

CHARITY SPOTLIGHT

SHINING A LIGHT ON LOCAL NONPROFITS AND PHILANTHROPISTS

Candlelight Concert to Celebrate Segerstrom Center's 30th Anniversary



Alex Bowie, Barbara Johnson, Jack Langson, Elizabeth Segerstrom, Carmela Du, Shanaz Langson

BY CHRISTOPHER TRELA | NB INDY

More than 40 years ago, a group of Orange County arts supporters got together and held a fundraising event to kickstart a campaign to build a major performing arts center in the county.

The event was held in a vacant Kresge five-and-dime store, and was transformed into an elegant ballroom with the use of candles. Since then, the annual gala has been called Candlelight Concert.

Flash forward 43 years: The Candlelight Concert has become one of the premier events of the OC social season, and has featured such entertainers as Diana Ross, Frankie Valli, Jay Leno, Natalie Cole, Tony Bennett, Kenny Loggins, Harry Belafonte, Johnny Mathis, Donna Summer, Smokey Robinson, Frank Sinatra, Jr., and many more.

Candlelight Concert traditionally begins with a red carpet entry and cocktail reception on the Plaza and Orchestra Level lobbies, followed by the concert in Segerstrom Hall, and dinner and dancing on the stage itself. Last year's

entertainment featured an intimate performance by Diana Krall and dancing to K.C. and the Sunshine Band.

This year, the Candlelight Concert celebrates the 30th Anniversary of Segerstrom Center for the Arts with a command performance by the legendary Carole King on Friday, December 2 in Segerstrom Hall.

The event is four months away, but plans for this special occasion have been in the works for many months.

This year's Candlelight Concert will be co-chaired by Tracy and Roger Kirwan and Jaynine and David Warner. Roger is a former Center Board Chairman and current Board Treasurer and Chair, Investment Committee. Jaynine joined the Center's Board this year.

The chairs held a cocktail reception at the Kirwan home on July 28 to announce King as the evening's artist, and to introduce Lugano Diamonds as Luxury Jewelry Presenting Sponsor and Wells Fargo, The Private Bank as Financial Services Presenting Sponsor.

"It's a pleasure for us to chair a



Roger & Tracy Kirwan, Jaynine & David Warner



Doug & Lynn Freeman and Lupe Erwin

Candlelight Concert," said the chairs in a joint statement. "This will be a perfect occasion to acknowledge all that the early Candlelight Concert chairs and Center Founders set in motion more than 30 years ago and to demonstrate that the Center is more committed than ever to serving our community through outstanding artistic experiences and civic involvement."

Additional events will be held leading up to the Candlelight Concert, which is traditionally an evening of surprises. The menu will once again be created by Patina Restaurant Group, which owns the adjacent Leatherby's Café Rouge.

Carole King is a perfect choice to perform at the Candlelight Concert. As one of the most celebrated and iconic singer/songwriter of all time, King has written hundreds of songs that have



Leslie Leyton, Blasingame, Taylor Beauchamp, Marjie Zethraus, Jennifer Dauderman, Kathryn Baker

been recorded by more than a thousand artists. Her 1971 solo album, "Tapestry," won four Grammy Awards and spent more than 300 weeks on the Billboard charts.

In 2014, "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" opened on Broadway and won a Grammy for Best Musical Theater Album and two Tony Awards. The touring production of "Beautiful" plays at Segerstrom Center this October.

Proceeds from Candlelight Concert support the Center's artistic programming, and the community engagement and education programs that serve more than 300,000 young people and students each year.

To learn more about the Center's Candlelight Concert, reserve seats or to reserve space in the commemorative Candlelight Concert journal, contact Center Director of Special Events Irma Ramirez at 714/ 556-2122, ext. 4247.

Visit the Segerstrom Center's website at SCFTA.org.

"Bigs" and "Littles" Enjoy Kayak Day at Newport Dunes

BY NB INDY STAFF

More than a hundred kids (known as "Littles") and their volunteer mentors (known as "Bigs") participated in the Fourth Annual UnitedHealthcare Kayak Day at Newport Dunes.

In addition to kayaking, activities included volleyball, Frisbee, and lawn games.

The event is part of the "Big F.U.N." (Fitness, Understanding, Nutrition) program, a month-long series of events spon-



Bigs and Littles enjoy Kayak Day

sored by UnitedHealthcare to encourage healthy habits for children participating in Big Brothers Big Sisters of Orange County and the Inland Empire programs.

Big Brothers Big Sisters is the nation's largest donor- and volunteer-supported mentoring organization, serving a quarter-million children annually.

Based in Santa Ana, the Orange County agency was incorporated in 1958 and works as a local extension of the national effort to make professionally supported,

one-to-one matches between mentors ("Bigs") and children ("Littles") facing adversity.

For more information, visit ocbigs.org.

UnitedHealthcare is dedicated to helping people nationwide live healthier lives by simplifying the health care experience, meeting consumer health and wellness needs, and sustaining trusted relationships with care providers.

For more information, visit [UnitedHealthcare at uhc.com](http://UnitedHealthcare.com).