

Outreach Services at the Performing Arts Center

PAC Outreach Services exists to promote arts education and ease of use to the center and its services, primarily for area youth. Outreach Services is responsible for several ongoing programs, including YOPAC, Youth Outreach for the Performing Arts Center. Under YOPAC auspices the PAC significantly subsidizes rates for presenting organizations in order to provide an opportunity for children 18 and under to enjoy performances during the school day. In addition, special rates also apply for groups scheduling regular concerts featuring young, local performers. To ensure the program's accessibility to a wide audience, there are ticket price restrictions for YOPAC events.

School Matinee Performances

YOPAC works with organizations that present performances for school age students (K-12). Performances are held in the Center's Harman Hall & Pavilion, and in the Spanos Theatre.

Matinee presenters currently include the following:

- American Dance of SLO
- American Theatre Arts for Youth
- Ballet Theatre San Luis Obispo
- California Theatre Center
- Pacific Repertory Opera
- Poly Arts for Youth
- San Luis Obispo Symphony

The presenting organizations sell tickets in advance to schools for these performances. YOPAC works directly with these groups to schedule performances, send parking vouchers and create seating assignments. In addition, YOPAC assists in promoting all school matinee performances at the PAC.

Young Artists Onstage - Performances by Local School-Age Children

Young Artists Onstage brings more local school children on to the stages at the Christopher Cohan Center and Spanos Theatre. Organizations featuring predominantly school age performers, such as school-sponsored choirs and bands, community youth dance groups and the youth symphony, are able to perform in the Center at a special reduced rental rate.

Local groups featuring young artists that are performing on our stage include:

- Central Coast Children's Choir
- Creative Dancin'
- Laguna Middle School
- Los Osos Middle School
- Mock Rock (Friday Night Live)
- Morro Bay High School
- San Luis Obispo High School
- San Luis Obispo Youth Symphony
- SLO County Honor Band
- Vocal Arts Ensemble Youth Choir

Open Rehearsals

Several local groups stage public, open rehearsals with no admission charge, either for a specific under-served audience, or for the general public. Rental rates are reduced under the Outreach Program.

Local presenting organizations which currently sponsor open rehearsals:

Civic Ballet of San Luis Obispo

Festival Mozaic

San Luis Obispo Symphony

Tours of the Christopher Cohan Center

Group tours of the Center can be scheduled through the Outreach Services program. In addition, group tours especially created for school age students can be scheduled during the school year. The student tour is most appropriate for grades 3 and above.

Outreach Services is also responsible for coordinating Open Houses, Tech Tours and Forbes Pipe Organ "Open Keyboard" events. Check the PAC web site at www.pacslo.org or contact the Outreach Services Coordinator for dates and times.

For more information about any of the outreach programs, contact Melody Klemin, Outreach Services Coordinator at (805)756-7223.