

Keillor coming to Ithaca

By Stephen Kimball
Correspondent

Author, humorist and radio personality Garrison Keillor will be at the State Theatre in Ithaca on Sunday for his show, "An Evening with Garrison Keillor."

Keillor is known for the radio show he hosts and writes, "A Prairie Home Companion." The old-style variety show featuring guest musicians and a cadre cast doing musical numbers and comic skits — replete with elaborate live sound effects — has been broadcast on National Public Radio since 1974, with the exception of a two-year break between 1987 and 1989. It first started on Minnesota Public Radio and was later syndicated nationally.

Keillor was born in 1942 in Minnesota and started his work in public radio in 1969, shortly after graduation from the University of Minnesota. He has authored more than a dozen books and hosts a second radio program, "The Writer's Almanac." Keillor has won Grammy and Peabody awards and has released several CDs. A film version of "A Prairie Home Companion" starring Meryl Streep, Lily Tomlin, Kevin Kline, Tommy Lee Jones, as well as Keillor himself, was released in 2006.

Keillor will appear solo for his 8 p.m. Sunday performance at the State. He'll tell stories about his life, share tales from Lake Wobegon and the rest of "A Prairie Home Companion," as well as read from his books. He has stated that this is his final tour, and he has been talking about retiring in the spring of 2013 when he turns 70, calling it a "nice round number." Unless fans have plans to head to Minnesota to watch him perform, this could be their last opportunity to see Keillor in person and get a sense



Garrison Keillor will perform Sunday night at the State Theatre in Ithaca. ASSOCIATED PRESS

of his ability to perform up close and personal.

Tickets to Sunday's 8 p.m. show are \$39.50, \$49.50 and \$69.50. The State Theatre is located at 107 W. State/Martin Luther King Jr. St. in Ithaca. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit stateofithaca.com.

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