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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS NPR'S
FROM THE TOP WITH HOST CHRISTOPHER O'RILEY,
FEATURING YOUNG BAY AREA MUSICIANS AND VOCALISTS**

FRIDAY, MARCH 2 IN ZELLERBACH HALL

Five musical acts to be featured in live radio show recording, including Gunn High School Concert Choir (Palo Alto) and Meraki Quartet (Crowden Music Center in Berkeley)

Berkeley, January 19, 2018 — Cal Performances presents *From the Top with Host Christopher O'Riley*, the popular NPR radio program showcasing America's brightest young classical musicians, in the live recording of a future broadcast on Friday, March 2, 2018 at 8pm 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 classical radio, as well as on more than 200 other stations nationwide. Each *From the Top* radio episode features five musical acts, comprised of young musicians with a high level of musical achievement who represent diversity of instruments, repertoire, geography, and life experience.

The performance in Berkeley will feature the **Gunn High School Concert Choir** from Palo Alto, comprised of 120 students ranging from grades nine to 12, directed by William Liberatore. The Gunn choir was selected as a finalist and garnered the most public votes out of a dozen total choirs in KDFC's Local Vocals High School Sing-off competition, winning this appearance on *From the Top*. Other local talent to be featured includes the **Meraki Quartet** of the Crowden Music Center in Berkeley, which features Sofia Matthews of Berkeley High School (15), violinist Jun Yong Liu of Oakland Technical High School (15), violist Anna Renton of Valley View Charter Prep in Albany (15), and cellist Isabelle Nichols of Berkeley High School (15). The program will also feature 17-year-old cellist **Woojin Nam** from San Ramon, a senior at Dougherty Valley High School and

student at the California Music Preparatory Academy; 17-year-old violinist **John Fawcett** from Bend, Oregon; and 17-year-old pianist **Abigail Arkley** from Bloomington, Minnesota.

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.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Friday, March 2, 8pm

Zellerbach Hall
Bancroft Way at Dana Street
UC Berkeley campus

Special Event

NPR’s *From the Top with Host Christopher O’Riley*

featuring

Gunn High School Concert Choir

William Liberatore, *director*

Meraki Quartet, Crowden Music Center

Sofia Matthews, *violin*

Jun Yong Liu, *violin*

Anna Renton, *viola*

Isabelle Nichols, *cello*

John Fawcett, *violin*

Woojin Nam, *cello*

Abigail Arkley, *piano*

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.

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.