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**OLD GLOBE TO HOST PRESS CONFERENCE SHOWCASING NEW
TECHNICAL CENTER IN SOUTHEAST SAN DIEGO**

**MAYOR JERRY SANDERS AND CITY COUNCILMEMBER TONY YOUNG TO LEAD
RIBBON-CUTTING EVENT**

San Diego – Old Globe CEO/Executive Producer Lou Spisto is pleased to announce a **press conference** on **Wednesday, January 30 at 10:00am** to officially open the Globe's new **Technical Center** in southeastern San Diego, which will house the Theatre's scene shop and warehouse. The 42,000 square-foot property is located at **5335 Market Street in the District 4 Enterprise Zone** within the redevelopment area overseen by the Southeastern Economic Development Corporation.

The press conference will feature a **ribbon-cutting ceremony** with **Spisto, Mayor Jerry Sanders, City Councilmember Tony Young**, as well as **tours** of the facility.

"We're thrilled to showcase our new Technical Center to the media and the community. The acquisition of this important facility is a major step forward for the Globe, providing much-needed space to build and house our scenic elements for all our productions," said Spisto. We're so pleased that the Mayor and City Councilman Tony Young are participating in this exciting event, as they have been heavily involved in the process of attaining the property, and we are extremely grateful for their support."

The new Technical Center includes space for the construction of all Globe sets, as well as the appropriate layout of stage floors, full-stage drops, and the complete assembly of scenic elements. Additionally, the facility will provide sufficient prop and costume storage for the Theatre's wide variety of productions. The full time Technical Center staff includes the Technical Director, Assistant Technical Director, seven carpenters, two painters, a buyer, a design assistant and a warehouse manager.

The firm **Irving Hughes** represented the Globe on this transaction and provided a generous gift of **\$100,000** toward the acquisition.

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The Technical Center was outlined in the Globe's 2004 strategic plan, which proposed the redevelopment of the Globe campus and initiated the **\$75 million Capital and Endowment Campaign, "Securing a San Diego Landmark."** Along with the Technical Center, the Campaign will provide funding for the construction of the **Conrad Prebys Theatre Center**, encompassing the Old Globe Theatre, the new **Sheryl and Harvey White Theatre**, and the **Cohn Education Center**. The strategic plan also recognized that the Globe's current 6500-square-foot scene shop, located at the back of the theatre and utilizing the rear loading dock, was inadequate for a theatre doing work of the Globe's depth and scope. As the Globe had previously needed to lease a separate 18,000-square-foot warehouse facility, the new Technical Center will combine both the scene shop and warehouse, in addition to its technical staff offices, under one roof. The Globe will utilize 32,000 square feet of the space and plans to lease the remaining 10,000 square feet.

In conjunction with the opening of the Globe's new Technical Center, the Theatre plans to develop a comprehensive **internship program** to serve residents of Southeast San Diego. These full-time paid internships will allow individuals to fully explore valuable behind-the-scenes experience and develop skills that may lead to a career in theatre, scenic design, event production or many other professional options. Interns will have the opportunity to work alongside many of the finest artisans working in the American theatre as they design, build and finish scenery, furniture and other scenic elements for Globe productions.

The Old Globe has had a longstanding commitment to education and outreach programs in the community, serving more than 45,000 children and adults each year. Core programs include the free matinee series, which brings underserved students throughout San Diego county to the Globe to experience live theatre; programs that encourage literacy, such as Seussabration and the Globe Readers project; in-classroom visits from Globe teaching artists to enhance students' theatergoing experiences; professional development programs for educators; as well as Insights Seminars, Follow-the-Bard backstage tours, study guides and more.

Many of these programs have involved students and community organizations in the Southeast San Diego region, including the Jackie Robinson YMCA – a Globe education partner; Lincoln High School, St. Jude Academy, O'Farrell Community School, King-Chavez Primary School, Nubia Leadership Academy, Porter Elementary School and many others. The Globe plans to become more closely allied with the Southeast San Diego community in the future.

Spisto continued, "We're also very excited about the future education opportunities offered by the Technical Center's location in Southeast San Diego, and we look forward to working with Councilman Young and Carolyn Smith of the Southeastern Economic Development Corporation on developing these important outreach programs."

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The internationally-acclaimed, Tony Award® -winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theatres in the country and has stood as San Diego's flagship arts institution for 72 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 theatre artists from around the world, such as Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan and Chita Rivera, 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.

Highlights of the Globe's 2007/2008 Season include the world premiere musical, A Catered Affair, written by Harvey Fierstein and John Bucchino, the West Coast Premiere of Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt's Oscar and the Pink Lady, the 10th Anniversary production of Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas!, In This Corner, by Steven Drukman, Howard Korder's Sea of Tranquility, as well as the world-premieres of Dancing in the Dark and Beethoven, As I Knew Him. Under the leadership of CEO/Executive Producer Louis G. Spisto and Co-Artistic Directors Jerry Patch and Darko Tresnjak, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.