



Music Director Joseph Young
Artistic Director René Mandel
Executive Director Kate Kammeyer
1919 Addison Street Suite 201, Berkeley, CA 94704

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

PRESS CONTACT: Julie Richter | julie@julierichter.co | 480.818.8022

BERKELEY SYMPHONY RECEIVES \$1.5 MILLION GIFT FROM GORDON GETTY

This generous gift will support Berkeley Symphony's future growth as it heads into its 52nd season with innovation and resilience

BERKELEY, CA (June 21, 2023) —Berkeley Symphony announced today that it has received a \$1.5 million gift from Gordon Getty. The transformative donation will support Berkeley Symphony in its future growth as it heads into its 52nd season under the leadership of Music Director Joseph Young and Executive Director Kate Kammeyer. It will enable Berkeley Symphony to further pursue innovation in its programming and education programs, while extending its impact beyond the East Bay and the greater San Francisco Bay Area.

"We are profoundly grateful to Gordon Getty for his extremely generous gift and for his unwavering support and friendship to Berkeley Symphony," says **René Mandel, Artistic Director of Berkeley Symphony**. "Berkeley Symphony is a champion of music from all eras, and has been a trendsetter of new works by living composers since its inception. This gift enables us to continue this tradition through diverse programming and the growth of our educational programs. Our entire community deeply appreciates Gordon Getty's largesse and we cannot thank him enough."

"This extraordinary gift has filled our hearts with immense gratitude and renewed determination. With this support, we will continue to thrive, unlocking new opportunities and creating a brighter future for the Symphony. Thank you, Gordon Getty, for your unwavering belief in our potential and for empowering us to make a lasting impact on the Bay Area," says **Joseph Young, Music Director of Berkeley Symphony**.

“We are incredibly humbled by Gordan Getty’s continued belief in and support of the Berkeley Symphony as a strong, vibrant, accessible arts and cultural organization,” adds **Kate Kammeyer, Executive Director of Berkeley Symphony**. “This gift gives the Symphony the flexibility to be creative, adaptable, and responsive in the moment to the demands of our ever-evolving world and our community’s well-being. Mr. Getty’s support will allow us to continue our exciting, innovative, and inclusive programming, bringing a wide variety of audiences together from across the Bay Area and beyond.”

ABOUT BERKELEY SYMPHONY

Berkeley Symphony is unique among Bay Area and American orchestras for its commitment to innovation, community, and excellence. Founded in 1971 in the intellectual and artistic nexus of Berkeley, California, the Orchestra is committed to performing, premiering, and commissioning new music that reflects the culturally diverse people and the heady creative climate of its home city.

In the 2019-2020 season, Berkeley Symphony entered a new era under the leadership of Joseph Young, the Orchestra’s fourth Music Director in its 50-year history, following a highly successful February 2019 debut that was acclaimed by critics and audiences alike. In addition to building on the Orchestra’s artistic innovation, creativity and adventurous programming, Maestro Young is committed to amplifying the voices of underrepresented composers and artists as well as continuing to tell diverse stories that reflect the local Berkeley community.

###