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RELEASE

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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS “ReVISION,”
AN EVENING PERFORMANCE PROGRAM BY THE STUDENTS OF THE
2003 BERKELEY/OAKLAND AILEYCAMP,
THURSDAY, JULY 31 AT 7:00 P.M. IN ZELLERBACH HALL**

Students of The Tuition-Free Summer Arts Program Exhibit Their Work After Six-Weeks of Training In Multiple Dance Disciplines and Coursework on the UC Berkeley Campus

BERKELEY, July 11, 2003 – Last year’s performance by students of the inaugural **Berkeley/Oakland AileyCamp** filled Zellerbach Hall to overflowing; this year, 68 AileyCampers conclude their summer arts experience in an exuberant performance entitled **“ReVision,” Thursday, July 31 at 7:00 p.m. in Zellerbach Hall.** The nationally acclaimed youth program, conceived by **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater** and locally administrated by **Cal Performances**, marks its second summer on the UC Berkeley Campus. AileyCamp combines ballet, jazz, modern, and African dance instruction with personal development and creative communication classes and field trips for middle school students, ages 11-14, from the Berkeley and Oakland Unified School districts. The July 31st performance will showcase the students’ training in all of these areas. *Admission is free.* Admission tickets may be obtained in person at the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall on the UC Berkeley campus in advance and night of show.

PROGRAM

AileyCamp instructors **Vince Collins** (ballet), **Veronica C. Combs** (jazz), **Naomi Washington Diouf** (African dance), and **Derrick Minter** (modern) and have worked with the Berkeley/Oakland AileyCampers over a six-week period, most of whom have never before received any performing arts instruction. ‘ReVision’ will include dance performances by AileyCampers in each dance discipline, set to a combination of recorded and live music as performed by camp accompanists **Antonio Davidson-Gómez** (various ethnic instruments and percussion), **Roger Moseley** (piano), and

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Madiou Sao Diouf (African percussion). “ReVision” will also include representation of AileyCampers’ work in Personal Development, Creative Communications and Techniques of Performance courses (led by **Tina Banchemo**, **Michael Trainer** and **David McCauley**, respectively). Writing, poetry, photography, and studio artwork developed by the students during camp will be displayed in the Zellerbach Hall lobby before and after the performance.

AILEYCAMP

The Berkeley/Oakland AileyCamp at Cal Performances, now in its second season, is the first West Coast site of the highly respected program, which has operated successfully in New York, the Kansas Cities (Missouri & Kansas), Boston, Chicago and Bridgeport, Connecticut in previous years. Founded by Alvin Ailey and the Kansas City Friends of Alvin Ailey in 1989, AileyCamp uses dance as a vehicle for developing self-esteem, self-discipline, creative expression and critical thinking skills among underserved 6th-, 7th-, and 8th-grade students. The AileyCamp curriculum includes daily technique classes in ballet, Horton-based modern dance, jazz, and West African dance. Classes in Techniques of Performance and Creative Communications deepen the students’ awareness of their potential for self-expression; and Personal Development classes provide counseling in nutrition, conflict resolution, drug abuse prevention, decision-making and goal-setting.

AileyCamp is not a training ground for professional dancers. Following recruitment presentations in schools, individual applicants are interviewed by AileyCamp staffers and volunteer community leaders. All campers receive full tuition scholarships, breakfast and lunch, camp uniforms and dance clothing, and in many cases, transportation to and from their neighborhoods. The camp is supplemented with weekly educational and recreational field trips.

AileyCamp targets students with academic, social and domestic challenges—criteria that often determine a child’s risk of dropping out of school—but also welcomes students who have little opportunity to develop their artistic interests. An important aspect of the program’s success is in providing positive adult and peer role models for underserved youths. At the end of camp, students leave with valuable life skills and a sense of accomplishment before they enter the challenging high school years.

The Berkeley/Oakland AileyCamp at Cal Performances is held in Zellerbach Hall and adjacent buildings on the UC Berkeley campus, providing a positive experience in a university setting to encourage youths to consider pursuing higher education as a personal goal.

David McCauley returns as director of the Berkeley/Oakland AileyCamp at Cal Performances. Mr. McCauley began his dance training as a student at Wayne State University in Detroit, and later at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He trained in ballet, modern, jazz, and ethnic dance, and, in New York City, was part of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater foundation for 15 years as a student, instructor and performer. He has also performed with the Pearl Primus Dance Company and Omega Liturgical Dance Company. Since 1990, Mr. McCauley has been performing with Wing It! Performance Ensemble and Omega West Dance Company.

FUNDING AND SUPPORT

Major anchor funding for the Berkeley/Oakland AileyCamp at Cal Performances has been committed by the **William and Flora Hewlett Foundation** to ensure continuous operation of the program for the first three years. Additional support is provided by the **California Arts Council** and **The Zellerbach Family Fund**. **Wells Fargo** has taken a leadership role as the corporate sponsor of the Berkeley/Oakland AileyCamp at Cal Performances. Additional support has been provided by The Robert J. and Helen H. Glaser Family Foundation, Erika and Austin Hills, Karl's Fund for Kids at the East Bay Community Foundation, and Mrs. Miriam H. Lar Rieu.

The **Audience Development Committee** of Cal Performances' Board of Trustees and the **Alameda/Contra Costa Chapter of Links, Inc.** serve as community leaders and volunteers for recruitment, interviews and other general support of AileyCampers throughout the program.

CALENDAR EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

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CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Thursday, July 31 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Special Event

2003 Berkeley/Oakland AileyCamp Final Performance
“ReVision”

Program:

The students of the 2003 Berkeley/Oakland AileyCamp at Cal Performances exhibit their work in “Re-Vision,” the grand finale performance concluding six-weeks of training in multiple dance disciplines and coursework in Zellerbach Hall.

Tickets: *Admission is free.* Advance admission tickets are subject to availability and can be obtained at the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall. Limit four per person. Call (510) 642-9988 for ticket information.

