Chapman University, Discovery Science Center, Blind Children's Learning Center, Goodwill Industries of Orange County, Boy Scouts of America- Orange County Council, Hoag Hospital Foundation, Cruisin' For A Cure

*Marion Knott has supported Chapman as a board of trustees member since 1982, underwritten student scholarships, faculty initiatives and made multiple financial donations to much needed facilities, with and without being asked. Gifts include \$8 million for the film school's state-of-the-art Marion Knott Studios, a lead gift to the Conservatory of Music in Chapman's College of Performing Arts and an endowment for a Filmmaker-in-Residence program. The 15-week program, for 10 selected scholars, brings a renowned filmmaker to campus to interact with and mentor students. Knott also donates time and financial gifts to the Discovery Science Center of Orange County, Cruisin' For a Cure, Blind Children's Learning Center, Goodwill Industries of Orange County, where her giving over 20 years totals over \$573,000, and Hoag Hospital Foundation, where she's given a \$700,000 challenge grant encouraging the community to collectively match her donation for a state-of-the-art nursing education program, the Marion Knott Nursing Education Center.

OUTSTANDING FOUNDER

Jerri Rosen, Newport Beach

Nominated by: Working Wardrobes and Academies for Social Entrepreneurship

*Disturbed by the increasing statistics of domestic violence, Jerri Rosen founded Working Wardrobes in 1990 to help women in need of re-entering the workforce through professional "wardrobing" and career development services. Today Rosen oversees a \$1.2M nonprofit that has served over 50,000 clients in its twenty years, 5,000 at-risk Southern Californians uplifted in 2009 alone. Led by Rosen, Working Wardrobes now includes programs to serve men and teens in addition to women. In 2000, Working Wardrobes created the Cinderellas for Life event which features empowerment workshops, prom dresses, shoes and accessories for girls would otherwise be unable to afford the items. Working Wardrobes provides career tools, confidence and the respectful boost needed for men and women to re-enter the workforce.

OUTSTANDING PHILANTHROPIST

Phil and Mary Lyons, Newport Beach

Nominated by: KOCE-TV Foundation, Pacific Symphony, Pacific Chorale, Arts Orange County

As committed, generous and enthusiastic Orange County art supporters, Phil and Mary Lyons have provided significant financial support, extraordinary leadership and countless volunteer hours to many OC arts programs. They are major donors to public broadcasting and particularly to KOCE-TV. In 2002 when public broadcasting was struggling

politically, Mary Lyons flew to Washington D.C. and presented the value of KOCE public television to the Orange County congressional delegation. The Lyons are responsible for the ArtSmart segment of KOCE programming. As a board member of the Pacific Symphony, Phil Lyons championed the construction of the Symphony's home, the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall. The League of American Orchestras designated Pacific Symphony as one of the five most innovative orchestras in the nation and the Lyons played an enormous role in shaping the institutional identity. Phil continues to serve on the Symphony's Executive and Investments Committees. Phil and Mary have been among the Symphony's top donors for decades, contributing to both the annual and endowment funds. Deeply involved in the Pacific Chorale where Mary is a singer, the Lyons have helped ensure that professional choral music is performed and recorded at the highest standards. Mary chaired the Chorale board in the 1980s and presently serves as its VP of Education and Programs. The Lyons give annual gifts, support commissions of new work, and contribute to the Chorale's endowment fund. Mary Lyons, a founding Board member of Arts Orange County, Orange County's arts council, has served as that organization's president and worked to bring the Imagination Celebration of Orange County under its aegis and expand its programming. Phil and Mary Lyons were awarded a Cultural Legacy Award by Arts Orange County in 2008 and continue to be generously involved.

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER FUNDRAISER

Henry L. Jones, Fullerton

Nominated by: St. Jude Medical Center

*Well-known for over 40 years of service to the community, Henry L. Jones has served as a board member and advocate for many OC organizations including St. Jude Medical Center. After the passing of his wife Vi in 2009, Mr. Jones responded with a donation challenge to the community in support of cancer for a St. Jude event-he would match up to \$25,000 in Vi's honor. With the writing of personal letters to friends and colleagues, Mr. Jones helped inspire 144 gifts in Vi's honor. He personally gave \$46,000 and set a fundraising record for the event, raising over \$140,000. In March 2010, Mr. Jones co-chaired an event committee in support of St. Jude Neighborhood Health Center, a fixed-site clinic for the underserved. Mr. Jones conceived and developed a special appeal to inspire gifts and convinced three committee members to join him in matching gifts dollar for dollar. His leadership and innovation helped the committee double the proceeds from \$41,000 in 2007 to over \$109,000 in 2010. Susan Smith of St. Jude Medical Center said of Mr. Jones "Henry's endurance and passionate philanthropic leadership through [Vi's passing] has been utterly inspirational". In April 2010, Henry spearheaded the 2010 Vi Jones Fullerton Area CROP Hunger Walk with another \$25,000 matching challenge and in result it was the first CROP Walk in California history to raise over \$100,000.

