

CONTACT:
Christina Kellogg 510.643.6714
ckellogg@calperfs.berkeley.edu
Joe Yang 510.642.9121
scyang@calperfs.berkeley.edu

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**MARIACHI LOS CAMPEROS DE NATI CANO
BRINGS THE JOYOUS SOUNDS AND COLORS OF CHRISTMAS
TO ZELLERBACH HALL SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 3:00 P.M.**

BERKELEY, November 14, 2008—The Grammy-winning **Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano** returns to **Zellerbach Hall** with *Fiesta Navidad Sunday, December 21 at 3:00 p.m.* Under the leadership of **Nati Cano**, the charismatic visionary who both mirrors and shapes the history of mariachi music, *Fiesta Navidad* will mix traditional and familiar tunes, as well as melodies appropriate to the season. The 47-year-old ensemble, composed of two trumpets, four fiddles, Mexican harp, *guitarron* (six-stringed bass guitar), and Cano on *vihuela* (a five-stringed rhythm guitar), is a recipient of the National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellowship. Colorfully dressed dancers will join the musicians throughout the program. The band, along with musical director **Jesus “Chuy” Guzman**, has featured some of the finest musicians from Mexico and the United States. “The nonet’s superb musicianship” has “raised the standards of [mariachi] music to an artform” (*The Capital Times*).

NATI CANO

Classically-trained **Natividad “Nati” Cano** was born in 1933 to a family of musicians in Jalisco, Mexico, one of the west Mexican communities that gave life to the mariachi tradition. At the age of 17, he traveled north to Mexicali to join Mariachi Chapala, where he was the youngest musician by more than a decade. In 1957, Cano came to the United States and eventually joined the Million Dollar Theater’s Mariachi Aguila. In 1961, he became the group’s musical director, changed its name to Los Camperos, and led it to become the driving force of the mariachi tradition in the United States. The blending of old and new mariachi sounds is part of Cano’s musical and social agenda. His life goal has been to bring greater acceptance, understanding and respect to the mariachi tradition and reach the widest possible audience with this music.

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Cano received the National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellowship in 1990 as well as Mexico's coveted Sylvestre Vargas Award for artistic excellence. In 2006, Cano became one of the first artists to win a USA Fellowship from United States Artists.

MARIACHI LOS CAMPEROS DE NATI CANO

Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano has been performing its infectious brand of music for more than four decades. The band received national attention in 1989 when it collaborated on Linda Ronstadt's album, *Canciones de Mi Padre* (Songs of my Father). To promote the album, the group made national television appearances on programs, including *The Tonight Show* with Johnny Carson and the Grammy Awards Show. They later played on Linda Ronstadt's *Mas Canciones* (More Songs). Most recently on the big screen, five members of the group—Jesus “Chuy” Guzman (violin), Ismael Hernandez (violin), Javier Rodriguez (trumpet), Juan Jimenez (guitarron) and Nati Cano (vihuela)—performed *Que te Vas te Vas* and *Viva Mexico* in the film *Sex and the City*.

The ensemble has recorded nine albums of its own, including *Llegaron Los Camperos*, which was nominated for a 2006 Grammy in the category of Best Mexican/Mexican-American Album. Los Camperos also shared a 2005 Best Musical Album for Children Grammy for *cELLabration!, A tribute to Ella Jenkins*. In 2008, the group released their third CD with Smithsonian Folkways, entitled *Amor, Dolor y Lágrimas*.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano** on **Sunday, December 21** at **3:00 p.m.** in **Zellerbach Hall** are priced at **\$24.00, \$30.00** and **\$38.00**. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.org; 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.

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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 2008/09 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Sunday, December 21 at 3:00 p.m.

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

World Stage

Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano

Fiesta Navidad

Program: Nati Cano and his famed Mariachi Los Camperos—one of the finest mariachi bands in the world—celebrate Christmas with *Fiesta Navidad*.

Tickets: \$24.00, \$30.00 and \$38.00, available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988 to charge by phone; at www.calperformances.org; and at the door.
