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News Release

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**COMEDIAN DAT PHAN HEADLINES GROSSMONT COLLEGE FOUNDATION**

**ANNUAL GALA OCT. 21 AT BARONA VALLEY RANCH RESORT**

**BERNARD 'BUDDY BLUE' SEIGAL AND BRIAN SIPE**

**TO BE INDUCTED INTO 'WALK OF FAME'**

**El Cajon** - Grossmont College Foundation will host its annual fund-raising party to honor alumni and students at the Walk of Fame Gala Saturday, Oct. 21 at the Barona Valley Ranch Resort and Casino Convention Center. The event's theme, "Celebrating our Sapphire Anniversary - 45 years of Brilliance," recognizes Grossmont College's role as a major influence in the San Diego region, most intensely in the East County since 1961. Festivities will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a reception and silent auction, followed by dinner and entertainment by Last Comic Standing Winner 'Dat Phan,' the Walk of Fame recognition ceremony, and live auction.

The program will feature the inductions of Grossmont College alumni Bernard "Buddy Blue" Seigal (awarded posthumously), and student-athlete Brian Sipe into the college's Walk of Fame. Seigal, who received an associate degree in 1981, wrote for the school newspaper, the "G," and was a founding member of the *Beat Farmers*, which

achieved international musical acclaim. He authored a weekly music column ,“Blue Notes,” in *The San Diego Union-Tribune*. His wife, Annie Marshall, will accept the award.

Sipe is a former Grossmont College Griffin football team quarterback (1967) who went on to play for San Diego State University, and NFL MVP with the Cleveland Browns 1974-1983. Student Young Hwa Kim will receive the Griffin Award of Excellence scholarship, the most prestigious Grossmont College Foundation scholarship.

“We are looking forward to welcoming our community to celebrate with the Grossmont College Foundation and our Grossmont College family,” said Dr. Dean Colli, interim college president. “I am especially pleased to honor our Walk of Fame Alumni and our major sponsors: Barona Valley Ranch Resort and Casino, San Diego National Bank, Coca Cola, Union Bank of California, and Gafcon Construction Consultants. Our student scholarship recipient, Young Hwa Kim, represents the best and brightest of Grossmont College, and illustrates why the work of the Foundation is so important to our community’s future. “

Seigal and Sipe are the 16th and 17th alumni to be selected by a campus committee to receive the Walk of Fame honor, which includes a bronze plate imbedded in the Grossmont College Main Quad. Previous recipients came from various walks of life – and including actors, professional athletes, authors, and advocates for special causes. Viejas Tribal Chairman Anthony Pico as well as Dave Scott, KUSI –TV News meteorologist and reporter are recent recipients.

According to Grossmont College Foundation Executive Director Ernest Ewin, “In addition to the exciting array of silent and live auctions, patrons will be treated to fabulous food, and unique entertainment. We especially appreciate the energy and enthusiasm of our

Foundation Board Members who are serving as Gala Chair, Vicki Whitmire, and Co-Chair, Karol Schoen.” For sponsorship information, to donate auction items, and to reserve seats, log onto the Grossmont College Foundation website at [www.grossmont.edu/foundation/](http://www.grossmont.edu/foundation/) or contact Ewin, 619-644-7109.

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