



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact:

Jennifer LeMay
Director of Marketing and Communications
SBCC Foundation
(805) 730-4409
lemay@sbccfoundation.org

SBCC Foundation Receives Major Gift of \$375,000 to Benefit SBCC Music

Santa Barbara, CA – The SBCC Foundation announced that anonymous donors have made a major gift of \$375,000 to support the Santa Barbara City College Music Department’s Jazz and Symphony programs. The funds will be available for broad use, providing music department faculty and staff with resources to initiate and fund special projects and intermittent critical needs of the programs.

The donors, who wish to remain anonymous, shared their reasons for making the gift: "Personal enjoyment of numerous Santa Barbara City College Music Department classes inspired this donation. The faculty’s teaching excellence and personal musicianship is world class. We are honored to support the SBCC Music Department’s goal of educating music students in our community."

"This generous gift is a manifestation of the immense appreciation our community has for SBCC Music and its renowned jazz and symphony programs," said Geoff Green, CEO of the SBCC Foundation. "We are grateful for the vision inherent in this support that will make it possible for students to benefit for years to come."

SBCC Music programs are known internationally for their innovation and excellence, as they prepare students for entry into a four-year music school and professional careers. Students have continued their studies at USC, UCLA, Chapman University, NYU, and numerous universities across the country. In 2020, the popular SBCC Summer Jazz program was the only such program to be fully realized amid the COVID-19 pandemic thanks to quick thinking and cutting-edge technology. SBCC Music faculty pursued this remote rehearsal and performance model using Jamulus, a groundbreaking platform enabling musicians

to play synchronously from dozens of remote locations. SBCC Music's three jazz bands were the first in the world at an academic institution to successfully present a live concert of a large ensemble with each member participating synchronously – and safely – from their homes.

"We are very excited about this gift and the ongoing support it will provide for our jazz and symphony programs," said Nathan Kreitzer, Chair of the SBCC Music Department.

About SBCC Music

The internationally renowned Santa Barbara City College Music program offers a wide range of performance opportunities, courses of study, and a welcoming atmosphere for all students. SBCC Music majors have the opportunity by audition to take private lessons with professionals in their field and participate in many recitals and concerts. The program is open to all instrumentalists/vocalists and prepares students for entry into a four-year music school or preparation for a professional career. Students have continued their studies at USC, UCLA, Chapman University, Cal State Northridge, NYU, Manhattan School of Music, and numerous universities across the country. Many have established successful careers in music education, technology, and performance. Pop star Katy Perry is a graduate of the SBCC Songwriting class, and Grammy award-winning saxophonist Kevin Garren and multi-platinum producer/songwriter Tim Pagnotta are also SBCC Music alumni. For more information, visit sbccmusic.com.

About the SBCC Foundation

The SBCC Foundation has provided Santa Barbara City College with private philanthropic support since 1976, serving as the vehicle through which individuals and organizations may invest in the college and its students.

As an independent 501c3 nonprofit organization and partner to SBCC, the SBCC Foundation awards more than \$5 million annually for student success programs, scholarships, book grants, emergency funds, and other critical needs of the college. For more than four decades, the resources raised and managed by the SBCC Foundation have supported SBCC students as they prepare for careers, transfer to four-year universities, and pursue lifelong learning goals.

In 2016, the Foundation launched the SBCC Promise, offering all recent, local high school graduates the opportunity to attend SBCC full-time at no cost. The SBCC Promise relies entirely on private support and covers all required fees, books, and supplies for up to two years. To date, nearly 5,000 local students have participated in the SBCC Promise. By removing financial barriers, the SBCC Promise ensures that SBCC's life-changing educational programs are fully accessible to all local students.

For more information, visit <http://www.sbccfoundation.org>

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