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For Immediate Release

Coronado School of the Arts Swims to the Stage

(January 2012) Coronado School of the Arts (CoSA) will present the play *Metamorphoses*, January 27 – February 4 at the Coronado Performing Arts Center located at 650 D Avenue, Coronado, CA, 92118. Showtimes are 7 p.m. on January 27-28 & February 3-4 and 2 p.m. on January 29.

Based on Greek mythology, *Metamorphoses* takes Ovid's classic transformation stories and sets them to contemporary language. The play uses the idea of love through the medium of water to examine how and why human beings change, shown through the transformation of characters such as King Midas, Orpheus, Eurydice and many others.

The element of water literally takes center stage in this production, featuring a 10' x 20' pool built onstage as part of the set. The 31 student actors spend time in the water during their scenes, using it to symbolize the transformation of their characters. "The students really loved the challenge of working in water," says director Kim Strassburger. "They had to learn to move differently and to work with what is essentially a living set piece."

The students also had a wonderful time letting their imaginations run wild as they took on the roles of iconic gods and goddesses, according to Strassburger. This all-school production features student actors from CoSA, Coronado High School, Coronado Middle School, and Palm Academy, and each actor came to the rehearsal process with a different level of knowledge about mythology. In addition to the standard learning process of characterization, vocal projection, and stage movement, the students also had the opportunity to gain a comprehensive knowledge of Greek and Roman mythology.

Strassburger, an award-winning San Diego director and actor as well as Coronado High School teacher, enjoys choosing thought-provoking plays that allow the student actors to stretch their breadth of knowledge and to experience transformation themselves. Her choice of *The Laramie Project* at CoSA last year sold out the theatre and inspired its cast, and the themes of *Metamorphoses* echo the importance of understanding human relationships. As Strassburger says, the central idea of *Metamorphoses* can be defined as the changing power of love. Quoting playwright Mary Zimmerman, Strassburger explains that the play "makes it easy to enter the heart and to believe in greater change as well, to believe we can all transform."

Don't miss this transformative and visually breathtaking production! Tickets to *Metamorphoses* are available for purchase online at www.cosafoundation.org. Prices range from \$6 to \$16 depending on age. All seating is general admission. Tickets will also be available for purchase at the box office 45 minutes prior to showtime. Coronado Performing Arts Center Theatre and Box Office are located at 650 D Avenue, Coronado, CA, 92118. Call 619.522.4050 x5 with questions. Note: Due to mature themes, this show is recommended for ages 13 and up.