

For Immediate Release Media Contact: Joanna Loughran Joanna@sdmt.org / 323-823-9121

## SAN DIEGO MUSICAL THEATRE Man Of La Mancha at the Horton Grand Theatre

San Diego Musical Theatre has long awaited an opportunity to tell the inspiring story of a man determined to protect all that is good and true, and not be afraid in the face of grave adversity. Based on the classic 17th century novel "Don Quixote," by Miguel de Cervantes, *Man of La Mancha* remains one of the most enduring musicals of all time winning over both audiences and critics since it first appeared on Broadway.

Presented as a play within a play, *Man of La Mancha* is a poignant story of a dying old man whose impossible dream takes over his mind. Cervantes, an utter failure as a playwright, poet and tax collector for the government, has been thrown into prison during the Inquisition. There his fellow prisoners confiscate his meager possessions, one of which is the uncompleted manuscript of a novel called "Don Quixote." Cervantes, seeking to save it, proposes to offer a novel defense in the form of entertainment. The "court" agrees and before their eyes, donning makeup and costume, Cervantes and his faithful manservant transform themselves into Don Quixote and Sancho Panza. They play out the story with the participation of the prisoners as other characters who soon understand that Cervantes' dream offers them hope and redemption. His dream is Everyman's dream. His tilting at windmills is Everyman's great adventure. *Man of La Mancha* speaks for humankind.