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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pasadena Convention Center Completes Successful Grand Opening Weekend

6,000 Visitors Attended the 33rd Annual Home Show & Real Estate Expo

Pasadena, Calif., (April 8, 2009) – The [Pasadena Convention Center](#) completed its successful grand opening weekend as 6,000 visitors attended the 33rd Annual Home Show & Real Estate Expo. From Friday, April 3 through Sunday, April 5, visitors were able to view the brand new, \$150 million center that included free admission to the expo and parking. They also enjoyed live community entertainment featuring music and dance sponsored by Lockheed Federal Credit Union.

The weekend celebration was kicked-off with Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard who cut the ceremonial ribbon with other local dignitaries to open the Center. Other grand opening weekend events at the new Center included a private gala dinner attended by 850 guests including Pasadena Mayor Bill Bogaard, and The Freedom Concert that honored U.S. veterans featuring performances by artists such as Sheila E., Montell Jordan, Molly Ringwald, and the USC Marching Band. Also, One City, One Story, An Afternoon with Luis Alberto Urrea was held at the Center. The event was a discussion and Q&A with Author Luis Urrera, who shared his experience writing *“The Hummingbird's Daughter.”*

The celebration of the expanded center, which includes 55,000 square feet of new exhibit space and a 25,000 square foot ballroom, marked the completion of 10 years of planning and construction. Flanking the historic Pasadena Civic Auditorium, the expanded Center now completes the [Pasadena Convention Center](#) complex that also includes the refurbished Conference Building.

The Pasadena Center Operating Company is a nonprofit organization responsible for managing the [Pasadena Convention Center](#), [Pasadena Civic Auditorium](#) and [Pasadena Convention & Visitors Bureau](#). For more information, contact the Pasadena Convention & Visitors Bureau at (800) 307-7977 or go to VisitPasadena.com.

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