



**City of Vista**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**MOONLIGHT CULTURAL FOUNDATION DONATES \$300,000 TO THE CITY OF  
VISTA  
IN SUPPORT OF MOONLIGHT STAGE PRODUCTIONS**

Vista, CA – The Moonlight Cultural Foundation (MCF) has donated over \$300,000 to support the City of Vista’s cultural arts program, Moonlight Stage Productions. Headed by Datron World Communication’s CEO Art Barter, the MCF presented two checks totaling \$320,000 to the City Council at its regular meeting last night. This significant contribution will go towards the underwriting of the City’s subsidy of the cultural arts program’s budget. At the meeting, Mr. Barter also indicated an additional \$15,000 has been raised in support of the AVO Playhouse.

“The Moonlight Cultural Foundation proudly presented two checks totaling \$320,000 to the City of Vista’s Moonlight Stage Productions yesterday,” said Art Barter. “With this presentation it brings the total amount provided by the Foundation to \$535,000 this year. This support is a testament to the hard work of our Board, fellow community members and corporate sponsors who hold the Moonlight so near and dear to their

hearts. I want to thank them for helping to ensure that we can keep award-winning theatre productions at the Moonlight and AVO theatres”

The Moonlight Cultural Foundation was founded in 1974 with the sole purpose of constructing and donating to the City an amphitheatre in Brengle Terrace Park to mark the bicentennial in 1976. In 1981, Moonlight Stage Productions was founded as a joint project between the City and the Vista Unified School District with two musicals. Since then, Moonlight has developed into a year-round cultural arts program of the City of Vista presenting Broadway-style musicals in the 2000-person capacity amphitheatre, and the 388-seat AVO Playhouse in the Vista Village. As Moonlight Stage Productions has evolved, so has the Moonlight Cultural Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. The Foundation’s 37-year commitment in underwriting Vista’s cultural arts program has been a critical element instrumental in the overall development of Moonlight’s programs. Each year, the Foundation raises funding to directly support Moonlight’s production and marketing budgets. This has helped reduce the City’s yearly subsidy for the program.

The \$300,000 contribution comes at the conclusion of the Foundation’s most successful fund-raising year to date with contributions totaling \$1-million. In addition to underwriting Moonlight’s programs, the Foundation itself has expanded its programs to present concerts and presentations as well as an annual series of educational outreach play readings at the AVO Playhouse.

Mayor Judy Ritter presented a proclamation to Art Barter declaring December 14, 2011, “Moonlight Cultural Foundation Day” in the City of Vista. “Art is one of the most influential members in our community who works tirelessly supporting the arts in our City – all without looking for recognition,” said Mayor Ritter. “Over the years, Art has set in motion successful funding efforts for the Moonlight Amphitheatre. We are deeply grateful for his unwavering commitment to the Moonlight Amphitheatre and to the other members of the Moonlight Cultural Foundation. This latest donation from the Foundation will enable our 2012 summer season’s venue to be a top lineup and will serve as a lasting legacy for Kathy Brombacher’s final season before her retirement.”

Moonlight Stage Productions is preparing to open its 2012 Winter Season at the AVO Playhouse in January with a production of Agatha Christie’s play “The Mousetrap.” Two other productions, “Little Women – The Musical” and “Beau Jest” will carry the AVO season through early April. This summer, Moonlight will produce four blockbuster Broadway shows at the Moonlight Amphitheatre: “Legally Blonde – The Musical” (the Southern California regional theatre premiere), “Fiddler on the Roof,” “Anything Goes,” and “Sweeney Todd: the Demon Barber of Fleet Street.”

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