

## LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE'S 16<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL INNOVATION NIGHT TO TAKE PLACE ON OCTOBER 2

**MAJOR NETWORKING EVENT FOR SAN DIEGO'S GROUNDBREAKING  
TECH COMMUNITY WILL CELEBRATE HONORARY CHAIR IRWIN JACOBS,  
QUALCOMM FOUNDING CHAIRMAN AND CEO EMERITUS**

La Jolla, CA – La Jolla Playhouse's 16th annual **Innovation Night** will take place on **Monday, October 2** from 5:30pm to 8:30pm on the Playhouse's outdoor Taper Plaza. Co-chaired by **Denise Bevers**, President & CEO, Vetmab Biosciences, and **Tim Scott**, President & CEO, AustinPx, the 2023 event will celebrate **Dr. Irwin Mark Jacobs**, Founding Chairman and CEO Emeritus, Qualcomm.

**Innovation Night** is San Diego's premiere networking event that brings together leaders from San Diego's biotech, life sciences, high tech, clean tech, defense, telecommunications and associated industries for an extraordinary evening at La Jolla Playhouse – a leader in creating the most cutting-edge and innovative theatre for San Diego and beyond. The event supports the Playhouse's New Play Development and Learning & Engagement programs. The San Diego region enjoys one of the largest innovation economies in the world, producing major medical, pharmaceutical, diagnostic, biologic and wireless products that have led to breakthroughs in healthcare, technology and more. In recognition of this vibrant culture of innovation, this annual Playhouse event has become one of the city's most highly-anticipated fundraisers, celebrating the ingenuity among the world's top tech companies.

"San Diego's dynamic innovation community, led by extraordinary philanthropists and visionaries such as Irwin Jacobs, has revolutionized the tech and healthcare landscape," said Playhouse Managing Director **Debby Buchholz**. "Over the last fifteen years, Innovation Night has raised indispensable funds to enhance the Playhouse's own 'R&D' efforts, while cultivating vital creative collaborations between San Diego's high-tech/biotech industries and the arts."

Innovation Night guests will enjoy an evening of networking, along with a live performance component from La Jolla Playhouse's acclaimed **Without Walls (WOW)** program. The event will also feature a special Innovation Gallery, showcasing projects by participating companies.

Innovation Night is supported by **PNC Bank**, Presenting Sponsor, along with **Cooley** and **UC San Diego**, Lead Sponsors; **The Lodge at Torrey Pines** and **Qualcomm**, Host Sponsors; **Marsh McLennan**, **Scripps Research** and **SDSU**; Co-Host Sponsors; and **Show Imaging**, In-Kind Sponsor.

The title of Innovation Night Honorary Chair has been awarded to an individual who has contributed to San Diego's tech and bio-tech community in a profound way. Past honorees include **Mary Walshok, Ph.D.**, Co-Founder of Connect; **David Hale**, Chairman & CEO, Hale BioPharma Ventures, LLC; **Dr. Peter C. Farrell**, Founder and Chairman of the Board of ResMed; **Greg Lucier**, Chairman, NuVasive Inc.; **Dr. Paul E. Jacobs**, Former Executive Chairman, Qualcomm Incorporated; **Jay Flatley**, Executive Chairman, Illumina; **Dr. J. Craig Venter**, Founder, Chairman & CEO, J. Craig Venter Institute; **Alan Gold**, Co-Founder, BioMed Realty Trust, Inc.; **Duane Roth**, (1949-2013), Chief Executive Officer, Connect; **Dr. Ivor Royston**, Former Managing Member, Forward Ventures and current President & CEO, Viracta Therapeutics.

