



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

USC Alumni Association to Honor Tutor Perini Corporation Chairman & CEO Ronald N. Tutor; New York Jets Quarterback Mark Sanchez to Receive Inaugural Young Alumni Merit Award; Creative Artists Agency Managing Partner Bryan Lourd and USC President C. L. Max Nikias and First Lady Niki C. Nikias, Among Prominent Trojans to Be Feted at 78th Annual USC Alumni Awards

March 7, 2011

Los Angeles – Ronald N. Tutor '63 (USC Marshall School of Business) will receive the Asa V. Call Alumni Achievement Award, the University of Southern California's highest alumni honor, at the 78th Annual Alumni Awards on April 30, 2011, at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in downtown Los Angeles.

Ronald N. Tutor is the chairman & CEO of Tutor Perini Corporation, one of the world's leading civil and building construction companies; he is also the president of Tutor-Saliba Corporation, one of the nation's largest general contractors, and co-owner of Miramax Films. A member of the USC Board of Trustees since 1998, Tutor contributed the lead gift for the university's Ronald Tutor Campus Center, which opened in August 2010, and the naming gift for Tutor Hall, the USC Viterbi School of Engineering's state-of-the-art instructional and research complex.

Named for the 1931-32 president of the USC Alumni Association, the Asa V. Call Alumni Achievement Award recognizes alumni who have demonstrated exceptional commitment to the university and the community by giving generously of their time, energy, and leadership. Past recipients of the Asa V. Call Alumni Achievement Award include former Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher, mezzo-soprano Marilyn Horne and legendary film star John Wayne.

In addition to Tutor, the USC Alumni Association will recognize nine other Trojans for their achievements and contributions to USC. Larry S. Flax LLB '67, LLM '71 (USC Gould School of Law) and Bryan Lourd '82 (USC Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism) will receive Alumni Merit Awards, given to individuals whose remarkable accomplishments speak well for the range and quality of a USC education. Larry S. Flax is the co-founder and co-CEO of California Pizza Kitchen, an internationally recognized leader in California-style cuisine, with

more than 260 restaurants worldwide. Bryan Lourd is a managing partner of Creative Artists Agency, the leading entertainment and sports agency.

New York Jets quarterback Mark Sanchez '09 (USC Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism) will receive the inaugural Young Alumni Merit Award. Selected by the Jets in the first round of the 2009 NFL Draft, Sanchez is only the second rookie quarterback in NFL history to win two consecutive playoff games in his first season.

Alumni Service Awards, which recognize volunteer efforts on behalf of the university, will go to George L. Pla MPA '74 (USC School of Policy, Planning, and Development), and to Robert E. Plumleigh and Elizabeth Plumleigh MLA '84 (USC College of Letters, Arts & Sciences).

George L. Pla is a founding member of the USC Mexican American Alumni Association (now called the USC Latino Alumni Association) who currently serves on the organization's corporate advisory council. Robert and Elizabeth Plumleigh are dedicated supporters of several USC schools and organizations, including the USC College of Letters, Arts & Sciences, the USC School of Theatre, USC Libraries, USC Song Girls and USC Spirit Leaders.

The university's Fred B. Olds Award, which recognizes Trojans for their extraordinary and unparalleled service to the university over a long period of time, will be presented to Joann Koll. She is a member of the USC Alumni Association Board of Governors, a former chair of the university's Alumnae Coordinating Council and a past president of both the Association of Trojan Leagues and the Trojan League of Los Angeles.

The USC Alumni Association will also confer honorary alumni status to USC President C. L. Max Nikias and USC First Lady Niki C. Nikias in recognition of their 19 years of service to the university. Nikias, who joined the Trojan Family in 1991, became USC's 11th president in August 2010 after serving as the university's provost and chief academic officer from 2005 to 2010.

Every year since 1932, the USC Alumni Association has paid tribute to distinguished members of the Trojan Family. The annual Alumni Awards gala is the premier event sponsored by the alumni association. This year's gala is co-chaired by Lisa Barkett '81 and Scott Gilmore '75, JD/MBA '78. The gala's Trustee Sponsors to date are Bill and Lisa Barkett, USC trustee Ronnie C. Chan MBA '76, Art M. Gastelum MPA '81, and the law firm of Greenberg, Whitcombe & Takeuchi, LLP. All proceeds from the event support the alumni association's programs and services. For more information, please visit <http://alumni.usc.edu/awards>.

ABOUT THE USC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The USC Alumni Association's mission is to support the overall advancement of the University of Southern California by engaging all alumni for life, building a culture of philanthropy among the Trojan Family, and being the representative voice for all USC alumni.

With more than 300,000 members worldwide, the USC Alumni Association supports more than 100 affiliated alumni clubs, alumnae support groups and multicultural alumni organizations, and distributes more than two million dollars each year in scholarships for USC students. In addition, the association annually hosts more than 250 events and programs around the world, and provides benefits and services to all USC alumni. The 2010-2011 USC Alumni Association Board of Governors president is Carol C. Fox MS '62 and the Alumni Association CEO is Scott M. Mory.

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