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**EMMY AWARD WINNER AND *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR
W. KAMAU BELL RETURNS TO BERKELEY REPERTORY THEATRE FOR LIMITED
ENGAGEMENT**

In *W. Kamau Bell Gets His Act Together*, Bell will experiment with new material, comment on the day's news, and share new stories about his life and family all in front of an intimate audience

**Berkeley Rep's Bakery Studio at Berkeley Rep School of Theatre
August 24 – October 12, 2024**

BERKELEY, CA (August 8, 2024)— Following a previously sold-out run, Emmy Award winner and New York Times bestselling author **W. Kamau Bell** will return to **Berkeley Repertory Theatre** for a limited engagement. On Saturdays from **August 24—October 12, 2024**, Bell will take the stage at Berkeley Rep's intimate School of Theatre Bakery Studio at Berkeley Rep School of Theatre (2071 Addison St., Berkeley) to experiment with new material, discuss current events, and share fresh stories about his life and family—all while trying not to stress about the upcoming election. Performances will take place at 4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. Tickets for ***W. Kamau Bell Gets His Act Together*** are \$30 and available now only to Berkeley Rep subscribers. Tickets are limited and can be purchased online at berkeleyrep.org or by phone at 510-647-2949 (Tue–Sun, 12–7 p.m.).

While he's most recently been recognized as the host of CNN's Emmy-winning show *United Shades of America* and a Peabody Award-winning director for his docuseries, *We Need to Talk About Cosby*, Bell has always considered himself a stand-up comedian at heart.

In *W. Kamau Bell Gets His Act Together*, audiences are invited to be part of building the next era of Kamau's comedic journey. The goal is for Kamau to craft a new hour-long set to tour across the country, and the hope is that America's democracy survives into 2025.

W. Kamau Bell is a stand-up comedian, director, producer, husband, and dad. For seven seasons, he was the host and executive producer of the five-time Emmy Award-winning CNN docu-series *United Shades of America*. Bell won a Peabody Award for his Showtime docu-series *We Need To Talk About Cosby*. He is also the co-author of the New York Times bestselling book *Do The Work: An Antiracist Activity Book*. His first book was his memoir with the easy-to-remember title: *The Awkward Thoughts of W. Kamau Bell: Tales of a 6' 4", African American, Heterosexual Cisgender, Left-Leaning, Asthmatic, Black and Proud Blerd, Mama's Boy, Dad, and Stand-Up Comedian*. Recently, Bell directed and produced the Emmy Award winning HBO documentary *1000% Me: Growing Up Mixed*. As a stand-up comic, Bell has recorded two comedy specials. The second one, *Private School Negro*, is available on Netflix. Bell is on the board of directors for DonorsChoose—a nonprofit that helps teachers raise money for class projects, and Live Free—a nonprofit dedicated to ending gun violence, mass incarceration, and mass

criminalization. Bell is also the ACLU's Celebrity Ambassador for Racial Justice.

Berkeley Rep recognizes the generous support of **BART** and **Peet's Coffee**, Berkeley Rep's official season sponsors. Berkeley Rep is also delighted to recognize the support at the season sponsor level from **Stephen & Susan Chamberlin, Yogen & Peggy Dalal, Bruce Golden & Michelle Mercer, Frances Hellman & Warren Breslau, Wayne Jordan & Quinn Delaney, Jonathan Logan & John Piane, Gisele & Kenneth F. Miller, Jack & Betty Schafer, The Strauch Kulhanjian Family, Kelli & Steffan Tomlinson, and Gail & Arne Wagner.**

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ABOUT BERKELEY REP

Berkeley Repertory Theatre has grown from a storefront stage to an international leader in innovative theatre. Known for its ambition, relevance, and excellence, as well as its adventurous audience, the nonprofit has provided a welcoming home for emerging and established artists since 1968. Over 6 million people have enjoyed more than 500 shows at Berkeley Rep, including 85 world premieres. Berkeley Rep shows have gone on to win 8 Tony Awards, 9 Obie Awards, 11 Drama Desk Awards, 1 Grammy Award, 1 Pulitzer Prize, and many other honors. In recognition of its place on the national stage, Berkeley Rep received the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre in 1997. Through its annual seven-play season, together with up to four special event presentations, Berkeley Rep invites audiences to enjoy an eclectic range of theatrical experiences featuring diverse artistic voices, themes, and perspectives. To formalize, enhance, and expand the processes by which Berkeley Rep makes theatre, The Ground Floor: Berkeley Rep's Center for the Creation and Development of New Work was launched in 2012. Serving some 20,000 people a year, Berkeley Rep's School of Theatre ensures broad access to dynamic arts educational activities, especially for Bay Area youth, and provides immersive training for current and future theatre makers. In 2021, Berkeley Rep launched In Dialogue, a program that places its theatre-making skills and resources in service of the community. Using storytelling as an anchor, In Dialogue is developing long-term collaborations with local, socially centered organizations, as well as educating and activating our audiences around organizations whose work aligns with the themes of our productions. Berkeley Rep's bustling facilities—which include the 600-seat Roda Theatre, 400-seat Peet's Theatre, Medak Center, and a spacious campus in West Berkeley—are helping revitalize a renowned city. Learn more at berkeleyrep.org.