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The Gallo Center: A Community Cycle of Giving

Albert Einstein once said, "It is every man's obligation to put back into the world at least the equivalent of what he takes out of it." In the few short years that it has been functioning, the Gallo Center for the Arts has allowed for exactly what Einstein recommends. By providing a venue for local performing arts groups, not only does the community receive the gift of the arts from the center, but is able to return the gift through support of members of our community. This cyclical pattern of giving is a valuable gift that has been bestowed upon Modesto. The Gallo Center has had a priceless impact on our community, for which it is extremely grateful.

A major way the Gallo Center has been a positive impact in our community is through providing local performing artists with a high-quality facility worthy of the performances they work so hard to produce. These performers have been able to hone their craft to a level they never thought possible, all because of the inspiration and sense of worth that comes from performing at a venue as spectacular as the Gallo Center. I am aware of the sense of awe these performers feel, because as a member of Central West Ballet, the Center's resident local dance company, I have been blessed with the opportunity to perform on the Gallo Center stage many times- -and each is as rewarding as the last. Since we are given such an outstanding facility in which to perform, my peers and I have been able to be inspired to push our limits and dance to the best of our ability- we want to give back to the community with a performance worthy of the Gallo Center. Because we strive to increase the quality of our dancing, the outcome is more patrons of the arts- throughout the entire community.

Also, not only does the center provide a facility for local companies to perform, but by bringing high-quality artists from all over the world to Modesto, the Gallo Center is increasing our community's cultural awareness. The Center finds performers that reach all members of our community, inspiring a new sense of culture appreciation, turning Modesto-and all of Stanislaus County- into a community that appreciates and supports the fine arts.

The Gallo Center for the Arts has had an immensely positive impact on our community. It provides burgeoning performing arts groups with a facility to present their craft, as well as the opportunity to see professionals do the same. It provides our community's youth with exposure to the arts- inspiring them to grow as cultured individuals. It provides our community-regardless of age, ethnicity, or walk of life- with the opportunity to expand our horizons to a world of art, music, and culture. It has provided us with a common love: a love of the arts. The Gallo Center for the Arts has been a unifier for our community by utilizing our differences to bring us together through the fine arts. It has created a culturally aware Modesto, and we can only become even more so from here.