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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**USU Presents “An Evening with George Takei” at the VPAC:**

**His Extraordinary Journey from “Star Trek” to Social Media Icon**

Northridge — The University Student Union (USU) and Valley Performing Arts Center (VPAC) invite all CSUN students, faculty and staff to “An Evening With George Takei” featuring the actor, author, social media icon and social rights activist as he talks about everything from pop culture to current politics. On Tuesday, Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. in the VPAC Great Hall, experience an entertaining evening that will be both humorous and thought provoking. Takei will share an inside look at his powerful life story and ongoing career from “Star Trek” to Broadway. Tickets are only \$5 with a valid CSUN I.D. and will go on sale Monday, Oct. 10 at the VPAC Ticket Office with a limit of two tickets per CSUN ID.

George Takei has acted in many notable works, including his legendary role as “Hikaru Sulu” in “Star Trek: The Original Series” and six “Star Trek” films. But his remarkable life story was marred at the age of 5 when his family was wrongly imprisoned in a U.S. internment camp for Japanese Americans during World War II. That experience was inspiration for the 2015 Broadway musical “Allegiance”, in which Takei starred. He has also authored three books, including the best seller “Oh Myyy! There Goes the Internet”, which highlights his rise as a social media icon. He has over 9.8 million likes on Facebook, where he shares photos and humorous commentary on an hourly basis.

In addition to being an award-winning actor and talented author, Takei is a prominent activist for the LGBTQ community. He actively shares his views on equal rights, racism, social justice and other issues facing our society.

“We are so excited to have Mr. Takei as a guest lecturer because his story is so relevant to our diverse CSUN community and our ongoing Inclusive Language Campaign,” said USU Event Supervisor Audrey Martinez. “Even if you don’t consider yourself a ‘Trekkie’, his range of experiences as an actor, social media icon and social rights activist promise a great evening that will be intriguing and entertaining for everyone!”

“An Evening with George Takei” will be a memorable experience for all in attendance. Guests will enjoy his fun, edgy humor, while also witnessing his in-depth knowledge of social justice, equal rights, gender, racism and other issues. Takei’s latest book “Oh Myyy! There Goes the Internet” will be available for purchase at his book signing in the VPAC lobby after the event and at the CSUN Campus Store.

For more information about “An Evening with George Takei” please visit [www.csun.edu/usu](http://www.csun.edu/usu) or contact USU Events Supervisor Audrey Martinez at [audrey.martinez@csun.edu](mailto:audrey.martinez@csun.edu).

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*The University Student Union (USU) is committed to inclusion, diversity and personal growth for all students while providing services such as study areas, a computer lab, TV lounge, games room and wireless printing kiosks in addition to a variety of food options and a wide range of events. The USU includes the Student Recreation Center, Oasis Wellness Center, Pride Center and Veterans Resource Center. To learn more, please visit [www.csun.edu/usu](http://www.csun.edu/usu).*