Northridge Gala Celebrates Newly Named Mike Curb College
Community and Entertainment Industry Leaders Mark Music Icon’s $10 Million Gift

Capping a gala evening celebration, California State University, Northridge President Jolene Koester on November 8 formally dedicated the university’s newly named Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication, paying tribute to the campus’ distinguished alumni and largest donor.

Community leaders and entertainment industry figures joined Cal State Northridge students, faculty, staff and alumni in honoring Curb Records Founder/Chairman and former California Lt. Gov. Mike Curb. Earlier this year, the university presented a distinguished alumnus award to Curb, who began his 40-year-plus career in the music industry as a freshman on the Cal State Northridge campus in 1962-63. The music industry icon also made a record $10 million gift to the university, half endowing the arts college and the other half for CSUN’s planned regional Performing Arts Center.

"Today we celebrate a Convergence of Greatness,” said President Koester, echoing the theme for the evening. “With this gift, a man of great achievement forms a union with a college—one that has renowned programs, celebrated alumni and boundless potential—to provide resources that will benefit students and the community for generations to come.”

The president added, “He has made this gift not only because he is a generous man who wants to leave a legacy for future generations, but also because he has a fundamental understanding of the value of education. It is only fitting that his great career and his commitment to education would converge with the outstanding programs and abundant talent and potential of this college.

Curb, who heads one of the nation’s largest and longest-running independent record labels, founded the Mike Curb Congregation vocal group in his teens, and went on to compose more than 400 songs and produce 25 gold- or platinum-selling records. He has helped launch and guide the careers of scores of hit artists, and was named Billboard magazine’s 1972 Producer of the Year.

“Wow! I never dreamed you were going to do something like this.” Curb told a cheering audience of more than 400 people. “Thank you so much for coming tonight. I had no idea we were going to be a part of a ceremony like this. I thought when I left politics, that was it!” he joked.

Then, paying tribute to the media, Curb said, “We’ve said that we have a convergence of greatness. To be able to have the best of the best in media, the best of the best in the arts, is amazing.”

The busy executive chaired the City of Los Angeles’ recent charter reform effort, and serves on the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority.

Dedicated Volunteers Saluted at University’s Annual Tribute
Civic Activist David Fleming, Kinesiology’s Sam Britten Singled Out for Highest Honors

Cal State Northridge bestowed its highest volunteer honors on philanthropist/civic activist David Fleming and kinesiology professor emeritus Sam Britten at its November 17 Volunteer Service Awards ceremony. Co-sponsored by the CSUN Alumni Association and the University Advancement Division, the annual tribute also honored 29 dedicated volunteers from all segments of the campus community.

Attorney David Fleming received the Dorothea “Granny” Heitz Award for Outstanding Volunteer Leadership, recognizing volunteers who serve the university as outstanding role models. Ninety-one-year-old “Granny” Heitz, the volunteer for whom the award was named, attended in person to honor Fleming.

Fleming joined the Cal State Northridge Foundation’s Board of Directors in September 1995. Vice chairman of the university’s “Imagine the Arts” campaign for a regional performing arts center at CSUN, he is active on numerous important campus panels. As chairman of the board for the Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley, Fleming helped create the San Fernando Valley Economic Summit, which is co-sponsored by CSUN’s College of Business and Economics.

The busy executive chaired the City of Los Angeles’ recent charter reform effort, and serves on the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority.

By Judy Nutter, Director of Community Relations

Since many of you take walks on campus and visit Cal State Northridge for events, you may have questions about construction projects underway or soon to break ground. This article will bring you up to date.

Many of you know that a nearly 90,000 square foot science building is planned for the pond area south of the Botanic Garden on the east side of East University Drive. This beautiful building will include 33 labs and 13 “smart” lecture rooms. Construction is due to start in March 2007, with completion in January 2009. Features will include a genetic counseling unit, nine instructional wet labs, 13 research wet labs, as well as laboratories for DNA, immunology, electron microscopy.

Community Connection continued on page 2
The following article was authored by CSU Northridge President Jolene Koester and Manny Velazquez, director of Positive Alternatives for Youth:

When community and universities partner, real social change occurs. Through the collective efforts of California State University, Northridge and San Fernando Valley schools and organizations, more young people are turning toward college and being given opportunities to achieve their full potential. Together, the focus on higher education and social change benefits us all.

The Community Service-Learning program at Cal State Northridge works to inspire and support students and faculty in meaningful service experiences that link to academic content. Each year, students in more than 100 classes are given opportunities to integrate scholarship, research and service by applying their skills and knowledge to real-life situations to help our communities become role models for their young peers.

