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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 7, 2008

**GARRISON KEILLOR, BRINGS HIS KEEN OBSERVATIONS ON LIFE TO  
ZELLERBACH HALL FOR AN EVENING OF STORYTELLING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12 AT 8:00 P.M.**

**BERKELEY, January 7, 2008**—Award-winning writer, satirist, actor, singer and composer **Garrison Keillor** brings his distinctive take on life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness to Zellerbach Hall on **Tuesday, February 12 at 8:00 p.m.** Keillor, one of the country's foremost raconteurs, is best known as the creative genius behind the radio mega-hit *Prairie Home Companion*, heard weekly by over three million listeners on more than 450 public radio stations. Author of a dozen books, his newest, *Pontoon: A Lake Wobegon Novel*, was published September 2007. "Only the most skillful literary hands should attempt the combination of flat-out farce and genuine emotion; Keillor...is up to the job" (*The New York Times*). In Berkeley, Keillor's solo performance promises to be a free-wheeling collection of stories, some familiar and some new, exhibiting his trademark humor.

Keillor was born in 1942 in Anoka, Minnesota, and began his radio career as a freshman at the University of Minnesota, from which he graduated in 1966. He went to work for Minnesota Public Radio in 1969, and on July 6, 1974, he hosted the first broadcast of *A Prairie Home Companion* in St. Paul. The show ended in 1987, resumed in 1989 in New York as *The American Radio Company*, returned to Minnesota, and in 1993 resumed the name *A Prairie Home Companion*.

Keillor's most recent role included playing himself in the movie adaptation of his show, *A Prairie Home Companion* (2006). The film features Meryl Streep and Lily Tomlin as the singing Johnson sisters, Lindsay Lohan as Streep's daughter, Woody Harrelson and John C. Reilly as singing cowboys Lefty and Dusty, Kevin Kline as Guy Noir and Tommy Lee Jones as the Axeman, who is dispatched by the radio station's new corporate owners in Texas to shut down the show.

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He is also the author of twelve books, including *Lake Wobegon Days* (1985); *The Book of Guys* (1993); *The Old Man Who Loved Cheese* (1996); *Wobegon Boy* (1997); *Me: By Jimmy "Big Boy" Valente As Told to Garrison Keillor* (1999); *Love Me* (2003); and 2004's *Homegrown Democrat*.

Keillor has received numerous awards, including a Grammy Award for his recording of *Lake Wobegon Days*. He has also received two Cable ACE Awards and a George Foster Peabody Award. He is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and recently was presented with a National Humanities Medal by the National Endowment for the Humanities. In 1994, he was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame at Chicago's Museum of Broadcast Communications.

With conductor and choral director Philip Brunelle, he has performed with many orchestras, including the Chicago, Milwaukee, San Francisco, Pittsburgh, Minnesota, Dallas, and National symphonies. He has appeared at Wolf Trap, Carnegie Hall, and other major concert halls as a member of The Hopeful Gospel Quartet, and he has performed on his own in one-man shows across the country and on tour broadcasts of *A Prairie Home Companion*.

### **TICKET INFORMATION**

Tickets for **Garrison Keillor** on **Tuesday, February 12 at 8:00 p.m.** at Zellerbach Hall are priced at **\$34.00, \$48.00** and **\$62.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at [www.calperformances.org](http://www.calperformances.org); 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.org](http://www.calperformances.org).

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 Ticket hotline, two hours prior to a performance only.

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

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**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS**

**Tuesday, February 12 at 8:00 p.m.**

**Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus**

Bancroft Way at Telegraph Ave., Berkeley

*Strictly Speaking*

**Garrison Keillor**, author, radio host, raconteur

**Program:** Award-winning writer, actor, singer and composer Garrison Keillor comes to Zellerbach Hall.

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