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Images: SCFTA.org/media

RELEASE DATE
October 6, 2017

SEGERSTROM CENTER ANNOUNCES FALL-WINTER LINE-UP OF FREE EVENTS ON THE JULIANNE AND GEORGE ARGYROS PLAZA

Grand Opening Celebration • Dance, Music and Entertainment
International Holiday Celebrations • The Center Salutes Our Veterans
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service

COSTA MESA, CA – Evenings of dance, music and other entertainment, family-friendly entertainment, festivals that showcase Orange County's rich cultural diversity, community fairs to create awareness of local service organizations, a Veterans Day salute to those who served our country with valor and promoting volunteerism on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service are among the many free events Segerstrom Center for the Arts has planned for its new Julianne and George Argyros Plaza through January 2018. Center President Terrence W. Dwyer said, "The Argyros Plaza will be a welcoming new public gathering place where people can enjoy its ambience and many amenities and sample eclectic cultural programs. It will provide wonderful new opportunities for the county's many diverse communities to socialize, experience the arts and connect culturally."

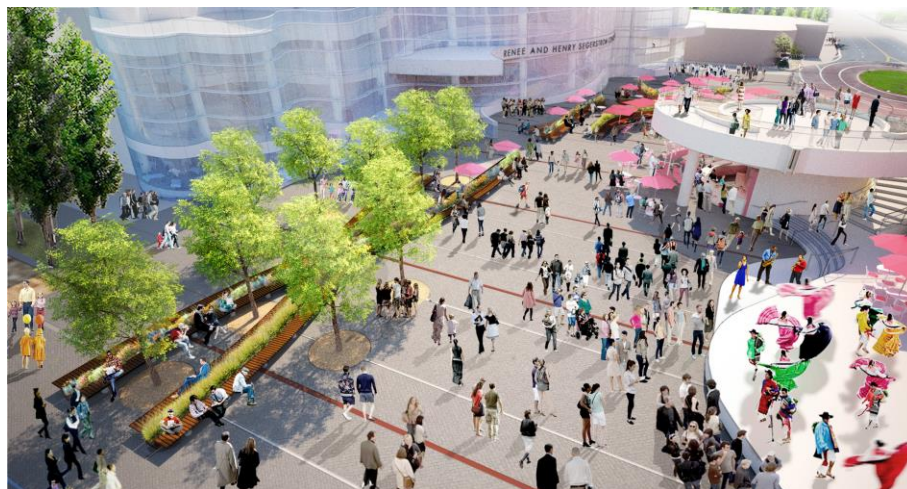


JULIANNE AND GEORGE ARGYROS PLAZA GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

The **Opening Day Celebration** for the Julianne and George Argyros Plaza and the Center for Dance and Innovation (CDI) will be on October 28, starting with a dedication at 11 a.m. Costa Mesa Mayor Katrina Foley and other dignitaries will be on hand. The party continues all day and into the evening, with free performances, family activities and band concerts.

The day is filled with family-friendly fun: **Patriots Marching Band Ensemble**, followed by **Taiko Project** drummers, the **Darden Sisters Band**, **Ane Thanh Lion Dance**, **Vybration** a cappella sextet, the band **Los 440's**, **Men Alive** gay men's chorus and **Puppets and Players Little Theatre**. Caricature artists, trick-or-treating and face painting will add to the festive mood. **Pacific Symphony**, **Philharmonic Society of Orange County** and **Pacific Chorale** will join the celebrations, as will **South Coast Repertory** and **Orange County Museum of Art**. Cuisine will be provided by the plaza's new café, **Center 360**. Visitors are invited to take free docent-led tours of the plaza and theaters and to observe classes in the **American Ballet Theatre William J. Gillespie School** and the Center's **School of Dance and Music for Children with Disabilities**.

For the evening, the Argyros Plaza will be transformed by its dramatic new lighting design, with guests enjoying sets by leading California bands, **Orgōne** and **Monophonics**. Also featured will be **BANDALOOP**, returning to the Center with a new breathtaking, gravity-defying performance 40 feet in the air. The company will again weave intricate choreography across the wall of Segerstrom Hall. Local food trucks will be on hand throughout the evening.



FREE ACTIVITIES ON THE PLAZA

Prelude to Ella • A Touch of Persia • Tango Party on the Plaza • The Sound of Motown • Jersey Boys and Doo-Wop

On many nights, music and entertainment will add to the ambience for visitors who simply want to enjoy a glass of wine or an al fresco dinner with friends at the Center 360 café. Other evenings will offer special free pre-show activities to enhance and enrich the audience's experience. Anytime will be a good time to stop by Argyros Plaza.

Before Pacific Symphony's November 3 tribute to jazz legend Ella Fitzgerald in the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall, relax and enjoy music performed by talented local artists. Try the new culinary hotspot – Center 360 – for dinner, bites and beverages. The following day, November 4, the Center showcases a rich cultural heritage shared by many in Orange County. Ebi Hamedi – The King of Persian Pop – returns to Segerstrom Hall. Before the show, Persian music will waft across the Argyros Plaza, setting the mood and tone for the evening that awaits.

Argentina's national dance is the sultry and dramatic tango. Anticipating the return of Tango Buenos Aires in the Renée and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall November 18 and 19, the Center is offering free tango lessons on the Argyros Plaza on November 7, 9, 14 and 16. Learn the moves, perfect the technique, feel the passion. No experience necessary. Join us for the free Tango Party on the Plaza on November 18 before a performance by Tango Buenos Aires. The world is filled with beautiful and meaningful ethnic and cultural traditions, and the Center will bring many more to the Argyros Plaza in the months ahead.

