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ADDED EVENT

**CLASSICAL 102.1 KDFC FAVORITE FROM THE TOP STARRING
PIANIST CHRISTOPHER O'RILEY AND THE BEST YOUNG MUSICIANS
IN THE COUNTRY COMES TO ZELLERBACH HALL
THURSDAY, MAY 29 AT 8:00 P.M.**

BERKELEY—Cal Performances and Classical 102.1 KDFC present the popular weekly classical music program *From the Top* Thursday, May 29 at 8:00 p.m. at Zellerbach Hall. The show features pianist and host **Christopher O'Riley** working and performing with the next generation of talented young musicians. Together, with humor and a lack of pretension, they demonstrate to audiences around the country that classical music is for everyone, not just the privileged few. "It's classy reality programming," says NBC's *The Today Show*. .

The program, to be taped live in front of an audience at Zellerbach Hall, will be broadcast nationally on more than 250 stations at a date to be announced. Locally the program can be heard on Sundays at 7:00 p.m. on 102.1 FM KDFC. Distributed by NPR, the radio program reaches 750,000 listeners each week and showcases pre-college age soloists and ensembles. In addition to O'Riley, the show features announcer **Joanne Robinson** and a group of young "roving reporters" including **Tojah Coleman-Jones, Hayley Goldbach, Emily Mayer** and **Caeli Smith**.

From the Top, a non-profit organization, provides a platform for young artists to present themselves, share their passion and develop into inspirational peer role models. In addition to the radio program, the organization produces television, web and education programs and brings young performers to schools and community centers. *From the Top* web-based audio and video archives form the basis of lesson plans distributed every week to over 100,000 teachers.

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Past *From the Top* programs have featured Debussy's *Arabesque No. 1* played by an 8-year-old pianist from San Diego; a performance of Bottesini's *Tarantella* by a 17-year-old double-bass player from Iowa; a traditional slack-key guitar piece by a 14-year-old Hawaiian; and Schumann's Piano Quintet in E-flat Major with student musicians, pianist O'Riley and special guest, violinist **Nadja Salerno Sonnenberg**.

CHRISTOPHER O'RILEY

From his groundbreaking transcriptions of Radiohead to his unforgettable interpretations of classic and new repertoire, pianist **Christopher O'Riley** has redefined the possibilities of classical music. He has taken his unique vision to both traditional classical music venues and symphonic settings, as well as to entirely new audiences on the radio, at universities and even clubs. An interpreter and arranger of some of the most important contemporary rock music of our time, O'Riley lives by the Duke Ellington adage, "There are only two kinds of music: good music and bad." As a classical pianist, O'Riley has toured and appeared with the world-famous Academy of St. Martin in the Fields Chamber Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Minnesota Orchestra and the Pittsburgh Symphony.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for *From the Top* on **Thursday May 29 at 8:00 p.m.** in Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$20.00, \$30.00 and \$40.00**; tickets for children 16 and under are half price. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.net; and at the door. Half-price tickets are available for purchase by UC Berkeley students. UC faculty and staff, senior citizens, other students and UC Alumni Association members receive a \$5 discount (Special Events excluded). For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988, or visit the Cal Performances web site at www.calperformances.net.

For select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced two hours prior to a performance and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; quantities may be limited. Rush ticket sales are limited to one ticket per person; all sales are cash

only. Rush ticket prices are \$10.00 for UCB students; \$15.00 for UCB faculty and staff (UCB ID required) and seniors age 65 or older; and \$20.00 for all other community members. Information is available at 510-642-9988, press 2 for the rush hotline, two hours prior to a performance only.

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Cal Performances' 2007/08 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

Classical 102.1 KDFC is our 2007/08 season media sponsors.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Thursday, May 29 at 8:00 p.m.

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

Strictly Speaking

NPR's *From the Top*

Christopher O'Riley, host

Program: *From the Top* is a weekly classical music program showcasing young musicians from across the country; it comes to Cal Performances for a live taping. Locally, the program can be heard on KDFC 102.1.

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- Cal Performances -