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**Irwin Jacobs**, Founding Chairman and CEO Emeritus, Qualcomm, received his B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Cornell University in 1956 and his S.M. and Sc.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering from MIT in 1957 and 1959. He was a faculty member in Electrical Engineering at MIT from 1959 to 1966, and a Professor of Computer Science and Engineering at UC San Diego from 1966 to 1972. While at MIT, he coauthored *Principles of Communication Engineering*, the first textbook on digital communications and information theory. In 1968, Jacobs co-founded Linkabit Corporation, progressing from consulting services to become a major supplier of digital communication equipment for government and industry. It was selected by ARPA (now DARPA) to develop SATNET to extend the ARPANET to Europe. In 1977, SATNET was one of three networks used in the first live demonstration of the Internet protocol. Industry-first products developed and manufactured by Linkabit included the dual-modem satellite terminal for the Air Force, based on what was later named reduced instruction set processing (RISC), the VideoCipher encrypted satellite-to-home TV system initially for HBO and later industry-wide, and the very-small-aperture satellite terminal (VSAT) business communication system initially for Schlumberger but then commercialized and adopted by Walmart, 7-Eleven, and many gasoline stations for credit card transactions. He sold Linkabit to M/A-Com in 1980, remaining as board member and executive vice-president until April 1985.

With six others from Linkabit, he co-founded Qualcomm July 1, 1985, serving as Chairman and CEO until retiring as CEO in 2005 and Chairman in 2008. Under his leadership, Qualcomm pioneered CDMA technology for the cellular industry, first commercially deployed in Hong Kong in 1995 and in South Korea and the United States in 1996. These second generation (2G) networks initially utilized handsets manufactured in San Diego by Qualcomm. Because CDMA supports efficient voice and mobile wideband internet access, it became the underlying technology for all third-generation (3G) cellular networks, serving billions of subscribers. Qualcomm led the industry in the transition to fourth generation (4G) LTE and now is leading the transition to fifth generation (5G). It licenses its technology worldwide and is among the largest suppliers to global manufacturers of integrated circuits for mobile devices.

Jacobs is a member and past chairman of the National Academy of Engineering, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, the National Inventors Hall of Fame, and a Fellow of the IEEE, American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Computer History Museum. From 2006 to 2016, he was Board Chair of the Salk Institute for Biological Studies and for 10 years served on the Advisory Board of the School of Economics and Management at Tsinghua University in Beijing. Jacobs has received many awards and honors, including the National Medal of Technology (1994), the James Clerk Maxwell Award, the IEEE Alexander Graham Bell Medal Award, the Dorothy I. Height Chair's Award, of the Leadership Council on Civil Rights, the Franklin Institute Bower Award for Business Leadership, the Marconi Prize, the IEEE Medal of Honor, the Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy with his wife Joan, and the IMEC Lifetime of Innovation Award. He is the recipient of 11 honorary doctorates and delivered the 2005 commencement address at MIT.

Dr. Jacobs and his wife Joan are active philanthropists and founding signers of the Giving Pledge. They have been major supporters of La Jolla Playhouse – where Joan has been involved in Board leadership for nearly four decades – as well as the UC San Diego Jacobs School of Engineering, the UCSD Jacobs Medical Center, the Jacobs Technion-Cornell Innovation Institute, the San Diego Symphony, the San Diego Central Library, the Jacobs-Cushman Food Bank, Second Chance in San Diego, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the High Tech High Charter School System, and the Jacobs Institute for Innovation in Education at the University of San Diego. They annually support fellowships and scholarships for students at UCSD, Cornell, MIT, the Technion, and three New Bedford High Schools. In June 2022 they were honored by the Young Concert Artists at Carnegie Hall.

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For more information, please visit [www.LaJollaPlayhouse.org/innovation-night](http://www.LaJollaPlayhouse.org/innovation-night). To secure tickets to the event or space in the Innovation Gallery, please contact James Skeet at [jskeet@ljp.org](mailto:jskeet@ljp.org).

**La Jolla Playhouse** is a place where artists and audiences come together to create what's new and next in the American theatre, from Tony Award-winning productions, to imaginative programs for young audiences, to interactive experiences outside our theatre walls. Founded in 1947 by Gregory Peck, Dorothy McGuire and Mel Ferrer, the Playhouse is currently led by Tony Award winner Christopher Ashley, the Rich Family Artistic Director of La Jolla Playhouse, and Managing Director Debby Buchholz. The Playhouse is internationally renowned for the development of new plays and musicals, including mounting 114 world premieres, commissioning more than 60 new works, and sending 33 productions to Broadway, garnering a total of 38 Tony Awards, as well as the 1993 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre.

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