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**Santa Monica Education Foundation Celebrates Pledge Days
with \$50,000 Match from Santa Monica Place/Macerich and OneWest Bank**

*Donations to the Education Foundation support staff and programs
at all public schools in Santa Monica*

SANTA MONICA, Calif., September 23, 2018 – The Santa Monica Education Foundation is excited to announce its fourth annual Pledge Days, a weeklong event to raise funds and awareness for Ed Foundation-funded programs in the Santa Monica public schools. In conjunction with the event, Santa Monica Place/Macerich and OneWest Bank will match all donations, dollar for dollar, up to \$50,000, through September 29.

Donations made during Pledge Days will fund staff and programs at schools across Santa Monica. Programs funded by donations include elementary arts, instructional assistants in elementary classrooms, 5th grade ballroom dance and a stretch grant for each Santa Monica school. Each school decides how to spend their grant. Most are used for additional arts, STEM or student wellness programs.

From September 24 to 28, Ed Foundation and PTA representatives will be at each elementary campus in Santa Monica to thank donors and collect donations.

“We are proud to partner with the Ed Foundation to fund critical programs for local students,” said Steve Solk, president of Consumer Banking for CIT, the parent company of OneWest Bank. “The Foundation spearheads learning programs on topics such as art and STEM education, which are crucial to preparing today’s students for successful futures. We hope our support inspires others to join us in making these programs possible.”

“Donating to the Santa Monica Education Foundation is such an important investment in our community’s future,” said Julia B. Ladd, Assistant Vice President, Property Management at Santa Monica Place. “When our schools are strong and providing excellent opportunities for all students, our entire community benefits. We are thrilled to be part of the Ed Foundation’s important work.”

Annual donations and Ed Foundation endowments are funding \$2.6 million in programs during the current school year. Fundraising for 2019-2020 school-year programs will continue through June 30, 2019.

For more information or to make a donation to support Santa Monica students, go to smedfoundation.org.

About the Santa Monica Education Foundation

Contributions to the Santa Monica Education Foundation fund excellent programs at every Santa Monica public school – from arts to STEM to wellness – that shape our future problem solvers, visionaries, and global citizens.

Established in 1982 by a dedicated group of parents, community leaders, and local business owners, the Ed Foundation raises funds to enhance and supplement the curriculum of the Santa Monica schools. The Foundation's mission is to engage the community to invest in a vibrant educational experience for all public school students in Santa Monica.

To learn more about the Ed Foundation, visit smedfoundation.org.

About OneWest Bank

OneWest Bank helps Southern California consumers and small businesses meet their financial goals by offering personal banking, small business and lending solutions. We are passionate about serving the Southern California community and are proud to invest in the neighborhoods where we live and work. OneWest Bank is a division of CIT Bank, N.A. (Member FDIC, Equal Housing Lender), a subsidiary of CIT Group Inc. (NYSE: CIT). Founded in 1908, CIT Group Inc. has approximately \$50 billion in assets. For more information, visit onewestbank.com and follow us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/onewestbank).

About Macerich

Macerich, an S&P 500 company, is a fully integrated self-managed and self-administered real estate investment trust, which focuses on the acquisition, leasing, management, development and redevelopment of regional malls throughout the United States.

Macerich currently owns 52 million square feet of real estate consisting primarily of interests in 48 regional shopping centers. Macerich specializes in successful retail properties in many of the country's most attractive, densely populated markets with significant presence in the Pacific Rim, Arizona, Chicago and the Metro New York to Washington, DC corridor.

A recognized leader in sustainability, Macerich has earned NAREIT's prestigious "Leader in the Light" award every year from 2014-2017. For the third straight year in 2017 Macerich achieved the #1 GRESB ranking in the North American Retail Sector, among many other environmental

accomplishments. Additional information about Macerich can be obtained from the Company's website at www.macerich.com.

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