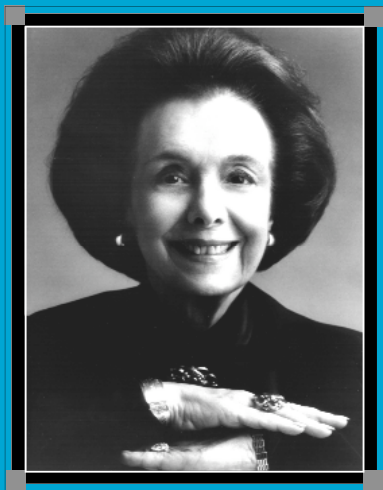


A TRIBUTE EVENING IN MEMORY OF
CAROLINE LEONETTI AHMANSON

Founder, Los Angeles County High School for the Arts



WEDNESDAY JANUARY 11, 2006
WILSHIRE EBEL THEATRE

AND SPECIAL PERFORMANCE OF

42nd STREET



Congratulations to LACHSA

on its 20th anniversary.

*Without you and the
dedication of visionaries
such as Caroline Ahmanson,*

I wouldn't be where

I am today.

-Josh



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF TRAINING YOUNG ARTISTS

Los Angeles County High School for the Arts Foundation
And Caroline Leonetti Ahmanson Tribute Committee

CORDIALLY WELCOME YOU TO

A PRE-SHOW RECEPTION IN TRIBUTE TO FOUNDER

CAROLINE LEONETTI AHMANSON

AND SPECIAL PERFORMANCE OF

42nd STREET

BY THE LACHSA MUSICAL THEATRE ENSEMBLE

Generously underwritten by the
Leonetti/O'Connell Family Foundation

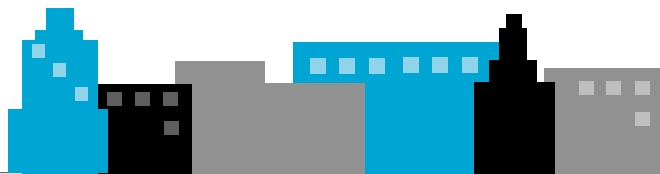
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2006

6:00pm Tribute Reception

7:00pm Performance

WILSHIRE EBELL THEATRE AND CLUBHOUSE

743 South Lucerne Blvd.
Los Angeles





CAROLINE LEONETTI AHMANSON

1918-2005

Founder, Los Angeles County High School for the Arts

In the mid-1980's, when the arts were drastically cut from Los Angeles area public schools, Caroline Leonetti Ahmanson realized that a generation of artists could be lost for lack of access to free arts training. Determined to not let that happen in the City of Angels, Mrs. Ahmanson provided the vision and leadership to establish the LACHSA Foundation in 1984, with the mission of helping establish and support a public arts high school to serve—tuition-free—the most talented young artists in the County. She graciously inspired leaders in the arts, politics, education, business and philanthropy to join her in realizing this goal. As a result of her tireless efforts and her contagious enthusiasm for the idea of masters of the arts training new artists, the doors of Los Angeles County High School for the Arts opened in 1985. Thanks to her steadfast determination and commitment, thousands of young people, who would not otherwise have been able to afford it, have received outstanding arts training that developed their artistic potential to the fullest and prepared them to create a bright future for the arts.

As a trustee and philanthropist, Mrs. Ahmanson was attentive to the needs of the school, generous in her giving, unwavering in her commitment to LACHSA's young artists, a persuasive advocate for private support of this public arts high school—now recognized as one of the five best in the nation—and beloved and respected by all who knew her. She will be sorely missed. However, her passionate love of the arts will live on—into perpetuity—through the priceless works of the artists who trained at the school that began as her dream.

A MESSAGE FROM MARGO LEONETTI O'CONNELL

(Caroline Leonetti Ahmanson's daughter)

Thank you for attending this special evening. My family and I are touched by your interest and support of this tribute event and are honored to have you here to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of this remarkable school that was so beloved by my mother.

The extraordinary artistic talents of our city's young people, like those you will see performing tonight, are what inspired my mother to work to establish and support Los Angeles County High School for the Arts. When arts were cut from public schools in the mid-1980's, she dreamed that passionate young artists could attend an excellent, conservatory-style performing and visual arts high school tuition-free, so that the lack of economic resources of their families and/or home school districts would not prevent them from developing their creative potential.

With her eyes on the future of the arts, her heart filled with passion for the artists who will create it and a lifelong commitment to education, she was thrilled to find arts, civic, education, political and philanthropic leaders who would work with her to realize her dream. Being a frugal person, she was immensely proud that California State University Los Angeles offered the school a home so that millions of tax dollars would not have to be spent to establish the school. She was elated when LACHSA was named one of the five best arts high schools in the nation by the Kennedy Center Network of Alliances for the Arts.

