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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BERKELEY REP ELECTS NEW BOARD OFFICERS FOR ITS 40TH BIRTHDAY

JULY 19, 2007 – As part of the festivities around its 40th birthday, Berkeley Repertory Theatre announced new officers who will lead the Tony Award-winning theatre's board of directors during the 2007/08 Season. These volunteers are prominent local business leaders, philanthropists, and community activists who bring extensive experience to the table as Berkeley Rep begins a milestone year filled with important works: a world premiere from **Danny Hoch**, an American premiere from **Will Eno**, West Coast premieres from **Mary Zimmerman** and Theatre de la Jeune Lune, a new play combining the talents of **Frank Galati** and **Haruki Murakami**, a classic comedy directed by **Les Waters**, and a solo show starring Hollywood legend **Carrie Fisher**.

"We are delighted to have such a talented team of trustees drawn from a diversity of industries who are willing to donate their time and their expertise to Berkeley Rep," says **Susan Medak**, the Theatre's managing director. "As we celebrate our 40th birthday, we recognize that our growth from a storefront theatre to a national leader in our field has depended on the generous and diligent service of passionate people in our community. We are truly grateful for the service of these board members and all of those who have devoted their time to Berkeley Rep."

The new officers, elected to one-year terms, are as follows:

- **President: Richard Rubin** is president of Richard A. Rubin Associates, a San Francisco consulting firm that specializes in public affairs management and business development. A lawyer by training, Mr. Rubin has extensive experience with the federal government and on Capitol Hill. He has taught at both Golden Gate University and the School of Business at UC Berkeley Extension, and is now a visiting professor at the University of San Francisco's Fromm Institute. He was appointed to the California Workforce Investment Board by Governor Schwarzenegger and also serves as a trustee of Kenyon College. Mr. Rubin has five daughters and lives in Marin with his wife, Marcia Smolens.
- **Vice President: Ken Avery** is a regional managing partner at Deloitte Financial Advisory Services LLP in San Francisco. He specializes in resolving complex accounting disputes, providing expert testimony, and performing forensic investigations, primarily in the technology and consumer-business industries. Mr. Avery enjoys sports, wine, and old cars. He and his wife, Joni, live in Lafayette with their three children.
- **Vice President: Patricia Sakai** is a learning and organizational development consultant. She has worked at various Fortune 1000 companies in the Bay Area, leading corporate teams focused on leadership development, organizational effectiveness, and change management. She also served on the board of The Management Center of Northern California and performs with the San Francisco Choral Society. Her husband, Richard Shapiro, is a partner with Thelen Reid Brown Raysman and Steiner LLP. They have two sons, and reside in Berkeley.
- **Vice President: Felicia Woytak** is a real estate investor and developer who serves as managing director of the 65th Street Development Company. She strongly believes that making high-quality theatre available to the public is an important component of a vibrant community, and is particularly enthusiastic about Berkeley Rep's outreach efforts in local

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1997 tony award for outstanding regional theatre / a nonprofit corporation since 1968

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schools and the juvenile justice system. Ms. Woytak also serves on the board of Restore Hetch Hetchy and resides in Berkeley with her husband, Steven Rasmussen, who is a mathematics publisher. A native of the East Coast, she enjoys visiting her two children who now live there.

- **Treasurer: Philip Trapp** is vice president for business development at Emeryville's Ravenflow and the former CEO of TRW Financial Systems. He has also served as the president of two early-stage investor-backed companies. Mr. Trapp earned a bachelor's degree in English Literature from UCLA and graduated from the Stanford Executive Program. His interests include bicycling, music, and theatre for children – which ties in nicely with his highest priority, his grandchildren. He lives in Danville with his wife, Melody.
- **Secretary: Marjorie Randolph** is the senior vice president of human resources and administration for Walt Disney Studios. She is a member of the California Bar and former president of California Women Lawyers. She serves on the National Advisory Panel of the Institute for Research on Women and Gender at Stanford University, and is also a board member of the Western Justice Center Foundation and California Trout, an environmental organization. Ms. Randolph currently resides in Los Angeles, but still considers Berkeley her home.
- **Chair of the Trustees Committee: Dr. Dale Rogers Marshall** is the retired president of Wheaton College in Massachusetts and former professor of political science at UC Davis. She has published widely on urban politics, including co-authoring the third edition of *Racial Politics in American Cities*. Ms. Marshall earned her BA at Cornell University, her MA from UC Berkeley, and her PhD from UCLA – and last year, she was a Fulbright Scholar in Russia. She also serves on the board of Ed Fund and the Center for Civic Education. She and her husband Donald live in Piedmont and have three grown children.