One example of how CSUN and local organizations are nurturing a college-going culture is through the MOSAIC (Mentoring to Overcome Struggles and Inspire Courage) program. CSUN students serve as mentors for at-risk youths who are on the verge of gang involvement by assisting with homework and engaging them in recreational activities. Recently, these young people worked alongside CSUN students to restore a mural on an exterior wall at San Fernando High School. Originally painted in the early 1980s, the mural got caught in a war between two tagging crews and was defaced. The CSUN students and the younger students gave it a fresh design and new paint. Thus the mural became a symbol of restored pride for the community, while also teaching young people the importance of responsible citizenship and the skills, ethics and knowledge necessary for community leadership.

Another example is the Integrated Teacher Education Program, which gives biology students in classes led by professor Virginia Undergo the opportunity to participate in our Tomorrow’s Scientists project. The program brings 7th grade students from our local middle school to the CSUN campus for science lessons and mentoring.

These are just two examples of how Cal State Northridge is serving the community, encouraging young people to pursue college degrees, and meeting its academic mission of preparing students for careers and a lifelong commitment to service.

We are witnessing a crisis in the level of college readiness among our young people, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds. In 2003-04, among more than 121,000 Latino high school graduates in California, only 16 percent were eligible for admission to the California State University, a figure that is far too low and of great concern. If we don’t create a stronger college-going culture in our Valley communities, our state will not prosper and neither will our families. That is why CSUN’s service-learning programs are critical to the community: they help parents and young people see the value of a college education and what it will do for their future.

Cal State Northridge is part of the 23-campus California State University system, nationally recognized as a leader in service learning. This success is attributed to innovative campus programs, a coordinated systemswide approach and a commitment by Chancellor Charles B. Reed and the CSU Board of Trustees.

Nearly 200,000 CSU students—half of the system’s student body—give back to their communities in significant ways. In 2005-06, CSU students provided 30 million hours of service, which equals a minimum wage value of $200 million. That’s $200 million worth of skills invested in non-profits, businesses and the state by CSU students. Since 1999, more than one million CSU students have been involved in community service.

The California State University’s commitment to service learning and community engagement fosters an ethic of service that will last for a lifetime, not just a college semester. Service learning transforms students from being concerned solely with their own success to becoming better-informed and responsible leaders in their communities and their workplaces.

With more than 84,000 graduates entering the workforce each year, the CSU’s 23 campuses fuel the engine that drives the state’s economy. Equally important, the CSU also provides a continually renewable resource of young people trained in giving back. This is a powerful dynamic that can only benefit California.

Through service learning and partnership with San Fernando Valley communities, Cal State Northridge students and faculty are helping make the area a vital place for all the region’s residents. You can watch a video of CSUN faculty and students in action, serving and working for California at www.csun.edu/~presofc/CSL, and watch students from across the CSU system in action at www.calstate.edu/CSL.

Honored College, University and Alumni Chapter Volunteers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Honored Members</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mike Brown and Ronnie Thompson, Tseng College of Extended Learning</td>
<td>Roberta Colmer, Business and Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobbi Gainer, Arts, Media, and Communication</td>
<td>Thomas C. Oliver, Michael D. Eisner College of Education</td>
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<td>Ed Zlotowski and Herbie Petzold, Engineering and Computer Science</td>
<td>Dean Skolvold and Werner Horn, Science and Mathematics</td>
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<td>Thomas C. Oliver, Michael D. Eisner College of Education</td>
<td>Christine Smith, Health and Human Development</td>
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<td>Dean Skolvold and Werner Horn, Science and Mathematics</td>
<td>Frank Wein, Social and Behavioral Sciences</td>
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<td>Frank Wein, Social and Behavioral Sciences</td>
<td>Dennis deYoung, Student Affairs</td>
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<td>University</td>
<td>John Golisch, University Advancement</td>
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Volunteer Service Awards...

The CSUN campus for science lessons and mentoring. This is essential to the Northridge has beyond words….

CA State University, Northridge has beyond words….

Mike Curb College...
Curtains Up for ‘50 Years of Opening Nights’ on Campus
December 14 Festivities to Celebrate Cal State Northridge’s Rich, Eventful Theatrical History

The spirits of Hedda Gabler, Edwin Booth, Lear and Lorca will glide among celebrants gathered on the evening of December 14 to toast the Cal State Northridge Theatre Department’s rich 50-year theatrical tradition.

