

Meet

CATHERINE AND RICHARD LUCKETT

Who give and give and give...

We are thrilled to announce that Richard and Catherine Lockett have pledged \$2 million to the capital campaign. This is our largest private donation so far.

The Locketts have been outstanding patrons of the arts since they moved to the Central Coast 43 years ago. In addition to their exceptionally generous support of SLO REP, they have served as directors on the boards of the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center, SLO Symphony and the PCPA Foundation.

Currently, they are co-chairs of SLO REP's "A New Stage" capital campaign; in addition, Richard serves on SLO REP's Board of Directors, and Catherine chairs the Capital Campaign Steering Committee.

"We feel very fortunate to be able to return something to a community we love and have prospered in, and to be able to support an organization in which we believe," the Locketts wrote with their initial pledge. "This pledge represents money we earned while living and working in San Luis Obispo. It is not inherited wealth."

Their passion for live theatre is boundless. They see every SLO REP production at least once, and they travel far and wide to enjoy various theatre performances, often seeing dozens of plays every year.

"Live theatre is powerful so many ways," Richard says. "At SLO REP, it's especially magical. *Million Dollar Quartet* is a case in point. We saw five different productions of the show at five different theatres in one year. SLO REP's production had us feeling we were INSIDE the studio with Elvis and Jerry Lee Lewis, not just looking at a play about the action in the studio."

They also enjoy introducing newcomers to SLO REP. "My favorite time," Catherine recalls, "I brought my neighbor who had never been to a live performance. Afterwards, he kept asking, 'How do the actors do that? Can they do it again?' He bought tickets to see the show a second time, and he was not disappointed."

Richard is a retired nuclear engineer who worked at PG&E's Diablo Canyon Power Plant for many years. Catherine is a retired speech and language pathologist who worked for San Luis Coastal Unified School District and helped develop the district's Preschool Early Education Program.



Catherine & Richard Lockett on one of their many adventures in travel

At the Locketts' request, SLO REP's new black box theatre will be named the "Ovation Theatre," and will feature an inspirational quote they chose from Shakespeare's *Henry V*:

***"O for a Muse of fire,
that would ascend
The brightest heaven
of invention,
A kingdom for a stage..."***

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Henry V



HONK JR | 2023 - Photo Courtesy of RyLo Media Design