FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 21, 2011

## GRAMMY AWARD-WINNING STORYTELLER <u>DAVID HOLT</u> BRINGS SONGS & STORIES OF APPALACHIA TO WHEELER HALL SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 AT 11:30 A.M. AND 3:00 P.M.

This is the second offering in the new series First Stage for Families

BERKELEY, December 21, 2011—Four-time Grammy Award winner David Holt combines his skills as narrator, musician and historian into an all-age friendly performance of *Songs & Stories of Appalachia* on Sunday, February 12 at 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Part of the new series First Stages for Families, Holt will give two one-hour performances at Wheeler Hall where he will play a wide range of instruments, including banjo, slide guitar, guitar, harmonica, bones, spoons and jaw harp while spinning tales about the Appalachian Mountain regions. He has performed throughout the country and around world. "I would like to be remembered as a good musician and an honest performer who can entertain people with traditional music," Holt states. "And as someone who always encouraged others and really loved the old-timers."

**David Holt** is a native of Garland, Texas, but moved to the North Carolina mountain range after college to immerse himself in the folk culture and music of the area. As a musician, storyteller, historian, television host and entertainer, he is dedicated to performing and preserving traditional American music and stories. He plays ten acoustic instruments and has released numerous award winning recordings of traditional mountain music and southern folktales. Holt is also well known for his television and radio series. In 2002, Holt and Doc Watson won two Grammy Awards for Best Traditional Folk Recording for Legacy, a three CD collection of songs and stories reflecting Doc Watson's inspiring life story. He founded and directed the Appalachian Music Program at Warren Wilson College in Swannanoa, North Carolina. It is the only program of its kind in which students study, collect and learn traditional music and dance.

## TICKET SALE INFORMATION

Tickets for **David Holt**'s First Stage for Families performances on Sunday, February 12 at 11 a.m and 3:00 p.m. are priced at \$12.00 for children and \$24.00 for adults. 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 \$5.00 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.

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 thanks Wells Fargo, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Bank of America for major support of the 2011/12 Season.

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## **CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

## CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

Sun., Feb. 12 at 11:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.

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

First Stage for Families

Songs and Stories of Appalachia

David Holt, instrumentalist, singer and storyteller

**Program**: Grammy Award–winning instrumentalist, singer and storyteller David Holt brings his *Songs and Stories of Appalachia* for families to Cal Performances.

**Tickets:** \$12.00 for children and 24.00 for adults, 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.

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