She loved supporting the school through the LACHSA Foundation and was immensely grateful for the many individuals, foundations and corporations who helped to develop, sustain and enrich its arts training programs. Through your participation tonight, you are helping to keep her dream alive. You have our my heartfelt thanks. Enjoy the show!

Margo Leonetti Ahmanson

CAROLINE LEONETTI AHMANSON TRIBUTE COMMITTEE

CO-CHAIRS

Margo Leonetti O'Connell
Cara Leonetti Esposito
Caolionn Leonetti O'Connell

Wallis Annenberg	Joanne and Roger Kozberg
Frances Brody	Mr. and Mrs. Art Linkletter
Patty and Roy Disney	Flora L. Thornton
Dr. and Mrs. Stuart E. Gothold	Andrea and John Van de Kamp
Della Koenig	Marcia Wilson Hobbs
Sheila and Wally Weisman	

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A MESSAGE FROM THE LACHSA FOUNDATION PRESIDENT



Dear 42nd Street Guests:

The Los Angeles County High School for the Arts Foundation warmly thanks you for attending this 20th Anniversary Celebration to pay tribute to Caroline Leonetti Ahmanson.

Our heartfelt thanks to Margo O'Connell and the Leonetti/ O'Connell Foundation for making this evening possible.

Caroline recruited me for the LACHSA Foundation board nearly 20 years ago. It was her inspiring leadership that motivated us all to unwaveringly work to support the arts programs that are now nationally acclaimed. It's a big challenge—now nearly \$1 million a year must be raised to just to sustain the arts programs. I am honored to work with other trustees whose dedication mirrors Caroline's and whose efforts have brought many new supporters to the Foundation. The Foundation was honored to have the members of the Tribute Committee so enthusiastically agree to help us honor Caroline.

The Foundation is grateful for the many partners that have steadfastly provided support through the last 20 years—like the Annenberg Foundation, the Ahmanson Foundation, the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, the Pasadena Showcase House for the Arts, the Eisner Foundation, the Walter Lantz Foundation, the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, the Surdna Foundation, the Weingart Foundation, Sheila and Wally Weisman, and Della Koenig. We are thrilled to welcome new partners—like Time Warner and Warner Bros., the Keck Foundation, the ASCAP Foundation, the B.C. McCabe Foundation, UTA, William Morris, and Clear Channel Entertainment and YOU!

Special thanks go to the donors who so generously made gifts after Caroline's passing and to all of you attending tonight. I am proposing that those gifts and the proceeds of this event be used to establish the Caroline Leonetti Ahmanson Memorial Endowment that will support—into perpetuity—the young artists at LACHSA that she so loved.

Marcia Wilson Hobbs



On behalf of the Los Angeles County Office of Education and the Board of Education, I am delighted to join in paying tribute to LACHSA founder Caroline Leonetti Ahmanson. Her legacy is a school that is the jewel of arts education on the west coast.

Since LACHSA's founding in 1985, thousands of culturally and socioeconomically diverse teens from across our region have benefited from Mrs. Ahmanson's vision and dedication. Our gifted and talented students not only receive a high-caliber learning experience in the visual and performing arts, but also a rigorous academic program with a direct connection to higher education.

The Office of Education and the Board of Education are proud to be partners with the LACHSA Foundation in this vital endeavor. This public-private collaboration is key to the continued success of our special school.

It is an honor to be part of this celebration of a true champion of arts education.

*Darline P. Robles, Ph.D., Superintendent
Los Angeles County Office of Education*

Los Angeles County Board of Education

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Los Angeles County Office of Education

Dear 42nd Street Event Guests:

On behalf of the 580 talented young artists studying dance, music, theatre, visual arts, musical theatre and TV/film at Los Angeles County High School for the Arts today, welcome and thank you for coming. We are delighted you are here to help us celebrate our 20th Anniversary and pay tribute to the leadership and dedication of Caroline Leonetti Ahmanson.

I am privileged to be in my second year as principal of this award-winning school that fulfills the dreams of our community's most promising youth to become artists. I feel like I have been a part of this school much longer, since I have been hearing about it from my uncle, Dr. Stuart Gothold, the former Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) Superintendent who was inspired by Caroline Ahmanson to agree to operate the school in 1985. On behalf of the LACOE board, Superintendent Darline Robles and the 85 members of the LACHSA arts faculty, I extend our warmest appreciation of your generous support of the LACHSA Foundation that enables the arts programs to offer comprehensive arts training and a myriad of performing opportunities to our students. It is that vital support that enables LACHSA to sustain and enhance the quality of the arts programs in the face of insufficient public funding.

A very special thanks goes to Margo Leonetti O'Connell and the Leonetti/O'Connell Foundation for their underwriting of this wonderful evening and for giving LACHSA students the opportunity to bring the beloved musical 42nd Street to the stage tonight. Enjoy the show!

Paul Gothold