These officers lead a team that totals **35 trustees**, including the following influential local leaders:

- **Becky Bleich**, community leader
- **David Cox**, former president and CEO of Cowles Media Company
- **Thalia Dorwick**, an author and editor retired from McGraw-Hill Higher Education
- **William T. Espey**, managing director of First Republic Wealth Advisors
- **William Falik**, managing partner of Westpark Community Builders
- **John Field**, retired chairman of Field Paoli Architects
- **David Fleishhacker**, president of the Fleishhacker Foundation
- **Kerry L. Francis**, partner at Deloitte Financial Advisory Services LLP
- **Scott R. Haber**, corporate partner at Latham & Watkins LLP
- **Dr. David Hoffman** of the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute at Stanford University
- **Richard F. Hoskins**, managing partner of Genstar Capital LP
- **Wayne Jordan**, president of Jordan Real Estate Investments
- **Carole S. Krumland**, community leader
- **Nashormeh N.R. Lindo**, visual artist and independent museum consultant
- **Sarah McArthur**, consultant to Pixar Animation Studios
- **Sandra McCandless**, partner at Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal

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- **Helen Meyer**, executive vice president of Meyer Sound
- **Dugan Moore**, private investor
- **Patrick O’Dea**, president and CEO of Peet’s Coffee & Tea
- **Laura Onopchenko**, managing director of Techfarm Ventures
- **Mary Ann Peoples**, president of the Boyd Family Foundation
- **Peter Pervere**, retired financial officer for Sybase and Commerce One
- **Pat Rougeau**, entrepreneur
- **Jack Schafer**, president of Jack Schafer Associates
- **Stephen Snow**, entrepreneur
- **Jean Z. Strunsky**, vice president of the Ira and Leonore Gershwin Trusts

Two Berkeley Rep staff members also serve on the board: Ms. Medak and Artistic Director **Tony Taccone**.

Born in a storefront on College Avenue, **Berkeley Rep** has moved to the forefront of American theatre – and is still telling unforgettable stories. Founded in 1968 by Michael Leibert, the Theatre quickly earned respect for presenting the finest plays with top-flight actors. In 1980, with the support of the local community, Berkeley Rep built the 400-seat Thrust Stage where its reputation steadily grew over the next two decades. It gained renown for an adventurous combination of work, presenting important new dramatic voices alongside refreshing adaptations of seldom-seen classics. In recognition of its place on the national stage, Berkeley Rep was honored with the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre in 1997. The company celebrated by unveiling a new 600-seat proscenium stage in 2001, the state-of-the-art Roda Theatre. It also opened the Berkeley Rep School of Theatre, the permanent home for a 22-year tradition of outreach and education programs. The addition of these two buildings transformed a single stage into a vital and versatile performing arts complex, the linchpin of a bustling Downtown Arts District which has helped revitalize Berkeley. **In four decades, nearly four million people have enjoyed 300 shows at Berkeley Rep**, including more than 40 world premieres. The Theatre now welcomes an annual audience of 180,000, serves 20,000 students, and hosts dozens of community groups, thanks to 1,000 volunteers and more than 400 artists, artisans, and administrators. In the last year, four shows seen at Berkeley Rep have gone on to New York: *Bridge & Tunnel*, *Brundibar*, *Eurydice*, and *Passing Strange*.

Now a series of gifted guests arrives with amazing stage presents for the Theatre’s 40th birthday! **Berkeley Rep’s 2007/08 Season** includes seven spectacular shows: *Heartbreak House*, the comedic masterpiece from Nobel Prize-winning author George Bernard Shaw staged by Associate Artistic Director Les Waters; *after the quake*, a bittersweet tale that measures love on the Richter scale, created by celebrated author Haruki Murakami and Tony Award-winning director Frank Galati; the West Coast premiere of *Argonautika*, an exhilarating adventure with Jason and the Argonauts staged by Tony Award-winner Mary Zimmerman; the **world premiere** of a spellbinding solo show from Obie Award-winner Danny Hoch, directed by Mr. Taccone; *Wishful Drinking*, the hilarious new show written and performed by Hollywood legend Carrie Fisher, also directed by Mr. Taccone; the American premiere of Will Eno’s satirical **TRAGEDY: a tragedy**, staged by Mr. Waters; and the West Coast premiere of Theatre de la Jeune Lune’s magical *Figaro*, directed by Dominique Serrand.

For more information, call the box office at 510.647.2949 or toll-free at 1.888.4.BRT.Tix – or simply click berkeleyrep.org.

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