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Release No: 0708-035

Online Press Kit: www.csupomona.edu/news/rosefloat.shtml

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2007

VOLUNTEERS CRITICALLY NEEDED FOR CAL POLY ROSE FLOAT DUE TO FLOWER SHIPMENT DELAY

POMONA, Calif. – Volunteers are urgently needed to help process flowers for the Cal Poly Universities' 60th entry into the Tournament of Roses Parade. Due to a five-day delay in receiving a shipment of strawflowers, the student volunteers need the community's help on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 20-21.

The shipment of strawflowers was due to arrive at the Cal Poly Pomona Rose Float Lab in time for a Dec. 14 flower workshop to process the 12,000 heads. However, the shipment has been delayed until Dec. 19.

“There won't be any time to process these flowers in Pasadena,” said Cal Poly Pomona student Jeremiah Petsas, the Rose Float's special projects chair and deco assistant. “We have to get this done before Friday night, and we can't do it without help. We would appreciate any help we can get from volunteers.”

Cal Poly students in Pomona and San Luis Obispo are in the final stretch of building “Guardians of Harmony,” their 60th consecutive entry into the Tournament of Roses Parade. To complete the float each year, more than 1,000 community volunteers lend a hand in covering every inch of the float with natural materials, such as flowers, leaves, seeds or bark.

The Cal Poly Universities project is one of the few self-built floats in the parade, and the only Rose Parade float entry designed and constructed entirely by students.

To help process the strawflowers, volunteers are asked to come to the Cal Poly Pomona

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Rose Float Lab on Thursday and Friday. Rose Float Lab hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The Rose Float Lab is located in Building 64 off Citrus Lane, near the 10 Freeway's Kellogg Drive exit.

Volunteers are also needed for Decorations Week, which runs from Dec. 26-31, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., at the Brookside Pavilion in Pasadena. Volunteers can assist by preparing the natural materials, decorating the float, working in the food tent for volunteers, cleaning up, as well as helping with volunteer check-in. The Brookside Pavilion is in Pasadena, south of the Rose Bowl Stadium. Volunteers can park in Lot I next to the tent and proceed to the Cal Poly Universities check in table on the northeast corner of Brookside Tent.

For more information about volunteering to decorate the Cal Poly Universities' 2008 Tournament of Roses Float, please contact Marla Franco, senior coordinator of the Rose Float, at (909) 869-3642. A volunteer information packet is also available online at:

<http://www.cprosefloat.org>.

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NOTE TO MEDIA: Online press kit with downloadable photos, music and stories available online at <http://www.csupomona.edu/news/rosefloat.shtml>.