



Dallas Center
for the Performing Arts™

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**Shannon and Ted Skokos, Combined with their Foundation, Contribute
\$10 Million to Dallas Center for the Performing Arts**

Center Names Two Signature Spaces of the Center in Honor of Mr. and Mrs. Skokos

DALLAS (April 28, 2008) – The Dallas Center for the Performing Arts announced today that it has received two gifts totaling \$10 million from Shannon and Ted Skokos and the Ted and Shannon Skokos Foundation. The personal gift from Mr. and Mrs. Skokos comes as part of the Center’s Naming Gift Program, designed to recognize major donors by naming signature spaces within the Center in their honor. The Center will name two performance spaces in recognition of their contribution: the Shannon and Ted Skokos Stage in the Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House and the Shannon and Ted Skokos Pavilion at Annette Strauss Artist Square.

The Skokos’ and their Foundation’s combined contribution is equal in size to the third largest gift to the campaign. The largest gifts to the campaign are the \$42 million gift from Margot and Bill Winspear and the \$20 million contribution from Dee and Charles Wyly and Cheryl and Sam Wyly. Total funding for the campaign to build the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts now stands at \$294 million towards the \$338 million goal. All but \$18 million, or 5% of the total project, is being raised privately.

“Although relatively new to Dallas, Shannon and Ted Skokos clearly understand the impact the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts will have on our city and region for the next century,” said Bill Lively, president and CEO of the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts. “With their family gift and a grant from the Skokos Foundation totaling in aggregate \$10 million, Shannon and Ted

Skokos have made a remarkable investment in the future of Dallas and its transforming cultural landscape. The Skokos' gifts are exceptionally generous and will be very helpful in keeping the campaign to build the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts on schedule and on budget as we approach the final eighteen months before the Center's grand opening."

Relatively new residents to Dallas, Shannon and Ted Skokos are finding ways to engage in the civic and cultural life of their adopted city. An attorney, Mrs. Skokos currently serves on the boards of the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts and the Gateway for Cancer Research. She is also the founder and former executive director of the Miss Virgin Islands Scholarship Organization, a non-profit that funds college scholarships for women. She developed this project through her ties to the Miss America Organization, which began after she was crowned Miss Arkansas in 1992.

The performing arts have been a part of Shannon Skokos' life since her early childhood, when she began ballet lessons at age 2 and later, music lessons which led to a college degree in music education. Notably, she traveled across Europe performing by invitation as soloist and principal flutist for the United States Collegiate Wind Band, under the direction of "The President's Own" US Marine Corp Band conductor John R. Bourgeois.

"The performing arts is a universal language that unites people all over the world. The Center will serve as a respite for the residents of Dallas to escape their fast paced lives, if only for a few hours, to embrace the tranquility and passion of the arts," said Shannon Skokos. "When complete, the Center will anchor Dallas for the next 100 years as the best city in America in which to live."

Ted Skokos practiced law in Arkansas for 21 years. He is the founder of multiple telecommunications companies, including Aloha Partners LP, which aggregated the largest amount of 700 MHz spectrum in the U.S. In February 2008, AT&T acquired all of the assets of Aloha. Mr. Skokos is also a founder of 3F Therapeutics, Inc., a maker of heart valves, which merged in 2006 with ATS Medical, Inc., a publicly traded medical device company on which he serves on the board. He has served on several corporate and philanthropic boards.

"We were drawn to the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts because of the thorough planning that has occurred from the outset of the project. The results of those planning efforts are now becoming apparent as the buildings take shape and the opening of the Center draws nearer," said

Ted Skokos. “This Center will have an impact on the entire community, and we are looking forward to all of the performances that will take place in the Center’s venues.”

The Shannon and Ted Skokos Stage in the Winspear Opera House will be the site of performances for The Dallas Opera, Texas Ballet Theater, the Center’s Broadway series, Brinker International Forum, concerts and more. The Shannon and Ted Skokos Pavilion at the Annette Strauss Artist Square, the Center’s outdoor venue with lawn seating for 5,000, will feature concerts, festivals and family programs. In addition to the Winspear Opera House and Annette Strauss Artist Square, the Center also includes the Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre, the 10-acre Performance Park, City Performance Hall and two underground parking garages.

About the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts:

The Dallas Center for the Performing Arts, a new multi-venue Center for music, opera, theatre and dance will open in 2009, completing the 25-year vision of the Dallas Arts District. The Center will provide multi-state-of-the-art facilities woven together by an urban park covering more than ten acres to create a dynamic cultural destination that will be unparalleled in the world. The Center will feature the following:

- The Margot and Bill Winspear Opera House, designed in a modern horseshoe configuration, will seat 2,200 (with capacity up to 2,300), designed by Foster + Partners.
- The Dee and Charles Wyly Theatre will serve as a gateway to the Dallas Arts District from the downtown Dallas business center and will seat 600, designed by REX/OMA.
- The completely new Annette Strauss Artist Square will be the Center’s outdoor entertainment venue, which can accommodate audiences of up to 5,000, designed by Foster + Partners.
- The City Performance Hall will provide main stage production space for many of Dallas’ smaller performing arts organizations, designed by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill.
- The 10-acre Performance Park will unify the venues and will create a dynamic cultural destination in downtown Dallas, designed by Michel Desvigne, in collaboration with JJR.
- Two underground parking structures will accommodate more than 850 vehicles.

More information on the Dallas Center for the Performing Arts is available at www.dallasperformingarts.org.

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