FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS CONTACT: Andy Shepherd
Senior Manager of Marketing & Communications
andy.shepherd@sonoma.edu | 707.664.4122

GREEN MUSIC CENTER AT SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY PRESENTS
ITS ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT
PARTY FOR THE GREEN FEATURING CATHERINE RUSSELL

(Sonoma County, CA) – Sonoma State University’s Green Music Center will host an evening inspired by the swing era, hot jazz, and a cozy nightclub on Saturday, September 14. This swinging soirée will feature jazz singer Catherine Russell, dinner and refreshments, cocktails, and dancing.

Proceeds for the event will benefit The Green Music Center’s mission to present the most compelling artists of our time, investigate ideas, and to provide access to diverse artistic experiences that educate, connect, and inspire Sonoma State University and neighboring North Bay communities.

Catherine Russell is that rarest of entities – a genuine jazz and blues singer – who can sing virtually anything. With an off-the-beaten-path song selection, sparkling acoustic swing, and a stunning vocal approach, Catherine is one of the greatest interpreters and performers of American Popular Song. Following her performance in the Green Music Center’s Weill Hall, guests will proceed outside to Trione Courtyard for cocktails, refreshments, and dancing under the stars. An optional on-site dinner at Prelude Restaurant and Bar will precede the concert, with cuisine provided by Sonoma Cutrer’s Chef Kevin Markey.

TWO WAYS TO JOIN THE FUN

$125 / person
Reception, concert, & party
7 P.M. Reception
8 P.M. Concert, party, refreshments, & dancing

$1,000 / person
Dinner, concert, & party
5:30 P.M. Reception & dinner
8 P.M. Concert with premium seating, party, refreshments, & dancing

For tickets, call 707.664.4246 or visit us online at gmc.sonoma.edu.

LEAD UNDERWriters: Codding Foundation and Hansel Auto Group

UNDERWriters: Basin Street Properties, John Boland & James Carroll, Donald and Maureen Green Foundation, Mike and Nancy Hall, The Press Democrat, and Santa Rosa Symphony
ABOUT THE ARTIST

Catherine Russell is a native New Yorker, born into musical royalty. Her father, the late Luis Russell, was born in Panama, emigrated to New Orleans and then to Chicago and New York City, becoming a legendary pianist/bandleader/arranger/composer, and Louis Armstrong’s long-time collaborator and musical director. Her mother, Carlene Ray, was a pioneering bassist/guitarist/vocalist and holder of advanced degrees from Juilliard and Manhattan School of Music. Not surprisingly considering her pedigree, Catherine Russell is a one of a kind musician and vocalist. Catherine has toured the world, performing and recording with David Bowie, Steely Dan, Cyndi Lauper, Jackson Browne, Michael Feinstein, Levon Helm, Paul Simon, Rosanne Cash, Carrie Smith, Wynton Marsalis, Dr. John, and many others, appearing on over 200 albums.

Her voice is full blown femininity incarnate; a dusky, stalwart and soulful instrument that radiates interpretive power yet remains touchingly vulnerable. She launches fearlessly into each tune, getting inside the melody and capturing every emotion. Her repertoire features a selection of gems from the 1920’s through the present with vital interpretations, bursting with soul and humor.

ABOUT THE GREEN MUSIC CENTER

Nestled in the foothills of Northern California’s esteemed Wine Country, the Green Music Center (GMC) at Sonoma State University is a focal point for arts in the region. It is comprised of the spectacular 1,400-seat Weill Hall, an acoustically exceptional venue with a modular rear wall that opens to terraced lawn seating, providing picturesque views of the surrounding countryside, and the 240-seat Schroeder Hall, a cathedral-like recital hall designed specifically to accentuate instruments, organ and voice in a small, intimate setting. The Green Music Center presents year-round programming of top classical, contemporary, jazz, and world music artists and is home to the Santa Rosa Symphony.

ABOUT SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Sonoma State University is a public liberal arts college located in California’s premier wine country, one hour north of San Francisco. Nestled at the base of the idyllic Sonoma Mountains, the campus is home to more than 9,000 undergraduate students and is among the most popular campuses in the California State University system. Named a “Best Regional University” by U.S. News & World Report, SSU was first in the country to offer an undergraduate degree in Wine Business.