

## **A \$150,000 grant from the James S. Copley Foundation given to UCSD and the Theatre and Arts Foundation for use toward completion of the Mandell Weiss Center for the Performing Arts**

**October 1, 1982**

A grant of \$150,000 from the James S. Copley Foundation has been given to the University of California, San Diego and the Theatre and Arts Foundation for use toward the completion of the Mandell Weiss Center for the Performing Arts located on the UCSD campus.

The upstairs promenade in the center will be named in honor of the Copley gift. The theater portion of the center is completed. Scene and costume shops located directly south of the main stage area are under construction and landscaping is being installed.

The theater is the result of a cooperative arrangement between the Theatre and Arts Foundation of San Diego and UCSD. Under the agreement, the Theatre and Arts Foundation donated \$3 million for construction of the theater and the university supplied the building site and will be responsible for maintenance.

James Copley, chairman of the board of the Copley Press, Inc. who died in 1973, was active for many years with the Theatre and Arts Foundation, producers of the La Jolla Playhouse, and served as a member of the Foundation's board.

According to Ray Ramseyer, special assistant to the chancellor for development, furnishings and equipment for the theater were not included in the original construction plan and, as a result, a joint UCSD-Theatre and Arts campaign was launched last fall to raise \$2.25 million needed to complete the installation.

The campaign is under the chairmanship of Lewis Silverberg, an attorney and member of the UCSD Chancellor's Associates. The gift from the Copley Foundation brings the total of cash and pledges in the campaign to \$1.8 million and efforts are now being made to raise the remaining \$450,000 within the next several months, Ramseyer said.

The official opening of the Mandell Weiss Center for the Performing Arts is scheduled to begin Wednesday, November 10, with the presentation of Bertolt Brecht's "The Threepenny Opera." Eleven performances of the play are scheduled through November 20.

According to Ewart W. Goodwin Jr., president of the Theatre and Arts Foundation, the La Jolla Playhouse will open its premiere professional summer season in the new theater in June 1983.

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