

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BERKELEY CULTURAL TRUST QUIZZES LOCAL CANDIDATES AT FREE FORUM
Public is invited to hear each candidate articulate a vision for future of the arts in Berkeley

WHO: Berkeley Cultural Trust
WHAT: Berkeley Candidates Forum on the Arts
WHERE: Berkeley Rep's Thrust Stage
2025 Addison Street @ Shattuck, Berkeley, CA 94704
WHEN: Wednesday, October 22 @ 12:30 pm
HOW MUCH: Free and open to the public

OCTOBER 20, 2008 – Berkeley audiences may often notice the influence of politics in this town's theatre, dance, and music, but rarely does politics take center stage as it will at the Berkeley Cultural Trust's Candidates Forum on Wednesday, October 22. Everyone is welcome at this free event to hear each candidate answer questions on arts-related issues and articulate a vision for the future of the arts in the community. The program will be held at 12:30 PM on the Thrust Stage at Berkeley Repertory Theatre, which is located at 2025 Addison Street in downtown Berkeley.

"The arts make up a crucial but fragile part of the economic ecology of downtown Berkeley," said Susan Medak, Berkeley Rep's managing director and co-founder of the Berkeley Cultural Trust. "Our neighbors and patrons deserve to hear how these candidates will foster artistic growth in our community."

All candidates for mayor and for City Council have been invited to speak. Appearances are expected from incumbent Mayor Tom Bates and three other mayoral candidates: Shirley Dean, Kahlil Jacobs-Fantauzzi, and Zachary RunningWolf. The following City Council hopefuls are also expected to attend: John Kranter and Darryl Moore from District 2; Aisha Dodsworth, Terry Doran, and L.A. Wood from District 4; Sophie Hahn from District 5; and Phoebe Ann Sorgen and Susan Wengraf from District 6.

The Berkeley Cultural Trust is a consortium of individuals representing cultural organizations within the city of Berkeley. Its purpose is to advocate for policies and actions that contribute to the well-being of the artists and cultural organizations that are so important to the unique intellectual and spiritual life of the community. The Trust works cooperatively with and as an advisory body to the Berkeley Arts Commission and in conjunction with the Berkeley Civic Arts Program.

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