“50 Years of Opening Nights” will bring alumni, faculty, staff and students to the Campus Theatre in recognition of more than 600 productions staged at Cal State Northridge since the debut of “Many Moons,” directed by Teenage Drama Workshop founder William Schloesser, on December 14, 1956.

At that time, what was to become CSUN still was a satellite of Cal State Los Angeles.

Co-hosted by the Theatre Department and the CSUN Alumni Association, the invitational event also will salute the department’s 50th anniversary production, George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart’s Pulitzer Prize winning “You Can’t Take It With You.”

“When we were putting together the 2006-07 season, we thought we should go with something very American, very up-beat, and for the 50th anniversary production,” said Peter Blake, director of the center.

“A good project could be a proposal to enhance the campus ‘historic orange grove with aspects of interest including relocation of the pond to just west of the University Faculty Club. The campus ‘historic orange grove with everything in it from snakes to xylophones. It’s great for the season and the celebration.”

In CSUN theater’s early days, drama students often rehearsed in the horse barn at Devonshire Downs, before a noncomittal equine audience.

With costume professor Garry Lennon away working alongside creative supervisor and CSUN alum Michael Reno on the pre-Broadway comedy “Sister Act” at the Pasadena Playhouse, Grego invited alumni Bob Miller and Steve Howard—multiple Emmy Award winners—to create their costume magic for the campus’ fall 2006 productions, including the 1936 Kaufman/Hart comic tour de force.

The December 14 event will highlight memories of productions past, as well as the facilities which showcased them. “For the first four years, theatre production at CSUN was staged in ‘Theater Intime,’ a temporary tin structure called the ‘P’ building,” said Grego. “During summers, they used a big tent.”

Famous names also are a part of CSUN theater’s past, among them the likes of actors Jon Vogi in “Hamlet,” William Marshall and Teri Garr. But on December 14, everyone will be on stage—literally. “You Can’t Take It With You” stage will be struck in time to accommodate Lear, Lorca, Gabler and the evening’s many other distinguished guests.

For more information about the event, call (818) 677-3091 or 3086.

Valley’s Economy Shows Robust Growth, CSUN Report Says
Study Draws Attention to Developments in Region’s Health Care Industry

The San Fernando Valley’s economy grew at robust rates during the last two years, according to a new study issued by Cal State Northridge’s San Fernando Valley Economic Research Center.

Presented at the Valley Industry and Commerce Association’s Business Forecast Conference, the annual San Fernando Valley Economic Report takes a comprehensive look at the area’s economy, demographics, employment and payroll.

Long considered a “bedroom suburb of Los Angeles,” the Valley has emerged as a fully balanced community with an integrated economic base, whose workforce is roughly equal to the number of its employed residents, said economics professor Daniel Blake, director of the center.

The number of long-term care facilities and beds dropped in 2004, the report said. Occupancy rates on the remaining beds rose and the long-term care sector returned to profitability in 2004 as collective operating revenues exceeded operating costs.

Other areas covered:

- Employment and payroll. With 1.9 percent more jobs in 2005, the Valley surpassed Los Angeles County in job growth. Payroll climbed 5.2 percent, but inflation left less than 1 percent in real payroll growth.
- Unemployment insurance. Overall Valley job growth held unemployment down, with seasonally adjusted unemployment claims currently below the lowest level recorded during the Valley’s 1995-2000 economic recovery.
- Entertainment industry. Jobs were up by 2.2 percent in 2005—more than one out of seven of the Valley’s private-sector jobs—while payrolls shot up by 5.4 percent, boosting the average annual earnings to $80,500 and generating $1 out of every $4 of the 2005 private-sector payroll.
- Retail/trade sector. Growth in the Valley’s largest employer sector slowed to less than the area’s average for the first time in three years. While retail sales grew by almost $1 billion in 2005, all but about $200 million was eaten by inflation.
- Manufacturing. Nominal wages rose 2.2 percent in 2005, but high inflation reversed the gain and pushed real wages down by 2.1 percent. Relative to 1991, real wages were up by 8 percent.

For more information about the report, call (818) 677-3090.

Community Connection…

The new Public Safety-Parking Services building at Prairie and Darby on campus is on schedule for completion in January 2007, making available a number of apartments in student housing that have been serving as offices for Public Safety-Parking Services since the Northridge earthquake.

In keeping with CSUN’s Envision 2035 master plan, plans are underway for a new $30 million parking structure in Lot G3, offering 1,500 parking stalls. Construction is expected to begin in fall 2007.

