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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SKYLINE COLLEGE MUSIC DEPARTMENT TO HOST BENEFIT CONCERT
TO SUPPORT VICTIMS OF THE SONOMA COUNTY FIRES**

San Bruno, California – December 5, 2017: The Skyline College Music Department will host a benefit concert to support victims of the Sonoma County fire on December 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the Skyline College Theater. Student musicians, faculty, and professional guest artists will join forces to help raise funds for the *Play it Forward Music Foundation*. All proceeds from this event will go towards supporting the instrument donation drive run by Santa Rosa Symphony and Play it Forward Music School. Instruments will be donated to musicians of all ages who lost instruments in the recent fires.

The event will feature the Skyline College Jazz Combo, and Skyline faculty members Meghan Dibble (mezzo-soprano) and Elizabeth Ingber (piano). Guest artists donating their talent include Aaron Rosengaus (viola), Jennifer M. Lee (piano), and Frances Peterson (soprano).

“The Sonoma County fires have destroyed so much; it’s important that those affected can begin to return to some sense of normalcy as soon as they can,” said Elizabeth Ingber, music professor at Skyline College. “For many, playing or listening to a musical instrument is one way to do that. This event aims to bring music back to the Sonoma County community by replacing the instruments that were lost in the fires.”

Attendees are welcome to donate an instrument at this event. Matt Payne, Santa Rosa Symphony Youth Ensembles Manager, will be present to accept donations.

Skyline College is an accredited, comprehensive California community college serving more than 16,000 students annually, offering 100 Associate Degree and Certificate programs. Located on a 111-acre campus overlooking the Pacific Ocean, Skyline College has offered world-class educational opportunities to residents from North San Mateo County and beyond since 1969. Part of the San Mateo Community College District, Skyline College strives to inspire a global and diverse community of learners to achieve intellectual, cultural, social, economic and personal fulfillment.

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