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**CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS MASTER STORYTELLER
GARRISON KEILLOR WEDNESDAY MARCH 7 AT 8:00 P.M.
AT ZELLERBACH HALL**

BERKELEY, February 2, 2012—Renown writer, satirist and storyteller **Garrison Keillor** brings his unique perspective on American life to **Zellerbach Hall** on **Wednesday, March 7 at 8:00 P.M.** Keillor is best known as the host of the mega-hit radio program *A Prairie Home Companion* which draws over four million listeners weekly and is broadcast on more than 600 public radio stations. With a velvet smooth voice, Keillor hosts a variety show that features local music talent, radio dramas, poetry, jokes, political commentary and Keillor’s trademark take on life. As a writer he has authored over a dozen works including his latest book *Life Among the Lutherans* (2009), set in Lake Wobegon, a fictional small town full of Minnesota idiosyncrasies where “all the women are strong, all the men are good looking, and all the children are above average.”

Native to Anoka, Minnesota, Keillor began his radio career as a freshman at the University of Minnesota, from which he graduated with an English major in 1966. He went to work for Minnesota Public Radio in 1969, and on July 6, 1974 hosted the first broadcast of *A Prairie Home Companion* in St. Paul. The show ended in 1987 but resumed two years later in New York under a different name, *The American Radio Company*. Keillor returned to Minnesota in 1993 where the program resumed using its original name.

In addition to elaborating on Lake Wobegon tales in novel form, Garrison Keillor is a frequent contributor to newspapers and magazines throughout the United States and abroad. He has written for a variety of publications including *The New Yorker*, the *Atlantic Monthly* and Salon.com. A feature film based on Keillor’s radio program was produced in 2006 and featured bevy of Hollywood A list actors; Keillor wrote the screenplay.

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Keillor has received numerous awards, including a Grammy Award for his recording of *Lake Wobegon Days*. In 1994, he was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame at Chicago's Museum of Broadcast Communications. 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 was presented with a National Humanities Medal by the National Endowment for the Humanities. In 2007, Keillor won the John Steinbeck Award and was also awarded the first Art of Raconteur title from the Moth Award for humorous anecdotes. In 2010, he won the National Magazine Award for his article in the National Geographic on state fairs.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for **An Evening with Garrison Keillor on Wednesday, March 7** in Zellerbach Hall range from **\$20.00-\$70.00** and are subject to change. Tickets are available through the Cal Performances Ticket Office at Zellerbach Hall; at (510) 642-9988; 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 select performances, Cal Performances offers UCB student, faculty and staff, senior, and community rush tickets. Rush tickets are announced three hours prior to a performance on Cal Performances' Facebook page and at 510-642-9988 and are available in person only at the Ticket Office beginning one hour before the performance; one ticket per person; all sales are cash only. For more information, call Cal Performances at (510) 642-9988 or visit www.calperformances.org.

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Cal Performances thanks Wells Fargo, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Bank of America for their major support of the Season.

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CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:

CAL PERFORMANCES PRESENTS

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Wednesday, March 7 at 8:00 p.m.

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

Strictly Speaking

Garrison Keillor, storyteller, writer and satirist

Program: An American original, *A Prairie Home Companion* host Garrison Keillor returns for an evening of his trademark humor.

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