A project worth your attention is the campus’ satellite heating and cooling plant, under construction since June 2006, which will generate cost-effective, environmentally sensitive electrical power during peak load periods. The one-mega watt fuel cell installation will be the largest of any university in the country and the 11th largest in the world.

Construction is scheduled to begin in summer/fall 2007 on the 163,000 square foot Performing Arts Center, the largest of the projects. The center will provide cutting-edge facilities and technology for students as well as a state-of-the-art performing arts center for the San Fernando Valley community.

It will include a 1,700 seat performance hall, a 200-seat theater, the campus radio station, lecture rooms and specialized theater arts academic spaces.

Plans for new student housing within the expanding University Park housing complex will result in a three-building, 400-bed complex geared toward lower division students. Each suite will include double-occupancy rooms and its own living room. Construction is scheduled to begin in early 2008.

Until next month…
The A.S. Ticket Office in the University Student Union sells tickets to many events on campus, except for some held by outside groups. The Ticket Office is open from 10 a.m.–6 p.m. Mon.–Fri. For prices not given, call (818) 677-2488. To park on campus for performances, athletic events, lectures and other activities, guests must purchase a $4 parking permit.

Alumni Events
For info or to RSVP, www.csunalumni.com unless otherwise noted.

Health Administration Alumni
Students, faculty, alumni are invited to general meeting on 2007 plans. Health administration alumni chapter hosts.
Thu., Nov. 30, 6:30–8 p.m. University Hall, rm. 277
For parking pass, Mary Newman@csun.edu

Entertainment Alumni Mixer
Informal mixer/networking event.
Thu., Dec. 7, 7–9 p.m.
St. Nick’s Pub, 8450 W. 3rd St., L.A.
RSVP: jerabo@gmail.com

Rowdy Rooter Bus
Matador basketball fans hop on Rowdy Rooter Bus for luxury bus trip to UC Riverside.
Space limited; early reservations advised.
Meet at CSUN Sat. Jan., 6, 12:30 p.m.
Early arrival at Raxx BBQ in Riverside.
Game tip-off, 5 p.m.
$45 members and guests, $50 non-members for round-trip bus, dinner and game tickets.
Tickets at www.csunalumni.com or Cheryl McClain, (818) 677-2317 or cheryl.mcclain@csun.edu

Art and Exhibits
For gallery info, call (818) 677-2156.
Main gallery hours: Mon. through Sat. 10 a.m.–4 p.m. and Thursdays noon–8 p.m. Admission is free unless specified. For library exhibits, call (818) 677-2285.

Remarkable Impressions
Legacy of great illustrators on display, including prints by William Hogarth,Kate Greenaway and more.
From Oviatt Library’s collections.
Exhibition runs through Dec. 22.
Tseng Gallery, Oviatt Library

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Bianchi Planetarium
For ticket info, (818) 677-2488 or visit www.csun.edu/physics/planetarium.
Telescope viewing follows second show.
“Autumn Sky Show” and “The Planet Club: Why Pluto Got Kicked Out, and Why Earth Is So Special” Fri., Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m.
“Autumn Sky Show” and “The Search for Life in the Universe” Fri., Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m.

Athletics (home games)

Men’s Basketball
12/3 Eastern 4:05 p.m. Washington
12/9 Boise State 7:05 p.m.
12/14 Master’s College 7:05 p.m.

Women’s Basketball
11/28 Pepperdine 7 p.m.
12/2 Santa Clara 7 p.m.
12/5 Hawaii 7 p.m.
12/7 Montana 7 p.m.
12/11 Northridge 7 p.m.

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12/5 Hawaii 7 p.m.
12/7 Montana 4 p.m.

Cinematheque
Screenings are free and take place in the Alan and Elaine Armer Theater on the first floor of Manzanita Hall at the southwest corner of campus. For more info, call (818) 677-3192 or see www.cinematheque.csun.edu/html/events.html.

‘Liza with a Z’
Genre: musical.
Tribute to choreographer/director Bob Fosse, featuring sequences from his films.
Directed by Bob Fosse.
Thu., Nov. 30, 7 p.m.

‘The Lost Honor of Katherine Blum’
Genre: media manipulation thriller.
Directed by Volker Schlondorff, Margarethe von Trotta.
Wed., Dec. 6, 7 p.m.

‘Caché’
Genre: media manipulation thriller.
Directed by Michael Haneke.
Thu., Dec. 7, 7 p.m.

