

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Angie Bertucci | 805.679.6010 | abertucci@lobero.org

Tickets: Lobero Box Office | 805.963.0761 | Lobero.org

The Lobero Theatre Associates recognize the need to protect the health of our friends and members, as well as the need to follow the guidance of the CDC recommending the postponement or cancellation of public gatherings at this time.

Therefore this event has been postponed. We will follow up as soon as we can with more information.

**The Lobero Theatre Associates presents the annual Hats Off Luncheon
Hats Off To Leslie Zemeckis!**

Thursday, April 16th, 2020 from 11 am -1:30 pm

at the Four Seasons Biltmore Montecito Loggia Ballroom

- The Lobero Theatre Associate will tip their hats to best-selling author, actress, writer and award-winning documentarian Leslie Zemeckis.
- The Hats Off Luncheon is the Lobero Theatre Associates' signature fundraiser and is Co-chaired this year by Paige Beard and Deana Hyde.
- Associates ask supporters to contribute through buying tickets to the luncheon, sponsorship opportunities for underwriting, raffle tickets and or monetary support.
- Proceeds from this year's luncheon will go toward replacing aging and fragile stage curtains at the historic Lobero Theatre.
- For ticket and sponsorship information, please contact Sheila Caldwell at 805-679-6013 or at scaldwell@lobero.org

Santa Barbara, CA. Friday, February 21st, 2020 – Come celebrate a journey into the roaring golden age of entertainment at the turn of the 20th Century with best-selling author, documentary filmmaker, and noted actress, Leslie Zemeckis. This year's event will also feature a very special performance by burlesque fan dancer Michelle L'amour in honor of Ms. Zemeckis' books, *Feuding Fan Dancers* and *Behind the Burly Q*.

Leslie Zemeckis is a best-selling author, actress, writer and award-winning documentarian. Leslie's critically acclaimed films include *Behind the Burly Q*, the true story of old-time burlesque in America which ran on Showtime. The film, which was championed by such publications as *USA Today* and *The New Yorker*, reveals the never-before told stories of the men and women who worked in burlesque during its Golden Age; *Bound by Flesh* about Siamese twin superstars Daisy and Violet Hilton which debuted at number 5 on Netflix; and *Mabel, Mabel, Tiger Trainer* chronicling the extraordinary story of the world's first female tiger trainer, Mabel Stark, in the early part of the 20th century.

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She is the author of three best-sellers, *Behind the Burly Q*, the definitive oral history of burlesque, *Goddess of Love Incarnate; the Life of Stripteuse Lili St. Cyr* and *Feuding Fan Dancers*, a SCIBA finalist for best biography about Sally Rand, Faith Bacon and the golden age of the showgirl. She is currently working on her fourth book. As an actress she has worked in films alongside Tom Hanks, Steve Carell, and Jim Carrey. She currently co-stars in the film *From Zero to I Love You* opposite Richard Lawson.

Honored for her work inspiring women, in 2020 she will be awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor in part for "sharing and preserving stories of women who were once marginalized and stigmatized . . ." but due to her work "these women are now celebrated for their independence and personal agency." The

Medal is officially recognized by both Houses of Congress and is one of our nation's most prestigious awards. Past recipients include Presidents Clinton and Reagan, Elie Wiesel, Sen. John McCain and HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco. Zemeckis continues to specialize in women in American pop culture from the early part of the 20th century. Zemeckis is a frequent contributor to *Huffington Post*, *Medium*, *Talkhouse* and has written for *W Magazine* and *Stork Magazine*. She has presented her work and spoken at panels and universities including Santa Barbara City College, Los Angeles Times Festival of Books, The Chicago Club, Chicago History Museum, MoMa, Burlesque Hall of Fame, and Burly Con. www.lesliezemeckis.com

Michelle L'amour is an internationally recognized burlesque performer, producer and instructor. She has been featured on America's Got Talent, MTV's *Amazingness* and *Sex Life* on the Epix Network. She also holds the title of Miss Exotic World from the Burlesque Hall of Fame in Las Vegas. She first premiered her Sally Rand tribute in 2007 and treasures this act. Originally from Chicago, Michelle feels connected to Ms Rand, as she helped to save the Chicago World's Fair in 1933.

Hats Off is the Lobero Theatre Associates' signature fundraising event that raises needed funds for the Lobero Theatre while honoring a significant presence in the arts. The Lobero Theatre Associates have been committed advocates of the Lobero Theatre for over 40 years, contributing over \$1 million to ensure the Lobero Theatre remains a vital and enduring home for the arts in Santa Barbara. By purchasing a ticket to the luncheon, becoming a sponsor, purchasing raffle tickets or donating, you can help aid the Associates in their mission to support the historic Lobero Theatre. Learn more about this dynamic group of fundraisers at lobero.org/individual-giving

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Proceeds from this year's Hats Off Luncheon will go toward replacing aging and fragile stage curtains at the historic Lobero Theatre. The current set of stage drapes is over 40 years old and includes several curtains including the scrim, cyclorama, and the main curtain which are all threadbare and damaged. It is time for this community stage to have a clean and intact set of curtains to welcome all performers and audience members.

The Lobero Theatre is California's oldest, continuously operating theatre. Originally founded in 1873 and rebuilt in 1924, it is recognized as one of Santa Barbara's architectural jewels and a California and Santa Barbara landmark. The mission of the Lobero Theatre Foundation is to maintain and operate the historic Lobero Theatre as a performing arts center and cultural asset to the community of Santa Barbara, and to present the highest quality productions in music, dance, and theatre. Learn more at lobero.org.