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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PAUL GIROUX BRINGS TO LIFE THE STORY OF THE BUILDING OF THE WORLD'S  
LONGEST SUSPENSION BRIDGE – THE GOLDEN GATE**

**LIVERMORE** – Paul Giroux, a construction engineer and engineering historian, will discuss how the formidable obstacles to spanning the Golden Gate Strait were overcome in a Rae Dorough Speaker Series presentation at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15 in the Bankhead Theater.

The early twentieth century was the golden age of long-span suspension bridges, yet the spanning of the Golden Gate Strait was thought to be impossible by many. Working in the shadow of the Great Depression, the builders of the bridge had to overcome daunting political, financial, and technical challenges to construct the longest bridge in the world in one of the planet's harshest marine environments.

Eager to meet these challenges, leading engineers and construction workers would converge on San Francisco in the early days of 1933 to span 'the Gate.'

Using historic photographs, video and dynamic animation techniques, Giroux vividly brings the construction of the bridge to life in a presentation entitled "Building the Golden Gate Bridge."

Giroux, who holds a BS in Construction Engineering from Iowa State University, has been with Kiewit Corporation for over four decades and has played a key role in the construction of several heavy civil engineering mega projects in the United States.

Giroux has had leadership and key speaking roles for the anniversaries of such civil engineering icons as the Brooklyn Bridge. He previously presented "The Building of the Transcontinental Railroad," marking the railroad's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, for the Rae Dorough Speaker Series in December 2021.

Among the many honors and awards Giroux has received are: the American Society of Civil Engineers Civil Engineering History and Heritage Award; the Roebling Award; the G. Brooks Earnest Technical Lecture Award. Additionally, Paul received the Norm Augustine Award from the American Association of Engineering Societies. In 2016 Paul was elected as a Distinguished Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and in 2022 Paul was elected a member of the National Academy of Construction.

Sandia National Laboratories is a special sponsor of Giroux's presentation.



For a direct link to purchase tickets online or for more information visit Bankhead Theater at [LivermoreArts.org](http://LivermoreArts.org). Tickets also are available by calling (925) 373-6800 or visiting the Bankhead Theater box office at 2400 First Street, Livermore, noon to 6 p.m. Thursday to Saturday.

The speaker series honors the late Rae Dorough, a respected Livermore resident and strong supporter of cultural events. Members of her family and friends were the initiating sponsors in 2008. The series features provocative, entertaining and enlightening presentations on a wide variety of topics. Past speakers have included engineers, scientists, fiction and non-fiction writers and historians, entrepreneurs, comedians and entertainers, diplomats, astronauts, journalists, and even a former secretary of defense.

Sponsored in part by Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC, Sandia National Laboratories, the Alameda County Arts Commission, Towne Center Books and ImageSetters, the Rae Dorough series also partners with the Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District and Las Positas College, to provide free or reduced price tickets to students and educators. Additionally, individual and corporate supporters help sponsor specific presentations.

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