



Bringing Back A Bit of San Diego's Past into the Future



Starlight's location will provide the opportunity for our organization to serve families and individual's surrounding San Diego communities, students represented for the various surrounding college campus, including domestic and international visitors. Our non-profit will actively connect the San Diego community within the performances adding in educational contingencies non-profit support and ongoing cultural and civic benefit.

"Protect, save, and make it into a viable place for the art's to flourish"
[a message by a local San Diego family](#)

The "S T A O W L" are Missing!!



The Save Starlight Community is coming together, and we need your help!

Together let's provide the missing letters, in an expression of how much we value the Starlight Bowl. The Goal - \$2,000, for the missing six interim letters for the STARLIGHT BOWL sign.

The funds raised will complete the project, including material and labor for the six missing letters, "S T A O W L."

Starlight is a unique historical space, and Save Starlight is working hard to secure the bowl so San Diego families can once again experience its magic. Help us give this gift to the City of San Diego!

[Please donate, any amount helps!](#)

Save Starlight News and Updates

Empowering the Youth of America



Save Starlight got to engage with teams of students in audio, video production and performing arts at The School For Creative Careers.

Volunteers, staff, and advisors got a taste of the school's seminars which provides experience to students with state-of-the-art technology.

Our organization is very excited to introduce some of these educational principles into Starlight and to use the Bowl as a platform that will enable us to teach the technology utilized in performing arts venues to students from across San Diego.

Our own Stephen Stopper is the founder of The School for Creative Careers a non-profit which aims to educate students of all ages and backgrounds through hands-on experience with state-of-the-art technology in the entertainment industry. By empowering students through active outlets with industry professionals, this school prepares them for meaningful creative careers. Learn more about the [School For Creative Careers](#)

Friends of Balboa Park Gate House Restoration Project



From left to right John Bolthouse (CEO, Friends of Balboa Park), Glenna Trone, Jamie McGuffee, and Stephen Stopper (Save Starlight), Stephen Hill (District Director, Assemblymember Todd Gloria), and Tom Scott (Chair, Board of Directors, Friends of Balboa Park)

Save Starlight joined Friends of Balboa Park for their Gate House Ribbon Cutting on March 29, 2017.

Installed for the 1915 Panama-California World Exposition, the gate houses were part of the grand entry way. After the year-long exposition, the gate was

removed and the small structures were left in place. The two gate houses are located on both sides of El Prado, just as you approach the Cabrillo Bridge at the intersection of El Prado and Balboa Drive. These structures have been greeting Balboa Park visitors and neighbors for over a century and were in need of repair. [Learn more about other ongoing projects by Friends of Balboa Park](#)

Save Starlight and Wikipedia

Starlight Bowl (San Diego)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates: 32°7′54.02″N 117°13′30.4″W﻿ / ﻿32.131672°N 117.225111°W﻿ / 32.131672; -117.225111

The **Starlight Bowl** is an amphitheater located in Balboa Park in San Diego, California. It was constructed for the 1935-1936 California Pacific International Exposition and seats 4,300. It was originally named the Ford Bowl because the automobile manufacturer sponsored outdoor concerts at the venue during the exposition by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, the San Francisco Symphony, and other performers.^[1]

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Civic Light Opera [edit]

Until 2011 Starlight Bowl was the outdoor home of the San Diego Civic Light Opera, also called Starlight Musical Theatre, which presented several Broadway musicals each summer. The Civic Light Opera company was founded in 1945.^[2] It was one of the oldest musical theatre companies in the United States.^[3]

The amphitheater sits almost directly under the landing path for San Diego International Airport. During musical performances the conductor had a set of lights that indicated the noise level from passing planes. When the noise reached a certain level the conductor signaled everyone to pause, and the musicians and performers froze in place until the plane passed.^[4] Audience members regarded the "freeze" as part of the performance, and longtime attendees like to recount awkward pauses from long-ago shows. Dancers sometimes had to balance on one foot in mid-step for ten to fifteen seconds, holding a pose, and then resume their routine, singing and dancing as if nothing happened. Singers were sometimes left in the middle of an a capella solo, having to (hopefully) find the right note again after the pause. The theater was sometimes dubbed by insiders as the "stop-and-go theater".

Another quirk of the Civic Light Opera performances was the "little red box," a prop which had been used in (nearly) all performances since 1945 - sometimes as background or part of a set, and other times carried on stage by the performers or even passed around from one to another. Performers considered the box a kind of good luck charm, while audience members enjoyed trying to spot the box in each production.

The San Diego Civic Light Opera struggled financially in recent years. In 2011 (which would have been the company's 65th season) no productions were mounted,^[5] and in August the company filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.^[6] In 2012 there were no productions, and the company's website was still live but was only advertising shows at other venues.^[7] As of 2016 the company's email no longer works and its Facebook page has been removed. The unused Starlight Bowl theater is falling into disrepair and has been described as an "attractive nuisance".^[8]

A new Non-Profit was founded in 2016 to restore the bowl. Creating a new platform for a multi media , multi cultural event space. <http://www.savestarlight.org/>

Have you searched Starlight Bowl on Wikipedia lately?

Save Starlight has been the latest addition to the Bowl's trajectory as "A new Non-Profit was founded in 2016 to restore the bowl. Creating a new platform for multimedia, multicultural event space."

[Read more about Starlight on Wikipedia](#)

Give A Gift Today

From April 12th - May 8th, the contributions collected through our online donation page will go towards the fundraiser for the missing letters in Starlight's sign.

[Make a contribution today!](#)



Show your support! wear your Save Starlight T-shirt available online.

[Get yours today](#)



Thank You for Your Ongoing Support

Donate Today

