

THE CURTAIN *Rises*

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The Curtain Rises Gala Raises over \$240,000 to Support Estancia's Drama Program

Costa Mesa, CA – The Estancia High School Drama Boosters are proud to announce the resounding success of their recent fundraising gala, *The Curtain Rises*, which raised over **\$240,000** in support of the school's acclaimed drama program. The event, held on October 18th, celebrated the completion of the \$42 million theater at Estancia High School while taking homage to the two individuals whose names are associated with the new theater, Barbara Van Holt and Pauline Maranian. The sold-out event was held at the Costa Mesa Country Club. Presenting sponsors were longtime Estancia drama supporters, Lee and David Chemel and alum Michelle Noh.

Guests were treated to a student led tour of the Estancia Performing Arts Center, followed by a silent auction and three course dinner. The evening also featured heartfelt tributes to two remarkable women whose vision and dedication laid the foundation for the school's drama legacy, Barbara Van Holt and Pauline Maranian. Their impact continues to inspire generations of students, and their recognition was met with a standing ovation from a deeply grateful audience.

"The overwhelming support from our community and alumni is evidence that this program changes lives" states Laura Ursini Marroquin, Gala Chair or Booster President. "This incredible response ensures that our students will have the resources, training, and opportunities they need to thrive on and off the stage."

Funds raised from the gala will directly benefit the Estancia High School Drama Boosters, helping to fund student scholarships, production costs, and educational programming. This event not only celebrated the past but also set the stage for a vibrant future, cementing Estancia High School's place as a beacon of excellence in arts education.

The Estancia Drama Program will stage their first production in the new performing arts center November 19-21st. Their production of *Frozen* will feature children of all ages from the surrounding schools. To purchase tickets, go to: EstanciaDrama.com

About Estancia High School Drama Boosters

The Estancia Drama Boosters are a dedicated group of parents, alumni, and community supporters committed to promoting and enhancing the performing arts at Estancia High School. Through fundraising, advocacy, and volunteer efforts, the Boosters help ensure that students have access to high-quality arts education and performance opportunities.