



CONTACT: **Louisa Spier**
Cal Performances
(510) 643-6714
lspier@calperformances.org

Jeanette Peach
Cal Performances
(510) 642-9121
jpeach@calperformances.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 16, 2017
[Press Room](#)

**NPR'S *FROM THE TOP* WITH HOST CHRISTOPHER O'RILEY
SEEKS LOCAL MUSICIANS TO PARTICIPATE IN RADIO PROGRAM
RECORDING
FRIDAY, MARCH 2 IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

Seeking pre-college-age classical musicians, applications due by November 1

Berkeley, October 16, 2017 — *From the Top with Host Christopher O'Riley*, the popular NPR radio program showcasing America's brightest young classical musicians, is seeking local talent to participate in the live recording of a future broadcast at 8pm on Friday, March 2, 2018 at Cal Performances in Zellerbach Hall. The weekly hour-long radio program, which features performances and personal stories of extraordinary young classical musicians from across the country, is heard each Sunday night at 7pm on KDFC radio, as well as on more than 200 other stations nationwide.

NPR's *From the Top with Host Christopher O'Riley* presents classically trained young musicians from across the country in a variety show format that includes interviews, amusing stories, and inspired performances. Audiences are invited to attend a live recording of the radio program, which has helped launch the careers of hundreds of young performers over its more-than-20-year history.

From the Top welcomes audition entries from young classical musicians, ages 8 to 18, who have not yet graduated from high school. Solo performers on all instruments, composers and vocalists, as well as instrumental or vocal ensembles are welcome. To be considered for *From the Top*, eligible young classical musicians must submit recordings and complete an application by November 1. Application and scholarship information is available online at www.fromthetop.org/apply. For additional information, please contact From the Top Recruitment, at (617) 437-0707 x134 or

auditions@fromthetop.org. There is a \$70 application fee that is waived for students with financial need.

Additionally, one high school choir will be chosen to participate in the live broadcast recording of *From the Top* presented by Cal Performances. Participants will be selected through KDFC's Local Vocals High School Sing-off. Applications from high school choirs within KDFC's nine-county coverage area (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma) are due by Friday, November 17, 2017. More information on how to apply is available online at www.kdfc.com/2017/09/local-vocals-submit-your-video/.

In conjunction with every live recording, *From the Top's* education and outreach programs offer valuable support and resources for young musicians as they prepare for multi-faceted careers in the arts, inspire and build new audiences for classical music, and use their talents to make a difference in the lives of others. Of the more than 100 musicians chosen to appear on the radio program every year, approximately 20 will receive Jack Kent Cooke Young Artist Awards in support of furthering their musical education. These scholarships of up to \$10,000 are given to deserving young classical musicians between the ages of 8 and 18 who have high levels of artistic achievement, demonstrated financial need, and a solid academic record.

Ticket Information

Tickets for the *From the Top with Host Christopher O'Riley*, on Friday, March 2 at 8pm in Zellerbach Hall range from \$25–\$52 (prices subject to change). Half-price tickets are available for UC Berkeley students and individuals ages 16 and under. Please note: this event is recommended for age seven or older. Tickets are available through the Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall, at (510) 642-9988, at calperformances.org, and at the door. For more information about discounts, go to calperformances.org/discounts.

#

CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday, March 2, 8pm

Special Event

Zellerbach Hall
Bancroft Way at Dana Street
UC Berkeley campus

NPR's From the Top with Host Christopher O'Riley

Program: Cal Performances hosts NPR's *From the Top with Host Christopher O'Riley* for a live recording of the popular radio show in Zellerbach Hall. Broadcast on more than 200 stations nationwide to an audience of nearly half a million listeners, *From the Top* shares the stories and performances of pre-college classical musicians through a live-recorded concert presented in communities across the country. Local talent for the performance will be recruited in the Bay Area beginning this fall: musicians ages 8-18 can submit an application to fromthetop.org/apply by November 1. There is a \$70 application fee that is waived for students with financial need.

Tickets: \$25-\$52 (prices subject to change). Please note that *From the Top's* live show is recorded without intermission for national broadcast. Recommended for children age seven and older.

– Cal Performances –