

NEWS / FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -Updated Jan 17

Monterey County Film Commission

P.O. Box 111, Monterey, CA 93942

Contact: Karen Nordstrand, Director of Marketing

831-646-0910 / karen@filmmonterey.org

Broadway and Hollywood Legend Carol Lawrence joins the Film Commission's "Big Night Gala at Pebble Beach" on Feb. 22, 2009

*"The Magic of Hollywood" themed fundraiser
celebrates the Academy Awards®*

(Monterey, CA – Jan. 14, 2009) -- The Monterey County Film Commission presents its 19th annual "Big Night Gala"—a benefit celebrating Hollywood's Academy Awards® presentation--on Sunday, Feb. 22, 2009 at the Inn at Spanish Bay in Pebble Beach. Actress-singer Carol Lawrence will be the featured celebrity at "The Magic of Hollywood" themed fundraiser for the non-profit film commission.

An accomplished actress, singer and dancer, Lawrence is a Broadway and Hollywood legend. She has had numerous roles in Broadway productions, including the immortal role of Maria in "West Side Story." She was nominated for Tony and Grammy Awards, and has her own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. She will be accompanied at the gala by her son, Chris Goulet.

The event begins with a red carpet arrival and champagne at 4:30 p.m., just prior to Hollywood's

celebrity red carpet action which will be telecast on the ballroom's big screen. The black-tie optional evening features a four-course gourmet dinner with a choice of fire-grilled rib eye steak or herb-marinated chicken breast over butternut squash risotto. Premier wine sponsor is Scheid Vineyards.

A silent auction will offer celebrity and film memorabilia, travel, artwork, and Mazda Raceway Laguna Seca race packages. Several items will be available for advance online bidding on the film commission's website, www.FilmMonterey.org, beginning Feb. 2. Auction item donations are still welcomed by the film commission.

The public is invited to attend, and to call for reservations at 831-646-0910. Tickets are \$195 per person, with discounts for members of Reel Friends of the Film Commission. For more information see www.FilmMonterey.org or email info@filmmonterey.org.



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The Monterey County Film Commission is a nonprofit organization, created by the Monterey County Board of Supervisors in 1987. It works to market Monterey County as a destination for the motion picture, television and related industries, for the purpose of stimulating economic development, creating jobs, providing and supporting educational opportunities in those areas.