

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Press Contact:

Liza Sacilioc

(818) 371-3685

liza@momentumsolutionsteam.com

**Congresswoman Judy Chu Opens Arcadia Performing Arts Foundation's Inaugural Gala
with Ribbon-Cutting and Commendation Ceremony**

Confirmed Presenters Include:

Assemblyman Ed Chau; Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors; Mayor Pro Tem Sho Tay, City of Arcadia; President Fenton Eng, Arcadia Unified School District Board of Education; and Superintendent David Vannasdall, Arcadia Unified School District

ARCADIA, CA – Sept. 13, 2017– Arcadia Performing Arts Foundation today announced that Congresswoman Judy Chu will open the center's Inaugural Gala with a Ribbon Cutting and Commendation Ceremony, which will be followed by the season's headline performer Chris Mann, best known as *The Phantom of the Opera* star and finalist on NBC's *The Voice*.

**Arcadia Performing Arts Foundation Inaugural Gala
Saturday, September 16, 2017**

7 p.m. – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

7:15 p.m. – Arcadia Pep Band

7:30 p.m. – Presentation by Judy Chu and notable presenters

7:45 p.m. – Chris Mann Concert begins

"As a long-time representative of the San Gabriel Valley, I want to acknowledge the Arcadia Performing Arts Foundation and what it provides to the greater community," said Rep. Chu. "What is noteworthy is the youth talent that is being fostered at the center. I applaud the Foundation and its current effort to raise funds for one of the largest childhood arts education campaign in the history of Pasadena and San Gabriel Valley, and to support the Arcadia Unified School District's launch of arts integration in six schools."

"Congresswoman Judy Chu is a powerful advocate of elevating the cultural narrative of San Gabriel Valley and the United States," said Maki Hsieh, Executive Director of the Arcadia Performing Arts Foundation. "We are honored and privileged for Congresswoman Chu to lead the Arcadia Performing Arts Foundation's ribbon-cutting and commendation ceremony at the inaugural gala."

Rep. Judy Chu was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in July 2009, earning her mark as the first Chinese American woman elected to Congress in history. She represents the 27th Congressional District, which includes Pasadena and the west San Gabriel. Chu was first elected to the Board of Education for Garvey School District in 1985. From there, she was elected to the Monterey Park City Council, where she served as Mayor three times. She then was elected to the State Assembly and then California's elected tax board, known as the State Board of Equalization.

Additional confirmed presenters include Assemblyman Ed Chau; Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors; Mayor Pro Tem Sho Tay, City of Arcadia; President Fenton Eng, Arcadia Unified School District Board of Education; and Superintendent David Vannasdall, Arcadia Unified School District.

For tickets, visit www.arcadiapaf.org or call the box office at (626) 821-1781.

About the Arcadia Performing Arts Foundation

The Arcadia Performing Arts Foundation is a non-profit fundraising organization for the Arcadia Performing Arts Center and arts education in the Arcadia Unified School District. As the premiere arts and entertainment venue in Pasadena and San Gabriel Valley, the Arcadia Performing Arts Center is one of the busiest year-round venues in the region with 256 days in production last season.

Located adjacent to the Arcadia High School, the state-of-the-art destination venue features a 1,163-seat main hall, 125-seat black box theatre, and strengthens the school district's 66-year legacy of arts excellence. Former arts students include Stevie Nicks, Van Halen's Michael Anthony Sobolewski, NFL Hall of Famer and marching band member Bruce Matthews, and Emmy Award-winning producer of NBC's *The Voice* Barton Kimball.

As a cultural destination and youth talent incubator that makes great art accessible, the Arcadia Performing Arts Center uplifts the community with high-quality artistic programs and world-class artists such as Paul Anka, Herb Alpert, Four Tops, Daniel Ho and Steve Tyrell, and provides unique performance opportunities for youth artists. This season, each event raises financial support for the school district's integration of visual and performing arts education in all elementary schools.

#