‘Heaven’s Gate’
Genre: Western.
Directed by Michael Cimino.
Wed., Dec. 13, 7 p.m.

‘Silverado’
Genre: Western.
Directed by Lawrence Kasdan.
Thu., Dec. 14, 7 p.m.

Richard Smith Lecture
Supported by Richard W. Smith Endowment for Cultural Studies.
Host: College of Social and Behavioral Sciences.
Tue., Dec. 7, 7 p.m.
Whittsett Room, Sierra Hall 451.
Free
For info, (818) 677-3317

Music
Admission to all music events (unless otherwise specified): $10 general, $7 faculty, staff and seniors, $5 students.
Admission to all music events (unless otherwise specified): $10 general, $7 faculty, staff and seniors, $5 students.

Women’s Choral University Chorus
Katherine Ramos Baker, conductor.
Tue., Nov. 28, 8 p.m.
Plaza del Sol Performance Hall (formerly Performing Arts Center)
‘You Can’t Take It With You’

Wind Ensemble
Lawrence Stoffel, conductor.
Fri., Dec. 1, 8 p.m.
USU Northridge Center

Jazz A Band
Matt Hans and Gary Pratt, directors.
Wed., Nov. 29, 8 p.m.
Plaza del Sol Performance Hall (formerly Performing Arts Center)

Violin Class of Michael Ferrill
Mon., Dec. 4, 8 p.m.
Music Recital Hall

Vocal Jazz Ensemble
Matt Faller, director.
Wed., Dec. 6, 8 p.m.
Music Recital Hall

Nordridge Singers
Paul Smith, conductor.
Sat., Dec. 2, 8 p.m.
Plaza del Sol Performance Hall (formerly Performing Arts Center)

Xmas from Dublin
The Three Irish Tenors with special guests, The Three Irish Divas.
Fri., Dec. 1, 8 p.m.
Plaza del Sol Performance Hall (formerly Performing Arts Center)
‘You Can’t Take It With You’

Second City Comedy Troupe
Part of U.S. College Tour.
Troupe launched careers of entertainers Bill Murray, Jim Belushi, Julia Louis-Dreyfus and others.
Scenes, songs and improvisation.
Thu., Nov. 30, 7:30 p.m.
Plaza del Sol Performance Hall (formerly Performing Arts Center)
$20–$45

Christmas from Dublin
The Three Irish Tenors with special guests, The Three Irish Divas.
Fri., Dec. 1, 8 p.m.
Plaza del Sol Performance Hall (formerly Performing Arts Center)
‘You Can’t Take It With You’

Northridge Singers
Paul Smith, conductor.
Sat., Dec. 2, 8 p.m.
Plaza del Sol Performance Hall (formerly Performing Arts Center)

Vocal Jazz Ensemble
Matt Faller, director.
Wed., Dec. 6, 8 p.m.
Music Recital Hall

Guitar Ensemble
Ron Borzson, director.
Thu., Dec. 7, 8 p.m.
Music Recital Hall

Studio Ensemble
Elizabeth Sellers, conductor.
Mon., Dec. 11, 8 p.m.
Music Recital Hall

Opera Workshop
Arnt Baltz, director.
Tue., Dec. 12 and Thu., Dec. 14, 8 p.m.
Music Recital Hall

CSUN Symphony Concert
John Rossigno, conductor.
Presenting: Northwestern Composition Prize Contest winner, plus works by Janacek, Dvorak and Stravinsky.
Fri., Dec. 15, 8 p.m.
Van Nuys High School, 6535 Cedros Ave., Van Nuys
Free

Fiesta Navidad
A musical celebration of Christmas.
Sun., Dec. 3, 2 p.m.
$15–$30

Albert McNeil Jubilee Singers
Famed singing ensemble brings glory of voice and spirit to selections from vast repertoire.
Fri., Dec. 8, 8 p.m.
Plaza del Sol Performance Hall (formerly Performing Arts Center)
$20–$45

A Christmas Carol
Metropolitan Educational Theatre’s production of beloved Dickens classic.
Sat., Dec. 16, 8 p.m.
Sun., Dec. 17, 2 p.m.
Plaza del Sol Performance Hall (formerly Performing Arts Center)
$15–$28

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Director, Public Relations
Asst. V.P. to Public Relations
Director of News and Information
Director of Strategic Communications
Associate Director
Director of Publications
Assistant Director
Assistant Director

CSUN
COMMUN ITY@c sun, Office of Public Relations
PO STM ASTER :
www.csun.edu/pubrels/comm unity@c sun

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