



Old Globe Theatre | Cassius Carter Centre Stage | Lowell Davies Festival Theatre

News

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OLD GLOBE RECEIVES \$500,000 GRANT FROM THE JAMES IRVINE FOUNDATION TO SUPPORT AND EXPAND ARTISTIC PROGRAMS

San Diego – The Old Globe is pleased to announce that The James Irvine Foundation has recently awarded a \$500,000 grant to the Globe to help support its play development and production process.

The three-year grant will assist the Globe as it builds upon the broad repertoire of classical works, revivals and large-scale musical projects that have been central to its mission. The Globe plans to expand its artistic staff to support literary and dramaturgical efforts for all productions, and increase its resources devoted to new play development. Finally, the grant will assist in supporting the Globe's roster of leading guest directors, whose work is essential in bringing exceptional productions to the stage.

“This grant represents another important milestone for the Globe. The James Irvine Foundation is recognized throughout the country as one of California’s most significant grant-makers to all non-profits, and has demonstrated enormous insight and understanding of the most critical needs facing major arts organizations today. To receive this endorsement of The Old Globe's strategic plan for its artistic programs is gratifying and reinforces the Globe's preeminent position in the state-wide and national arts scene,” said Globe Executive Director Louis G. Spisto.

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The James Irvine Foundation announced the grants on June 9, in support of their mission to expand opportunities for the people of California to participate in a vibrant, successful, and inclusive society. The gift is one of thirteen grants totaling \$4.5 million awarded to arts organizations in California. The James Irvine Foundation is a private, nonprofit grantmaking foundation, with assets of more than \$1.5 billion. Its grantmaking is organized around three program areas: Arts, Youth, and California Perspectives, which focuses on increasing public understanding of critical issues facing the state and infusing new ideas into the policy development process. The Foundation created these three programs because it believes that intervention in these areas can deliver strategic, long-term benefits to the state and its diverse and growing population.

The internationally-acclaimed, Tony® Award-winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theaters in the country and has stood as San Diego's flagship arts institution for 70 years. The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 15 plays and musicals on its three stages, including its highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theater artists from around the world, such as Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan and John Goodman, among many others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *The Full Monty* and *Damn Yankees*, have been developed at The Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country.

During this 70th Anniversary Season, the Globe is presenting *The Comedy of Errors*, *Macbeth* and *The Winter's Tale* playing in nightly rotation in the Lowell Davies Festival Theatre; *Moonlight and Magnolias*, a new comedy play about the making of *Gone With The Wind*, in the Old Globe Theatre; and the world premiere production about Ann Landers, *The Lady with All the Answers*, in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage. The 2005/6 Season continues the celebration with two more world premieres, including *Chita Rivera: The Dancer's Life*, an exciting musical biography of the acclaimed actress/singer/dancer, as well as a thrilling new work by Twyla Tharp set to the music of the legendary Bob Dylan. Under the leadership of Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, Artistic Director Jack O'Brien and Resident Artistic Director Jerry Patch, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.

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