The Argyros Plaza will always be open for relaxing mid- or end-of-week respites. Enjoy a glass of wine, light snack or leisurely dinner at Center 360, the plaza's new full-service café as music sweeps you away from your workaday cares. On November 8, 10, 15 and 17, make a night of it by adding a performance of the hilarious Broadway hit, *Something Rotten!* in Segerstrom Hall.

Two "Made-in-America" sounds are Motown and Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. Before the December 20 – 23 performances of *Motown the Musical*, the Center will offer free not-to-be-missed presentations about the history and evolution of Detroit's Motown Sound. And we dare anyone to sit still and not sing along to the great tunes you'll hear on the Argyros Plaza before *Jersey Boys*, January 19 – 21. Enjoy dinner at the new café, Center 360. "Oh What A Plaza!"

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

Center Salutes Our Veterans • Martin Luther King, Jr. National Day of Service

The Center has committed itself to using our resources to help non-cultural, community service organizations succeed in their efforts on behalf of the people of Orange County. The first two events will celebrate community spirit and encourage volunteerism. On Veterans Day, November 11, the Center will honor Orange County's veterans during **Center Salutes Our Veterans** on the new Argyros Plaza. The day begins with the presentation of colors by Saddleback High School's ROTC program. Representatives from a dozen local non-profit organizations that serve military and veterans families will be on hand. Families and friends are asked to lend their help assembling care packages that will be sent to active service men and women by Operation Interdependence. Military groups and community artists will supply music and entertainment throughout the day.

Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "Life's most persistent and urgent question is 'What are you doing for others?'" As a non-profit organization itself, the Center understands that even the existence of community service organizations often depends on not only financial support, but the hours and expertise of volunteers. On January 14, the Center will observe **Martin Luther King, Jr. National Day of Service**. It will be a day of honoring Dr. King's legacy and building awareness of the need for community volunteers. There will be many opportunities to find a cause and opportunities to learn how to become involved in organizations that depend on volunteers to successfully serve their clients. Whether in food-banks, schools, hospitals or the many not-for-profit service organizations that work tirelessly to make a difference in our communities. There is always a need for more hands and more hearts.

INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

Holidays Around the World • Día de los Reyes

Argyros Plaza will become a festive global holiday village in the months ahead. 'Tis indeed the season with American Ballet Theatre's ***The Nutcracker*** returning to the Center (December 7- 17). To make it all the merrier, there will be special performances and activities during the Center's **Holidays Around the World** festival on the plaza December 7 through 10 and 12 through 17. Delight in the ways different customs and traditions make this "the most wonderful time of the year." Local artisans will offer a selection of holiday crafts and gift ideas. And Center weather forecasters are predicting a strong likelihood of a magical snowfall.

On January 6, the Center commemorates **Día de los Reyes**. For many countries around the world, the Day of the Kings is the high point of the Christmas holiday. Music, traditional foods – including Rosca de Reyes (King's Ring cake) - and art-making will make this a very special salute to this cherished cultural holiday.



Center President Terrence W. Dwyer said, “Programs of the Julianne and George Argyros Plaza, the Center for Dance and Innovation and the Center Without Boundaries are enabling the Center to push the boundaries of what an arts center can do for its community. The Center’s Next Act envisions a future where every one of our many diverse communities are culturally connected, enriched by the arts, and share a sense of optimism about the future of our county.”

Segerstrom Center for the Arts applauds its corporate partners including Kia Motors America, Official Automotive Partner; United Airlines, Official Airline; and Omaha Steaks International, Official Fine Food Retailer. Community celebrations made possible in part by Bank of America’s lead sponsorship.



Segerstrom Center for the Arts – Julianne and George Argyros Plaza

600 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa, CA
Segerstrom Center for the Arts

Tickets - Free, non-ticketed

Information -

In person - The Box Office
600 Town Center Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
Open 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. daily

Online - SCFTA.org

Phone - (714) 556-2787
Open 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. daily

Julianne and George Argyros Plaza Grand Opening

Saturday, October 28, 2017

Prelude to Ella

Friday, November 3, 2017; 7 – 8 p.m.

A Touch of Persia

Saturday, November 4, 2017; 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Tango Lessons

Tuesdays, November 7 & 14, 2017; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Thursdays, November 9 & 16, 2017; 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Tango Party on the Plaza

Saturday; November 18, 2017; 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

***Something Rotten!* Pre-Show Music on the Plaza**

Wednesdays, November 8 & 15, 2017; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Fridays, November 10 & 17, 2017; 6:30-7:30 p.m.

The Center Salutes Our Veterans

Veterans Day - Saturday, November 11, 2017; 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Holidays Around the World

Thursday, December 7 – Sunday, December 10

Tuesday, December 12 – Sunday, December 17, 2017

The Sound of Motown

Wednesday – Friday, December 20 - 22, 2017; 6:30 – 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, December 23, 2017; 1 – 1:45 p.m. and 6:30 – 7:15 p.m.

Día de los Reyes

Saturday, January 6, 2018; time TBD

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service

Sunday, January 14, 2018; time TBD

***Jersey Boys* Doo-Wop Pre-Show Music**

Friday & Saturday, January 19 & 20, 2018; 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 21, 2018; 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Information provided is accurate at the time of printing, but is subject to change. Segerstrom Center for the Arts is a private, non-profit organization. "Segerstrom Center for the Arts" is a registered trademark.

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