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**Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation Announces \$50,000 Match Opportunity
from Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows/MSD Capital
and CIT's OneWest Bank**

*Funds raised will benefit students at all 16
Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District schools.*

Santa Monica, Calif., January 16, 2018 – Two generous corporate heroes – Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows/MSD Capital and CIT's OneWest Bank – are offering \$25,000 each as matching donations to the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation. Their combined \$50,000 match will run from January 16 to 31, coinciding with the final weeks of the Ed Foundation's annual parent fundraising campaign.

“Being a philanthropic partner in our local community is one of our core values,” said Ellis O'Connor, Asset Manager of MSD Capital, Fairmont Miramar's parent company. “We are very proud to continue our partnership with the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation to help shape the lives of the future leaders of our community.”

All funds raised in the Ed Foundation's annual campaign support staff and programs at the 16 Santa Monica-Malibu public schools, ensuring all students benefit from a vibrant education.

“We are committed to building stronger communities where we live and work,” said Steve Solk, President of Consumer Banking for CIT. “We are pleased to support the Ed Foundation, which funds beneficial programs for local children and schools such as arts and STEM education, so students can develop the critical skills important to their development and future success.”

Donations to the Ed Foundation change the lives of students in the Santa Monica-Malibu public schools. Donations fund elementary arts programs, instructional assistants in classrooms, and stretch grants for each school. Many schools use these grants for additional arts, STEM and student health and wellness programs.

The Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows is the sponsor hotel and CIT's OneWest Bank is a

presenting sponsor of the Ed Foundation's third annual Santa Monica-Malibu Wine Auction, which will be held at the hotel on Sunday, May 6. Featuring outstanding wine and food tastings, and silent and live auctions of world-class wines and exceptional experiences, this annual event brings district parents, community members and corporate supporters together to sip, savor and support local students.

To donate or see a full list of programs funded by donations to the Ed Foundation, go to smmef.org.

About the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation

Contributions to the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation fund excellent programs at every SMMUSD 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-Malibu Unified School District. The Foundation's mission is to engage the community to invest in a vibrant educational experience for all students in the Santa Monica and Malibu public schools. To learn more about SMMEF visit www.smmef.org or www.facebook.com/smmef.

About Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows

Experience the very best of Santa Monica at Fairmont Miramar Hotel & Bungalows. With bungalows designed by Michael Berman, seasonal cuisine at FIG Restaurant, The Bungalow by Brent Bolthouse and fitness by Exhale mind body spa, it all happens here. For more information visit: www.fairmont.com/santamonica

About CIT

Founded in 1908, CIT (NYSE: CIT) is a financial holding company with approximately \$50 billion in assets as of Sept. 30, 2017. Its principal bank subsidiary, CIT Bank, N.A., (Member FDIC, Equal Housing Lender) has more than \$30 billion of deposits and more than \$40 billion of assets. CIT provides financing, leasing, and advisory services principally to middle-market companies and small businesses across a wide variety of industries. It also offers products and services to consumers through its Internet bank franchise and a network of retail branches in Southern California, operating as OneWest Bank, a division of CIT Bank, N.A. For more information visit cit.com.

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