

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT

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Moonlight Masquerade 3 Event Proceeds Benefit The Laguna Playhouse

A Bewitching Evening of Dining, Dancing and Entertainment Brings Celebration and Support to Playhouse's Annual Fundraising Efforts

LAGUNA BEACH, CA, November 8, 2011 - More than 200 theatrically costumed guests danced, dined and partied at The Laguna Playhouse's third annual Moonlight Masquerade, a costume party for adults, and raised \$41,000 for playhouse programs and performances.

Co-Chairs of Moonlight Masquerade 3, Deborah Mayhew and Heidi Miller, led an Event Committee of 30 community and business leaders who have been meeting regularly since June to plan and organize the spooktacular event. "We are very excited to co-chair our third Moonlight Masquerade," say Ms. Miller. According to Ms. Mayhew, "This was another fabulous celebration to benefit The Laguna Playhouse! Everyone got into the spirit of the event, and the costumes were terrific! We so appreciate the support of our Moonlight Masquerade Committee, and of our generous donors and sponsors."

A highlight of the evening was the Silent Auction with 54 fabulous baskets and items from more than 80 local businesses including: beauty and salon baskets, a kitchen full of Wolfgang Puck cookware, Laguna Canyon Festival tickets, Victoria Skimboard, Booze Basket created by the event committee, symphony and playhouse theatre tickets, cooking classes, wine tastings, getaways at Pelican Hill, Casa Laguna Inn and Spa, Day at the Races and golf packages. Kelly Barbera was the winner of the Laguna Luxury Package Opportunity Drawing Package that included a stay at the Montage Resort, golf at Aliso Viejo Golf Course, Tight Assets Boutique shopping splurge, dinner at Alessa Cucina and Aquaterra Spa treatment, and weekend use of an Allen Cadillac vehicle.

A fun aspect of the evening was the costume contests. Winners include:

- Best Female: Medusa - Lori Romero of Romero Fine Portraits in Laguna Beach
- Best Couple: Mickey and Minnie - Marc and Vivian Zachary
- Best Male: Zorro - Bob Coffee
- Naughtiest: Naughty Nurse - Suzie Cashion

The All Stars Live Band provided the dance music, and everyone was up and dancing throughout the evening. Elegant Photography provided complimentary portraits for each guest, and three Tarot Card Readers were on hand to provide fortune telling to all guests. Tivoli Too, the location for MM3, featured a warehouse full of Halloween décor that was decorated by members of the MM Committee, Playhouse technical staff and volunteers from the National Charity League. Platinum Peaks artful lighting transformed Tivoli Too, and put the finishing touches on the theatrical and philanthropic event.

ABOUT LAGUNA PLAYHOUSE

949-497-2787

www.lagunaplayhouse.com

Administrative Hours:

Monday – Friday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Box Office Hours:

Tuesday – Sunday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
(open until 8 pm on performance days)

Moulton Theatre Physical Address:

606 Laguna Canyon Rd., Laguna Beach, CA 92651

Founded in 1920 and celebrating its 90th anniversary in 2011-2012, The Laguna Playhouse is one of the oldest continuously-operating theatres on the West Coast. In January 2011, The Laguna Playhouse was honored at the Laguna Spirit Awards and received The Laguna Beach Chamber of Commerce Premiere Business of the Year award.

More than 100,000 theatergoers annually attend performances at the Laguna Playhouse. Its continued artistic excellence, audience popularity and critical acclaim have helped make The Playhouse one of Southern California's most important nonprofit theatre companies. The Playhouse has produced national tours of *The Belle of Amherst* (with Julie Harris) and *Copenhagen*, and has presented many world, national and regional premieres.

Over the years, the Laguna Playhouse has garnered numerous awards from LA Drama Critics Circle, NAACP, Backstage, OC Weekly, and many more, and was named Best Arts Organization by ArtsOC. Notable performers that have performed at The Laguna Playhouse include Bette Davis, Harrison Ford, Charles Durning, Marlo Thomas, Roddy McDowell, Rita Rudner, Cloris Leachman, and Sally Struthers.

The Laguna Playhouse is noted for its Youth Theater Education and Outreach programs. In 1989, its Youth Theater was recognized as "Outstanding Children's Theatre" by the American Alliance for Theatre and Education. The theater's touring production, TheatreReach, brings books to life on stage for elementary school children throughout southern California.

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