

the 2009/2010 season



Music Theatre  
For All Ages



Dear friends,

I'm thrilled to invite you to our second full season of Berkeley Playhouse productions in 2009-2010.

Our Professional Company offers three of the greatest shows of all time. These classic musicals which have been cinematic successes too, remind us why we love and keep coming back to experience live theatre. If you've attended any of our recent performances, you know that we take seriously the three characteristics we require of all Berkeley Playhouse shows...

**They must be intelligent, relevant and soul-stirring!**

We strive to make every piece we produce fresh and inventive—even timeless classics like the ones we share with you in 2009-2010: *The Wizard of Oz*, *Singin' In the Rain* and *Oliver!*

Our acclaimed Youth Company brings to the stage two more classic stories by modern composers. Our interpretations of *Godspell* and Disney's *Aladdin* will showcase our signature "ensemble" approach to training and performing. Last Winter's production of *Willy Wonka* proved our firm belief that young performers have the ability to command their own audiences.

I hope you and your whole family will join us for a season of unforgettable music theatre in the heart of Berkeley!

Sincerely,  
*Elizabeth McKoy, Artistic Director*





# the Wizard of Oz

we're off to see the wizard

**November 13 - December 6, 2009**

Follow the yellow brick road to our new venue, the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, for the inaugural show of our 2009-2010 season. Join Dorothy and Toto and their friends on a wild and wonderful adventure over the rainbow and through the Land of Oz. Award-winning director Jon Tracy directs this enchanting classic!

Directed by **Jon Tracy**

Music Direction by **Phil Gorman**

Adapted by **John Kane**

Music & Lyrics of the MGM Motion Pictures Score

by **Harold Arlen & E. Y. Harburg**

Background Music by **Herbert Stothart**

An RSC Version

professional company

# Singin' in the Rain



## what a glorious feelin'

**March 6 - March 21, 2010**

Considered by many to be the gold standard in movie musicals, Berkeley Playhouse makes a splash with an exciting stage adaptation. Set in a time when silent movies are being replaced by "talkies," *Singin' In the Rain* is an exuberant celebration of life and love—a story that leaves you feeling like anything is possible.

Directed by **Matthew Graham Smith**

Music Direction by **Phil Gorman**

Based on the MGM film (1952)

Screenplay & Adaptation by **Betty Comden**  
& **Adolph Green**

Music by **Nacio Herb Brown**

Lyrics by **Arthur Freed**

# Oliver!



it's a fine, fine life

April 23 - May 16, 2010

One of the most beloved musicals of all times, Oliver! brings Dickens' timeless characters to life. Follow Oliver Twist's adventures from an orphanage to a master thief's hideout to a London mansion in this triumphant tale. With show-stopping songs like "Food, Glorious Food!" and "Consider Yourself," Oliver! is a music theatre treasure for the whole family.

Directed by **Molly Aaronson-Gelb**  
Music Direction by **Phil Gorman**  
Based on Oliver Twist by **Charles Dickens**  
Music & Lyrics by **Lionel Bart**

professional company

Disney's  
**Aladdin Jr.**



**January 16 & 17, 2010**

In the deserts of Morocco, a tussle for a magic lamp ends up being a struggle for power and a contest of good versus evil. This exciting tale is directed by Kimberly Dooley, and will feature our Junior Ensemble. It is a preview of our summer 2010 professional production of an exciting new stage adaptation of Disney's Aladdin.

# GODSPELL

**February 12-14, 2010**

This dynamic 1970's rock opera based on the Gospel of Matthew sparkles with original music, and inspires the heart with lessons common to many faith traditions. The experience of *Godspell* is as much a story of love as it is a telling of the Scriptures. Directed by Elizabeth McKoy, featuring our Teen Ensemble.

youth company



# subscribe and save

Join our growing family of Berkeley Playhouse fans and supporters, and save money! A season subscription gets you:

**Early Booking & Seat Selection Privilege**—Early subscribers (thru late-August) get first choice at preferred seating in our new home at the Julia Morgan Stage - reserve your seats before we sell tickets to the general public!

**Complete Control of your Reservations**—Our new **flex subscriptions** give you control of your reservations. Choose your dates when you feel like it, make your own bookings and exchanges all through your private account with our new online box office.

**Optional Parking Accommodations**—Subscribers can choose a convenient discounted parking option by taking advantage of a special deal we have with a parking garage close to the theatre.

**Exclusive Invitations to Special Theatre Events**—go behind-the-scenes, see theatre unplugged; talk to the directors and actors. Subscribers get special invitations to each professional production in the season.

**A Passport to Savings - Elmwood/Rockridge**—Subscribers receive discounts at local merchants, including some of the best Elmwood Village and Rockridge shops and eateries.

## 2 packages to choose from

With our flexible subscriptions, children and adults save at least \$15 per person over the season - not to mention the additional savings from added subscriber perks!

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### 1. TRI-PACK FLEX SUBSCRIPTION:

Adult \$75 / Child \$50

(all 3 Professional Company shows)

W<sup>the</sup>izard of Oz

Singin'  
in  
the  
Rain

Oliver!

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### 2. FUN-PACK FLEX SUBSCRIPTION:

Adult \$105 / Child \$70

(all 3 Professional Company shows plus both Youth Company shows)

W<sup>the</sup>izard of Oz

Singin'  
in  
the  
Rain

Oliver!

Disney's  
Aladdin JR.

GODSPELL

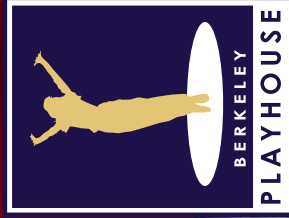
To order use the enclosed envelope, or visit us online at [berkeleyplayhouse.org](http://berkeleyplayhouse.org).

Save the Date!  
December 22, 2009

# It's a Wonderful Life

A Live Radio Play for the Holidays.  
A performance and fundraising event for our need-based scholarship fund and outreach programs. This performance includes a multicultural family sing-along, delicious holiday goodies, and a silent auction – all centered around one of the most beloved stories of all time.

Starring friends of Berkeley Playhouse  
Directed by **Marissa Wolf**  
*Subscribers get a \$10 discount!*



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