

Lobero Ghostlight Society

Rick and Shelley Fogg



Shelley and Rick with Board Member Jim Morouse (left)

By Jessica Simon

For Ghostlight Society Members Rick and Shelley Fogg, the Lobero is very much about family and community. Their daughter Natalie has performed at the Lobero many times with Gustafson Ballet. "There's something about being in a theatre when you're a child," Shelley comments, "sitting in front of a mirror, getting dressed and getting their make-up done that is just magical for them. As a parent, there's not really a bad seat in the house because they are all so close. To be able to see the expressions on their faces is just amazing." Rick agrees, "For our family, having a place for the children and the performing arts is so important. And (the Lobero is) such a quality place. For Natalie, when Gustafson has been at the Lobero, those performances have been most memorable."

Along with his two business partners, Rick owns The Anodos Group LLC, one of the Lobero Theatre's newest Corporate Sponsors. Their company is very small, and they definitely like it that way. "We have five people in the office now," Rick smiles. "We like to be small. I always want to be small." Anodos purposely doesn't do any advertising and marketing, but "we really like supporting something like the Lobero that fits our model and is fun and close." Anodos acts as trusted advisors to high net worth families. Rick explains, "It's really rewarding work and we get to be highly trusted friends to great families who need advice, help coordinating complex projects, family projects, etc. We really get to do some good work with them."

The Foggs met at Westmont College in the late 1980s. Save for a few years in Seattle when Rick was in law school, they have since made Santa Barbara their home. As Shelley says, "Santa Barbara is such a great place to raise kids." In addition to Natalie, 10, they are also parents to Charlie, 6, and Benji, 2.

For the Foggs, the Lobero is often an excuse for a much-needed date night, or a night out with friends. "The courtyard is great! To be able to linger with no pressure is so nice," Rick enthuses. "The Lobero is important in that the size of the theatre is so perfect for a lot of the locals who want to have a place where they can see each other, and have an intimate setting with really interesting artists and performers. That's really valuable."