



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DOWNTOWN BERKELEY ASSOCIATION CELEBRATES THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE BERKELEY SYMPHONY AND LOCAL ARTS ORGANIZATIONS WITH THE FRONT ROW FESTIVAL**

**(Berkeley, CA) — On Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> from 11am – 6pm** The Downtown Berkeley Association will be hosting [The Front Row Festival](#) celebrating the arts and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Berkeley Symphony in Downtown Berkeley. The event will be held at the Downtown Berkeley BART Plaza as well as closed lanes of Shattuck Ave between Allston Way and Center Street in Downtown Berkeley.

The [Front Row Festival](#) is an extraordinary celebration of the arts organizations located in and around Downtown Berkeley. The event will feature a performance by the [Berkeley Symphony](#) celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary along with members of the [Young People's Symphony Orchestra](#) celebrating their 85<sup>th</sup> season, the [The Berkeley High School Band and Orchestra](#) and [The Young Musicians Choral Orchestra](#).

Other performances will take place throughout the day in the Plaza hosted by [The Freight & Salvage](#), [The Marsh](#), [The Berkeley Rep](#), [The Back Room](#), [California Jazz Conservatory](#), and [The UC Theatre](#).

The booth village will feature over a dozen arts organizations including [The Aurora Theatre](#), [The Berkeley Art Museum](#), [The Shotgun Players](#) and more!

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| • 10:45          | <b>Event Starts</b> with MC Sam Rudin Announcements                     |
| • 11:00 – 11:45  | <b>The Marsh:</b> <i>Darby Gould and the Craig &amp; MacGregor Band</i> |
| • 12pm – 12:45pm | <b>Freight &amp; Salvage:</b> <i>Terrence Brewer</i>                    |
| • 1pm – 1:45pm   | <b>The UC Theatre:</b> <i>Variety Spoken Word and Music</i>             |
| • 2pm – 2:45pm   | <b>CA Jazz Conservatory:</b> <i>Jazz Ensemble</i>                       |
| • 3pm – 3:45pm   | <b>The Back Room:</b> <i>Sam Rudin and John Schott</i>                  |
| • 4pm – 4:30pm   | <b>The Berkeley Rep:</b> <i>Cast from Octet</i>                         |
| • 4:45 – 5:00pm  | <b>Elected Officials Speakers</b>                                       |
| • 5pm – 6:00pm   | <b>Berkeley Symphony</b> with members from YPSO, BHSBO, YMCO            |

*"We couldn't think of a better addition to our 50<sup>th</sup> year celebration than a massive free concert right in the heart of Downtown Berkeley. See you there!"* Joseph Young, Music Director, Berkeley Symphony

*"We are so excited to be able to celebrate our incredible arts community here in Downtown! We expect that the Front Row Festival will become a much-loved annual event showcasing the incredible talent and artistic diversity found right here in our amazing City!"* John Caner, CEO, DBA

**The Downtown Berkeley Association (DBA) is an independent nonprofit organization, funded by Downtown Property Owners and other sources, focused on creating a welcoming, vibrant, and prosperous City Center.**