

## Garrison Keillor to bring prairie to UCSB

► 'Lake Wobegon Days' creator to tell stories Feb. 28 in Santa Barbara

STAFF REPORT

SANTA BARBARA — UCSB Arts & Lectures presents "An Evening with Garrison Keillor," the best-selling author and the creator of "A Prairie Home Companion," at the Arlington Theatre.

Keillor will regale the crowd with his

wit, stories, songs and other surprises Monday, Feb. 28 at 8 p.m. at the Arlington Theatre, 1317 State Street, Santa Barbara.

Each week more than 2.6 million listeners tune in to Keillor's "A Prairie Home Companion" on more than 450 public radio stations.

Keillor has won many awards including a Grammy for his recording of "Lake Wobegon Days," two Cable Ace Awards and a Peabody Award. He was inducted into the Radio Hall of Fame at Chicago's Museum of Broadcast Communications in 1994.

Keillor is the author of 15 books that

have sold over 5 million copies in the U.S., including The New York Times bestsellers "Wobegon Boy," "Lake Wobegon Days" and "Leaving Home."

His two most recent publications are "Love Me" and "Homegrown Democrat: A Few Plain Thoughts from the Heart of America."

"Love Me," his first non-Wobegon book of fiction since 1993's "The Book of Guys," charts the rise and fall of an ambitious author.

"Homegrown Democrat" was Keillor's contribution to 2004's political discussion,

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## KEILLOR:

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a love letter to liberalism, John F. Kennedy, the University of Minnesota and the yellow-dog Democrat city of St. Paul.

Born and raised in Minnesota,

Keillor began his radio variety show "A Prairie Home Companion" in 1974 after writing a piece on the Grand Ole Opry for The New Yorker. The show brings together skits about the mythical town of Lake Wobegon — "where the women are strong, the men are good-looking, and all the children are above average" — with ads for quirky imaginary products (The Ketchup Advisory Board) and with musicians (Chet Atkins) often not heard elsewhere on the radio.

Keillor and the show took a sabbatical in 1987, but in 1989 he returned to the airwaves with the "American Radio Company of the Air," broadcast from New York City.

Finally in 1992, Keillor and "A Prairie Home Companion" returned to St. Paul, Minn., from where the show still originates. (For more information on "A Prairie Home Companion," visit its Web site at <http://phc.mpr.org>.)

His writing has appeared in numerous publications, including National Geographic, Time and The New Yorker. From 1999-2001 he wrote a weekly advice column, "Mr. Blue," for Salon.com.

A member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, Keillor lives in St. Paul with his wife, classical musician Jenny Lind Nilsson.

This event will be signed for people with hearing impairments. Pre-signed copies of books by Garrison Keillor will be available for purchase at the event.

Tickets for the event are \$35 for the general public and \$20 for UCSB students, who must show valid ID when purchasing tickets and at the door. Tickets are on sale now and can also be purchased at the door, if still available.

For tickets or more information call the UCSB Arts & Lectures Ticket Office at 893-3535, the Arlington Ticket Agency at 963-4408 or visit [www.artsandlectures.ucsb.edu](http://www.artsandlectures.ucsb.edu).