

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MISSION VIEJO, June 20, 2011

A ground breaking ceremony for the future theater was held at Capistrano Valley High School on Friday June 17, 2011. Just four days earlier trustees of the Capistrano Unified School District awarded the contract for the two-story 27,760 sq. ft. theater that will seat 446 and is scheduled for completion in May 2013.

Over 100 guests attended the ceremony including Mission Viejo Major Dave Leckness, CUSD Trustees Jack Brick, Anna Bryson, and Lynn Hatton, CUSD Superintendent Dr. Farley and former CVHS Principal Deni Christensen. Students from the CVHS choir, orchestra and musical theater classes performed, providing a glimpse of the talents that will be showcased in the theater when it is completed.

While there were smiles all around, the biggest smiles came from the students. Alyssa Liney, a senior, who will not be at the school when the theater is completed, is thrilled for future students. "We have a lot of talent at this school and Capo students have won many awards," she said. "When the new theater is completed the possibilities for performing will be amazing."

Sharon Campbell, CVHS Foundation President, recognized the importance of having appropriate facilities for the students. "After 35 years of waiting, our students will finally have a proper place to hone their acting and music skills and perfect their performances. This building is not just a building but also a lesson in perseverance." Campbell thanked CUSD board members, staff, Mission Viejo council members and the community for supporting the vision of the theater.

The school's Camerata group sang under direction of Choir Director Ms. Erin Girard. Orchestra students performed under direction of Mr. Andy Waldakut and musical theater students performed selections from their successful and award winning "West Side Story" production.

Mr. Andy Waldakut, CVHS band and orchestra director has been at CVHS for 6 years. "We have a lot of raw talent at this school," he said. "It will be an honor to teach in the new theater."

"When the lights dim for the first performance I will be there, I can hardly wait. CVHS students will finally have somewhere appropriate to showcase their talents," said Carol Bennett, current CVHS PTSA president.