

News Release

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BAMPFA, Berkeley Rep and DBA to Host Outdoor Screenings for Two Remaining Presidential Debates

Free and Open to the Public on October 9 & 19

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 3, 2016 (Berkeley, CA) – Following a hugely successful screening of the first presidential debate in downtown Berkeley on September 26, UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAMPFA), Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Downtown Berkeley Association (DBA), UC Berkeley, and the City of Berkeley announced today that they will again team up to present public broadcasts of the remaining two presidential debates on BAMPFA's outdoor screen. These events are enthusiastically endorsed by the UC Berkeley administration and Berkeley City government.

These free outdoor events will be held on **Sunday, October 9** and **Wednesday, October 19**, **6–7:30 pm** and shown on BAMPFA's jumbo outdoor screen at the corner of Addison and Oxford Streets.

Members of the public are invited to bring their own seating and refreshments (no alcohol is permitted). This event will take place rain or shine. Use of public transportation is encouraged, as the following streets will be closed: Addison Street between Shattuck and Oxford Streets, and the southbound lanes of Oxford Street, between University Avenue and Center Street.

According to **Mayor Tom Bates**, "The City is delighted to support this civic enterprise bringing citizens to downtown Berkeley to share together these presidential debates that are vital to our democratic process. Activating our public spaces is a key element of the Downtown Area Plan."

"We conceived the new BAMPFA as a town square for Berkeley and are pleased to be able to bring this important civic activity to life on the very walls of the museum," stated **Lawrence Rinder**, director of BAMPFA.

"The importance of political engagement is a central message in the play now on our stage, *It Can't Happen Here*, based on the 1935 novel by Sinclair Lewis," explained Berkeley Rep Managing Director **Susan Medak**. "Partnering with BAMPFA and DBA to engage our community off the stage, is exactly what Lewis – and we – believe to be essential to our democracy."

Adds **John Caner**, president of DBA, "We are so pleased to bring together these major arts institutions as partners in promoting the vibrancy of Downtown Berkeley. And it is wonderful to see so many folks from the Berkeley community coming together in the heart of Downtown and enjoying this new public space."

ABOUT BERKELEY REP

Berkeley Repertory Theatre has grown from a storefront stage to an international leader in innovative theatre. Known for its core values of imagination and excellence, as well as its educated and adventurous audience, the nonprofit has provided a welcoming home for emerging and established artists since 1968. In four decades, four million people have enjoyed nearly 400 shows at Berkeley Rep. These shows have gone on to win five Tony Awards, seven Obie Awards, nine Drama Desk Awards, one Grammy Award, 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. Its bustling facilities – which include the 400-seat Peet's Theatre, the 600-seat Roda Theatre, the Berkeley Rep School of Theatre, the Osher Studio, and a spacious new campus in West Berkeley – are helping revitalize a renowned city. Learn more at berkeleyrep.org.

ABOUT UC BERKELEY ART MUSEUM AND PACIFIC FILM ARCHIVE

Internationally recognized for its art and film programming, the UC Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive (BAMPFA) is a platform for cultural experiences that transform individuals, engage communities, and advance the local, national, and global discourse on art and film. Founded in 1963, BAMPFA is UC Berkeley's primary visual arts venue with screenings of some four hundred and fifty films and presentations of up to twenty exhibitions annually. BAMPFA's mission is to inspire the imagination and ignite critical dialogue through art and film. BAMPFA's collection of over 19,000 works of art dates from 3000 BCE to the present day and also includes over 17,500 films and videos. Learn more at bampfa.org.

ABOUT DOWNTOWN BERKELEY ASSOCIATION

Downtown Berkeley Association is a nonprofit membership organization and the Owner's Association for Downtown Berkeley's Property-Based Business Improvement District (PBID), representing 187 property owners and approximately 680 of their merchant and business tenants in a 24-block area of Downtown Berkeley. Our mission is to create and sustain welcoming, vibrant and prosperous city center. For more information please visit downtownberkeley.com.