

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 4, 2005

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CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS
A SPECIAL BROADCAST OF
THE HOWLINGLY FUNNY, SURPRISINGLY ERUDITE NEWS QUIZ SHOW
NPR'S WAIT, WAIT...DON'T TELL ME!
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17 AT 8:00 P.M. IN ZELLERBACH HALL

BERKELEY, January 4, 2005 — Peter Sagal, Carl Kasell and the rest of the cast of **National Public Radio's *Wait, Wait. . . Don't Tell Me!*** bring their hit show to Cal Performances' Zellerbach Hall on **Thursday, February 17 at 8:00 p.m.** *Wait, Wait*, an oddly informative and always irreverent look at the highlights and hijinks of the week's news events, has become one of public radio's most talked-about shows, drawing more than 1.5 million listeners each week. Renowned NPR newsman **Carl Kasell** serves as judge, scorekeeper and straight man as host **Peter Sagal** leads a cast of rotating panelists and call-in contestants through a series of games and questions designed to test their wit and their knowledge of the week's news. Regular panelists include such luminaries as *Washington Post* reporter Roxanne Roberts, *Times of London* writer Sue Ellicott, author and *Atlantic Monthly* correspondent P.J. O'Rourke, *The Daily Show* political correspondent Mo Rocca, author and humorist Roy Blount, Jr., writer and performer Adam Felber, and stand-up comedian Paula Poundstone.

The February 17 show will be taped before a live Zellerbach Hall audience and broadcast nationally two days later on February 19 on NPR affiliate stations, including KQED FM locally. Bay Area fans and audience members will have the chance to test their own current events knowledge at this highly entertaining evening. As *The Seattle Post-Intelligencer* wrote of a recent broadcast from that city, "ticket holders go insane when the avuncular and effortlessly funny Carl Kasell takes the stage. The audience continues to roar as host Peter Sagal steps up. I expect panties to be tossed up on stage, or to see Sagal body surf over the crowd at the front."

From the creators of *Car Talk*, *Wait, Wait. . . Don't Tell Me* is a fast-paced, funny look at current affairs in which panelists play for points and listeners play for the most coveted prize on public radio—Carl Kasell's voice on their home answering machine. That's right, Carl Kasell, a

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50-year radio veteran and the voice of *NPR's Morning Edition* since its inception in 1979 will recite silly limericks, sing *What's Up, Pussycat* or simply announce the winner's absence on their outgoing message. The games of skill and wit that one must master to receive the popular prize include "Not My Job" in which expert guests are asked to answer questions totally unrelated to their fields, "Bluff the Listener" in which the listener must identify the hard-to-believe real news story among the false news stories made up by panelists, "Listener Limerick Challenge" in which the listener must fill in the last line of a news-related limerick, and "Who's Carl This Time" in which the listener is asked to identify a newsmaker based on Carl Kasell's uncanny impersonations.

PETER SAGAL

Host Peter Sagal has had a varied career including stints as a stage director, actor, extra in a Michael Jackson video, travel writer, essayist, ghostwriter and staff writer for a motorcycle magazine. He is the author of numerous plays that have been performed around the country and abroad.

CARL KASELL

Official Judge and Scorekeeper Carl Kasell is an all-around genius and great guy. He has also been a newscaster for NPR's daily newsmagazine *Morning Edition* since its inception in 1979. His newscasts on *Morning Edition* can be heard at the top of the hour every weekday morning on public radio stations nationwide. A veteran broadcaster, Kasell launched his radio career more than 50 years ago. He sometimes moonlights as a magician.

TICKET INFORMATION

This event is sold-out. Tickets for *Wait, Wait. . .Don't Tell Me!* on **Thursday, February 17 at 8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at \$22.00, \$32.00, and \$42.00, and may become available due to last minute returns. Call the Cal Performances Ticket Office at (510) 642-9988 for availability. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens and other students receive a \$2 discount, and UC Alumni Association members

receive a \$3 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperfs.berkeley.edu.

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San Francisco Chronicle, *San Francisco* magazine, and KDFC Classical 102.1 FM are media sponsors of Cal Performances' 2004/05 performing arts season.

Cal Performances' 2004/2005 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Thursday, February 17 at 8:00 p.m.

Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus
Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

Strictly Speaking

NPR's *Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me!*

Program: National Public Radio's weekly news quiz show, *Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me!* comes to Cal Performances for a live taping.

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