



Wells Fargo Center for the Arts  
Enrich. Educate. Entertain.

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50 Mark West Springs Road Santa Rosa California 95403  
Box Office: 707-546-3600

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Media Contacts:

Kristi Buffo, Wells Fargo Center for the Arts: 707-527-7006, ext. 150 or [kristib@wellsfargocenterarts.org](mailto:kristib@wellsfargocenterarts.org)

Doug Elmets, Lytton Band of Pomo Indians: 916-329-9180 or [doug@elmets.com](mailto:doug@elmets.com)

Artist rendering available: <http://wellsfargocenterarts.org/press.html>

## Wells Fargo Center for the Arts Receives Major Gift from Lytton Band of Pomo Indians for Lobby Renovation

\$500,000 capital improvement project begins today, June 7  
with removal of 36-year-old chandeliers.

Santa Rosa, CA (June 7, 2010) -- Wells Fargo Center for the Arts, the North Bay's premier arts center and performance venue, has announced a seven-year naming partnership with Sonoma County's Lytton Band of Pomo Indians to undergo an extensive renovation and remodel of the Center's 36 year-old grand lobby. The \$500,000 capital improvement project begins in full force today, Monday, June 7 with the removal of three large cast iron chandeliers that have hung in the lobby since the Center first opened as a church complex in 1974. Work will be ongoing throughout the summer and will culminate late August with the completion of the all-new Lytton Rancheria Grand Lobby. The Center will remain open during renovation. Performances and events scheduled for this summer will not be affected.

"It's an extensive project," says Marc Hagenlocher, the Center's director of operations. Hagenlocher says the work will include seismic upgrades, improved accessibility and a complete aesthetic remodel to create a "warmer, more open and modern look and feel" for the space. The project is the first-ever major upgrade of the Center's lobby, which hosts hundreds-of-thousands of patrons each year for performances and events.

"We are so grateful to the members of the Lytton Band of Pomo Indians for their incredible generosity," says Executive Director Rick Nowlin. "We've wanted and needed this work to be done for many years now but simply couldn't afford to do it. This gift is a true testament to the Tribe's commitment to our non-profit arts center and to our community."

The Lytton Band of Pomo Indians first joined the non-profit Wells Fargo Center for the Arts as a Corporate Alliance Partner in 2009. In addition to their lobby naming gift, the Tribe continues to provide annual donations in support of the Center's education and outreach programs serving 30,000 students annually.

“Wells Fargo Center for the Arts is an incredible jewel for our community that brings the arts to life for children and adults throughout the region,” Tribal Chairwoman Margie Mejia. “Our hope is that the donation will keep the Center vibrant and growing and be a community asset that everyone can enjoy.”

Along with its support of Wells Fargo Center for the Arts, the Lytton Tribe has made significant contributions to arts, education and health programs throughout Sonoma County—from supporting the Sonoma County Indian Health Clinic to sponsoring the Lytton Rancheria Learning Center, which provides Head Start and Lytton First Steps classes that are open to all community members. The Tribe also funded the Sonoma County History Day Competition when school budget cuts placed the program in peril; and is a significant contributor to the new Oakland School for the Arts and many additional community service programs in Contra Costa County.

The Lytton Tribe’s donation to Wells Fargo Center for the Arts through the new seven-year naming partnership will be used strictly for the lobby remodel. The project is the latest in a series of recent capital improvements at the Center. “This represents one of the larger steps towards our long-term vision, as we continue to grow with our community and create a more modern and expansive home for world-class performances and events,” says Nowlin. In addition to seismic upgrades, some highlights of the lobby project include dimmable architectural and theatrical lighting to replace the chandeliers, acoustic and visual improvements to the walls and ceilings, new floor treatments and carpeting, new stainless steel cable railings, first floor men’s restroom renovation with improved accessibility and ultra low flow fixtures, and 8 to 12 new plasma televisions to simulcast performances and events from the theater into the lobby and to be used for organizational messaging.

“It’s going to be an exciting new look and feel for the Center,” says Nowlin, “and after more than 30-years, it’s time. We look forward to providing a much improved experience for our patrons and creating a fresh new venue for wine country events of all kinds, which in turn will help us to generate the revenue we need to achieve our mission as a non-profit arts center—to enrich, educate and entertain our North Bay community.”

### Artist Rendering

A print quality artist rendering of the finished lobby remodel project is available at:  
<http://wellsfargocenterarts.org/press.html>

#### About Wells Fargo Center for the Arts

A non-profit community arts center, Wells Fargo Center for the Arts is home to world-class performances, nationally recognized education programs, contemporary sculpture, and many popular events. The Arts Center is located in the heart of the Sonoma wine country and ranked among California’s top performing arts presenters. Together with its resident companies, the Center presents more than 100 performances in music, dance, theater, renowned speakers, and comedy; provides education programs serving 30,000 children and adults; and hosts more than 1,000 community events a year. Owned and operated by the Luther Burbank Memorial Foundation, the Center relies on charitable community donations to achieve its mission – to enrich, educate, and entertain.

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