OUTSTANDING PHILANTHROPIC GROUP

AccessOC, Laguna Hills

Nominated by: Health Funders Partnership/AccessOC

*AccessOC offers an outpatient surgery program, which provides free surgeries on ‘Super Surgery Saturdays’ at seven local hospitals throughout the year. A project of the Health Funders Partnership of Orange County, AccessOC was formed in 2005 in response to an assessment of local healthcare needs and challenges, which identified access to specialty care for underinsured and uninsured residents as the greatest area of need. The foundation of AccessOC is the philanthropic volunteerism of over 400 medical professionals, including physicians, nurses and surgical teams who donate their time, skill and expertise. One in four of Orange County’s 3 million residents live below 200 percent of federal poverty level and about 15% of residents ages 18 to 64 are uninsured. Uninsured patients typically wait long periods of time, 12 months or longer, for specialty healthcare visits. AccessOC and volunteer efforts provide a mechanism to close that gap with their outpatient surgery program operating year-round on an ongoing basis. Volunteers have the benefit of contributing to the health and well being of individuals in their community.

OUTSTANDING YOUTH

Megan Mahdi, Laguna Niguel

Nominated by: Olive Crest

*In 2006, eleven-year-old Megan Mahdi decided to focus her love of competitive figure skating as a means to raise money for children. A skate-a-thon fundraiser securing pledges for laps skated named Project Joy was founded to support Olive Crest, which offers programs and services to treat and prevent child abuse. Project Joy raised \$3,300 for Olive Crest the first year, collecting 45 pledges with her younger sister and skating 276 laps between the two girls. In 2007, Ms. Mahdi expanded the event by inviting 23 girls to join her and her sister, offering a point of sale program, and enrolling in a web design course to create a website to publicize the event. Smile Train, an international organization that provides free cleft palate surgery for poor children in developing countries, was included as a second beneficiary. The event was named ‘Skate for Joy’ and raised \$27,000 for Olive Crest and Smile Train with over 3,500 laps completed. In 2008, the event raised \$27,000 and in 2009 the event raised \$29,000. In four years, Ms. Mahdi and Project Joy have raised over \$86,000 to benefit children in need. “The potential impact to be made on behalf of children of the world by Megan Mahdi is immeasurable,” says Tina Fuertes of Olive Crest.

OUTSTANDING CORPORATION OR BUSINESS (MORE THAN 30 EMPLOYEES)

Golden State Foods, Irvine

Nominated by: Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County

*Through leadership, financial support and volunteer participation, Golden State Foods (GSF) demonstrates an outstanding commitment to philanthropy in Orange County. In 2002 Golden State Foods established the Golden State Foods Foundation, a non-profit organization designed to improve the lives of children and families in the areas where Golden State Foods associates live and work through personal involvement and contribution. The GSF Foundation has raised more than \$13 million for over 250 children’s charities and donated \$6.4 to charitable causes. Nearly 80% of GSF’s U.S.

employee base participates in the GSF Foundation, which encourages volunteer participation and commitment of its workforce.

OUTSTANDING CORPORATION OR BUSINESS (FEWER THAN 30 EMPLOYEES)

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, San Juan Capistrano

Nominated by: Habitat for Humanity of Orange County

*Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is a faith-based, not for profit financial services organization that has worked with Habitat for Humanity of Orange County (HfHOC) since 2004. Since the inception of their local partnership, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has contributed \$1,096,706 to HfHOC. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans encourages Lutheran congregations to enter into partnerships with HfHOC through financial donations and volunteer labor. Since the Lutheran Partnership's first grant, \$360,000 has been donated to support HfHOC homes and 2,200 Thrivent members and local Lutherans have provided more than 18,000 hours of volunteer time, a contribution valued at \$419,200. One example of a Thrivent-sponsored home is the Diaz family in Westminster where the widowed father of two autistic teenagers is very grateful for the home that provides stability, security and a nurturing environment.