

Media Advisory For Release 10/05/09

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**A Weekend of 150th Year Celebration Events at the California School for the Deaf
on October 22-25, 2009 – 4,000 Visitors Expected**

Fremont, California – October 22-25, 2009 - - The California School for the Deaf (CSD) has been educating Deaf and Hard of Hearing children successfully for 150 years, it is a school that teaches children to think. The 150th celebration runs through the school year with the first big event being held on October 22-25, 2009. The celebration will provide an ideal time for the alumni to share their school life and collective experiences as students and to celebrate 150 years of the CSD's rich history.

Media groups are welcome to come to CSD anytime throughout the school year.

Alumni, parents of current students, students, staff members, and community members are welcome to join the weekend gala. All need to pay registration fees to be a part of the anniversary activities. For information on the schedule of events and registration, go to: www.c sdf.k12.ca.us

Thursday and Friday: Educational and Entertainment Day

The weekend gala will kick off with a reception in the dining room at the school on October 22. Then, on October, 23, the Alumni Day part of the event will include a school tour and museum visit. In the morning, participants can enjoy the student's school-wide pep rally with the famous former San Francisco 49er Ronnie Lott to inspire the audience.

In the evening, a Sports Hall of Fame Ceremony will be held in the gym to honor past outstanding athletes and coaches. Jack O Connell, California's Superintendent of Public Instruction will present at the Hall of Fame event. The day will close with entertainment by CSD graduates, including Rathskellar www.rathskellar.com and "Gephard" by ASL Films www.aslfilms.com .

Homecoming Saturday: "The Big Games" and Banquet

The "Big Games" will take place on Homecoming Day, October 24, 2009. The California School for the Deaf and California School for the Deaf-Riverside (CSDR) have played against each other since 1974. Both have the only two all-deaf high school football teams in the state of California. Coaches and players on both sides communicate thru ASL and use a different audible system than the hearing teams. They have a rich history of rivalry. In the morning, volleyball and cross country meets will take place.

At noontime, former queens and kings from past years, along with the current student court, will parade around the track. In addition, there will be a fun kids area next to the football field.

The football game will take place at 2:00 PM. Some of the former players from both football teams have been playing for Gallaudet University which is in the NCAA Division III, in Washington DC. CSD has traditionally served as a pipeline with Gallaudet University for players to participate on a NCAA football level after graduating from CSD. Over 4,000 fans are anticipated to be in attendance.

The highlight of the weekend will be a formal banquet at the Marriott Hotel.

Sunday – Alumni Reunion Day

California School for the Deaf Alumni reunions will take place on October 25.

Registration Updates and Hotel Information

Individual event tickets for select events are still available for sale; however, the combo tickets—which cover the pre-celebration reception on Thursday evening; dinner on Friday; Athletic Hall of Fame Ceremony and entertainment on Friday evening; homecoming games on Saturday; and banquet at the Marriott Hotel on Saturday evening—have already sold out.

A couple of the most popular individual events have also sold out, including the main banquet room which will be seating 628 people, while the junior banquet room and foyer area will seat an additional 180 people. Those seated out of the main banquet room will be viewing the evening presentations via a large screen. Those who have not been able to purchase banquet tickets can still join in on the evening's excitement by going to the Marriott Hotel's restaurant, which will be closed to the public that evening. You will be able to purchase hors d'oeuvre. The dancing floor and restaurant area will be open until 1:00 AM for all who want to socialize. The Saturday evening event is an adult affair, not for children.

The Foothill Athletic Association's Hall of Fame reception for Friday evening is also sold out. No more seats are available for that reception.

To reserve lodging at Fremont Marriott Silicon Valley, 56100 Landing Parkway, Fremont, CA 94538, you need to go to www.marriott.com/sjcfm. There is a low conference rate of \$69 per night. Our group code is: CSDCSDA.

About California School for the Deaf

The California School for the Deaf has an international reputation for its high quality educational program. CSD is a fully accredited, state-funded school for students who are deaf/hard of hearing living in Northern California.

Course contents based on state standards for public schools are taught through American Sign Language and English, allowing students full access to learning in all core subjects. Career programs are tailored to student interests and abilities. Students have full access to campus activities including athletics, academic competitions, student body government, Scouting, clubs, drama, yearbook, and Web team.

Teachers and staff members are bilingual users of American Sign Language (ASL) and English, providing students with constant exposure to language and culture. The school also provides them with the

technology that Deaf and Hard of Hearing people use in their daily lives. Students develop ASL and English skills to the maximum extent possible. Credentialed and highly qualified teachers use methodology and technology designed for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students. Experts in learning strategies, media, career, literacy, student outcomes, diversity, and Deaf Studies support classroom learning. Articulated/spoken language teachers, on-site licensed pediatric audiologist and language pathologist work directly with students and families.

The school also provides services to CSD and non-CSD families with deaf children. Please contact the school at (510) 794-3707 for further information or visit the student-produced website:
www.csd.k12.ca.us

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