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OLD GLOBE HOSTS OPEN HOUSE ON JUNE 9

***FUN FREE FAMILY EVENT TO FEATURE LIVE PERFORMANCES, BACKSTAGE TOURS,
AND SPECIAL APPEARANCES BY MAYOR JERRY SANDERS AND QUEEN ELIZABETH!***

San Diego – The Old Globe is pleased to announce its **Open House** on **Saturday, June 9, 2007**. This exciting free event takes place from **10:00am to 1:00pm** on the Globe Plaza and will include live performances, including selected **scenes from the 2007 Shakespeare Festival**, costume displays, **backstage tours**, a kids craft area, the **Avenue Q-Mobile**, refreshments, and much more. In attendance will be Globe Executive Director **Louis Spisto**, Founding Director **Craig Noel**, as well as a special appearance by **Mayor Jerry Sanders**. Presiding over the Open House will be **Queen Elizabeth**, played by Globe Associate Artist Deborah Taylor.

The Open House also kicks off the 72nd Shakespeare Festival season, featuring ***Hamlet***, ***Measure for Measure*** and ***The Two Gentlemen of Verona***, which will run in nightly rotation in the outdoor Lowell Davies Festival Theatre **June 16 – September 30**. Acclaimed director **Darko Tresnjak** will once again serve as the Festival's Artistic Director.

The Globe is thrilled to continue bringing back this time-honored tradition of repertory begun by the Globe's Founding Director Craig Noel. Shakespeare at the Globe dates back to the institution's artistic roots, when, in its very first year of existence, the Theatre presented 50-minute versions of Shakespeare's plays, performed in repertory. From 1949 to 1984, the Bard's work became an even more integral part of the Globe's programming, with the creation of the annual San Diego National Shakespeare Festival – an ambitious, summer-long event in which at least three Shakespeare works were presented in repertory. Revived in 2004, the Globe Summer Shakespeare Festival has become one of the most celebrated classical festivals in the country.

The three Shakespeare productions will be part of a six-play summer season, including a special presentation of the Tony-winning musical, ***Avenue Q***, running June 30 – August 5 at the Spreckels Theatre; Noel Coward's wickedly funny ***Hay Fever***, playing in the Old Globe Theatre July 14 – August 19; and the magical comedy ***Bell, Book and Candle***, by John Van Druten, playing in the Cassius Carter Centre Stage August 4 – September 9. For more information on the 2007 Summer Season, please contact Globe Ticket Services at **(619) 23-GLOBE**.

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The internationally-acclaimed, Tony® Award-winning Old Globe is one of the most renowned regional theatres in the country and has stood as San Diego's flagship arts institution for over 70 years. The Old Globe produces a year-round season of 15 plays and musicals on its three stages, including its highly-regarded Shakespeare festival. The Globe has become a gathering place for leading theatre artists from around the world, such as Tom Stoppard, Daniel Sullivan and Chita Rivera, among others. Numerous Broadway-bound premieres and revivals, such as Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Full Monty and Damn Yankees, have been developed at The Old Globe and have gone on to enjoy highly successful runs in New York and at regional theatres across the country.

Highlights of the Globe's 2007 Summer Season include the acclaimed Summer Shakespeare Festival featuring Hamlet, The Two Gentlemen of Verona and Measure for Measure playing in nightly rotation, Noel Coward's Hay Fever, John Van Druten's Bell, Book and Candle, and a special presentation of the hit Broadway musical Avenue Q at the Spreckels Theatre. Under the leadership of Executive Director Louis G. Spisto, Artistic Director Jack O'Brien and Resident Artistic Director Jerry Patch, the Globe is at the forefront of the nation's leading performing arts organizations, setting a standard for excellence in American theatre.