



WE ARE ACCESSIBLE

ASSISTIVE LISTENING
SYSTEM AVAILABLE



HEARING LOOP
SWITCH HEARING AID TO T-COIL



ACCESSIBLE SEATING
AVAILABLE



Renovate and innovating to improve accessibility

It's clear to see that Encore: Lobero work has improved access to the theatre's amenities for patrons with mobility challenges. You can see the new Esplanade offers an accessible path of travel will be provided to the main entry, including a beautiful level area at the top and an ADA approved ramp. This level entry extends through newly widened doors and into the Gail Towbes auditorium, which now features eight wheelchair spaces with companion seating. Varied locations of the wheelchair spaces offer new choices as to price and where to sit, and a new wheelchair lift provides access to the stage level. In addition, the entries at each side of the theatre have been amended as level ramps or clearly marked stairs with sturdy bannisters. Even backstage the sinks and cabinetry in the artists' Green Room have been updated to meet requirements.

But what you may not notice are the subtle improvements designed to aid the blind and hard-of-hearing. New Braille signage has been installed throughout the building, as well as Hearing Loop technology at the Box office window and auditorium. The Lobero Theatre and the New Victoria Theatre (New Vic) have recently joined the growing ranks of local venues to adopt state-of-the-art hearing loop technology, including Campbell Hall at UCSB, the University Club of Santa Barbara, the Santa Barbara Museum of Art's Mary Craig Auditorium and the Ojai Playhouse.

Already widely used in Europe and Scandinavia, hearing loops are rapidly gaining popularity across the US, thanks to

advocacy campaigns like "Let's Loop Santa Barbara" brought to the community by the Independent Living Resource Center. The technology lets hearing aid users receive sound signals directly through their t-coil enabled hearing aids. As most hearing aids include a t-coil as standard, users do not need any additional equipment to access sound in a looped venue – a major advantage over other systems.

Many of Santa Barbara's 90,000 residents with hearing loss currently lack easy access to live theatre performances. Of her own experiences Cherie Alvarez, President of the Santa Barbara Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America said, "I attended theatre in Santa Barbara consistently until

The hearing loop installation at the Lobero Theatre has been entirely funded by Jack and Kathleen Moseley, contributors to the Encore: Lobero capital campaign. Speaking about his donation, Mr. Moseley said, "I am just pleased that more hard-of-hearing people can enjoy the theatre."

the mid-90s, when my hereditary hearing loss became so severe that I could no longer understand what was being said." She is looking forward to attending a looped theatre performance. "I've missed it and always wanted to introduce my daughters to the vibrant experience of live theatre. Now we can go together; see it, feel it, and hear it. I am thrilled!"

Special thanks to Loop Santa Barbara and the Independent Living Resource Center, Inc. Learn more at www.loopsantabarbara.org & www.ilrc-trico.org