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OVER \$300,000 NETTED FOR THE WOODEN FLOOR AT NEWPORT BEACH WINE TASTING BENEFIT

NEWPORT BEACH, Calif. (September 29, 2014) – Over 320 guests gathered in support of **The Wooden Floor** at **Big Canyon Country Club** for the 8th **Annual Keep the Promise Wine Tasting Benefit**. The evening, which has become Orange County’s premier wine tasting benefit, netted over \$XXX,XXX for **The Wooden Floor**, a Santa Ana arts-based youth development nonprofit with a track record of sending 100% of its low-income graduates to college for the past 10 consecutive years. This was a XX% percent increase in funds raised from 2013 and the most the Benefit has ever raised.

12 exquisite wines from the finest vineyards around the globe, representing Italy, France, Argentina, and the United States, were uncorked throughout the evening. The bottles are hand-selected over the period of several years and are generously donated by Newport Beach-residents **Janice and John Markley**, long-time and fervent supporters of The Wooden Floor who founded the Benefit in 2007 as a way to use their love for wine to raise funds for the actively-growing organization. Private community support from individuals like the Markleys accounts for 90 percent of The Wooden Floor's funding, and enables its year-round programs to be offered free of charge to the majority of its 375 low-income students.

Silent and live auctions highlighted the evening, including a \$13,000 winning bid for an exclusive signed and etched Magnum bottle of 2006 DuMOL ‘Finn’ Pinot Noir complete with a wine tasting vacation, donated by **Kerry and Margie Murphy**, owners of the **White House-preferred** vintner, **DuMOL Wines**.

However, The Wooden Floor's nationally-recognized **dance, academic, college preparatory, and family support service programs** were the main focal point of the celebration, with guests hearing directly from three students about how the organization has not only made a lasting impact on their lives but also on the community as a whole. Remarks were also made by Chairman of The Wooden Floor Board of Directors **Jim Driscoll**, Honorary Benefit Co-Chairs **Janice and John Markley**, special guest **Kerry Murphy** of DuMOL Wines, Executive Director & CEO of The Wooden Floor **Dawn S. Reese**, and Artistic Director & Co-CEO of The Wooden Floor **Melanie Rios Glaser**.

2014 Keep the Promise Sponsors

- Premier:** Joan and Don Beall; Janice and John Markley
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Copper Medal: Anaheim Ducks & Honda Center; Laurie & Steve Duncan; Teri & Alan Hoops; Karen Krogus & Scott Mason; Newport Beach Magazine; Bonnie & Dan Platt; Judith F. Posnikoff; The Muzzy Family; Simon Foundation for Education & Housing; Union Bank; Mary Ann & Frank Xavier; Barbara & Bill Yingling

About The Wooden Floor

Since 1983, more than 75,000 young lives have been touched by The Wooden Floor. At our Santa Ana campus, we annually give under-served local youth the tools to live fuller, healthier lives through a unique approach grounded in dance. We make a long-term investment in each of these young people. They engage in intensive dance education supported by academic and family services that change the way they make decisions, helping them to discover and pursue their full potential. We are proud that since 2005, 100 percent of our seniors have graduated from high school on time and gone on to pursue higher education—a rate about three times the national average for their socio-economic peers. www.TheWoodenFloor.org

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High-resolution event photos are available upon request.