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MISSION SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO THANKS SUPPORTERS

San Juan Capistrano, CA -February 12, 2010- On February 10, the Mission Preservation Foundation (MPF) hosted a special event featuring a concert in the recently restored Serra Chapel, and a special reception to thank Mission supporters for their continued support and investment in Orange County's only mission.

Those in attendance had donated funding toward scholarships for low income field trip students, preservation of the site, development of the museum, as well as a variety of other needs associated with maintaining and preserving Orange County's premiere historic and religious landmark.

During the evening George O'Connell, President of the Mission Preservation Foundation, introduced the Landmarks Club, a special group of supporters who have designated the Mission for estate gifts in their planning. The original Landmarks Club helped to preserve and restore the Mission in the early 1900's and under their leadership helped to protect the Mission from total ruin. The new Landmarks Club has been resurrected by the Mission's Preservation Foundation with the support of the Orange County Community Foundation.

"To know they loved the Mission and want to do something to ensure its long term sustainability inspires all of us to work just a little harder and with even greater dedication to let them know how much they are appreciated." stated Mechelle Lawrence-Adams, Executive Director of the Mission.

With over 125 attendees, the event celebrated their support with a special concert in the Serra Chapel, followed by a cocktail reception hosted by the Ritz-Carlton, Laguna Niguel-a longtime dedicated Mission San Juan Capistrano supporter. Attendees of the event included past MPF President Tony Moiso, Board Member Art Birtcher and his wife

Gaye, and Board Member Bill Cvengros. Local Mayor Lon Uso, and Orange County Community Foundation Executive Director Shelley Hoss also attended the event.

To help stage the event, the Mission received generous support for:

- Lighting, donated by Sean Jackson of Shine Lighting
- Décor, donated by Paul Fenner Designs
- Linens, donated by Wildflowers Linens

George O'Connell, MPF President stated, "I love the Mission and know that you all do too, we're so excited to have you here this evening to say thank you."

About Mission San Juan Capistrano:

Known as the "Jewel of the Missions," Mission San Juan Capistrano is a historic landmark and museum that boasts of quality permanent exhibits featuring original artifacts as well as traveling and temporary exhibits on a wide variety of topics.

The site itself serves as a living outdoor museum with original buildings constructed by Native Americans in the 18th century including the Serra Chapel, Great Stone Church, and the original padres' quarters of the South Wing.

The Mission was founded on November 1, 1776 by Padre Junipero Serra as the seventh in the chain of the twenty-one California missions established by Spain, and is Orange County's only mission. Every year, over 50,000 students visit the Mission and engage in an inspirational learning experience via the Mission Matters programming, as part of their State required California history studies.

Mission San Juan Capistrano is owned by the Diocese of Orange and is supported by the Mission Preservation Foundation, which is comprised of business and community leaders committed to ensuring the long term preservation and viability of Orange County's only Mission. The Mission receives no funding from either the Church or the State of California and charges admission funds as a means of providing public access.

Mission San Juan Capistrano is located at 26801 Ortega Highway, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675. Open Daily 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Good Friday afternoon. Admission is \$9 adults; \$8 seniors (60 years or over); \$5 children (ages 4 to 11); and children ages 3 and under are admitted free. Free audio guide with senior and adult admission. For more information, call (949) 234-1300 or visit www.missionsjc.com.