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**Mexican Heritage Plaza and the
Steinway Society -The Bay Area
Launch an Exciting New San José Community Tradition**

September 8, 2007 at 7:00PM at the theatre at The Plaza

Tickets for concert on sale Friday, July 27, 2007

San José, California, July 27, 2007—San José's Mexican Heritage Plaza, one of the largest multi-cultural arts centers for Latinos in the United States, and the Steinway Society The Bay Area announced today a unique and historically important inaugural collaborative concert performance by Jorge Federico Osorio, a world-renowned concert pianist from Mexico City. Osorio will perform some of the most exquisite 19th century classical pieces ever written at the Mexican Heritage Plaza's theatre in San José. Underwriting for this milestone event is generously provided by the Castellano Family Foundation. Additional support is also provided by Sherman Clay and by many local businesses who volunteered as enthusiastic participants in a new annual San José community tradition.

The inaugural concert on Saturday, September 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the teatro at the Plaza, features Mr. Osorio performing selected works by the Mexican composer, Manuel María Ponce (1882-1948). Osorio will also perform the music of Spanish composer Enrique Granados (1867-1916), which will be juxtaposed with works by the 19th century French/Polish composer, Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849). Interestingly, all of these esteemed composers studied their art of composition in Paris, France.

The collaborative relationship between these organizations has been established to fund and present educational programs and performances of significant yet often overlooked works by Hispanic composers and to showcase the many excellent artists from the Latino community who perform world wide.

“This collaboration is so important,” stated MHC President and CEO Marcela Davison Aviles. “MHC presently integrates classical training in our Mariachi and string curriculum, and we hope that with regular reinforcement through concert performances such as this, our students will be inspired to continue into musical careers.”

Jorge Federico Osorio is one of the pre-eminent pianists of our time and is internationally acclaimed for his superb musicianship and masterful command of the instrument. He has performed with many of the world’s leading orchestras and is also a prolific recording artist. Many of his considerable recordings include *Balada Mexicana*, for which he performed only solo piano works by Manuel M. Ponce, and *Piano Español*, a collection of works by Albéniz, Falla, Granados, and Soler for Cedille Records. Mr. Osorio has received glowing reviews internationally and has been acclaimed as one of the great interpreters of Spanish piano music in the world today.

A dedicated teacher, Mr. Osorio is on the faculty at Roosevelt University’s Chicago College of Performing Arts. This dedication to music education has led him to generously agree to personal appearances at select San José schools prior to his performance on September 8th and to his interest in an expanded relationship with Mexican Heritage Plaza as our collaboration evolves.

"We are very proud to be able to work together with the Mexican Heritage Plaza in promoting the artistry of Jorge Osorio," stated Henry Schiro, Vice President of Steinway Society The Bay Area. "This is the beginning of an exciting new presenting partnership in classical music and we invite all families to attend these entertaining and culturally rich events."

The Plaza and Steinway Society have created a very affordably priced “Family Ticket” for the September 8th concert. Ticket prices are \$50 for VIP tickets that include a post-concert reception with the artist, \$15 for individual tickets and \$35 for a family or group of four. Groups may add individual tickets for \$10.00 for each additional individual joining a group.

For more information or to purchase tickets call 1-800-MHC-VIVA.or 408.928.5500, or visit www.mhcviva.org or Steinway Society The Bay Area, www.steinwaythebayarea.com.



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