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**BROADWAY STAR AUDRA McDONALD PERFORMS IN CONCERT
WITH THE SAN FRANCISCO SYMPHONY
ON APRIL 26 IN DAVIES SYMPHONY HALL**

WHAT: Soprano [Audra McDonald](#) performs a night of Broadway favorites and songs from contemporary musical theater in a special concert with the San Francisco Symphony at 8:00 p.m. on Monday, April 26 in Davies Symphony Hall.

California native Audra McDonald made Broadway history by winning three Tony Awards before the age of 30 (*Carousel*, *Master Class*, and *Ragtime*) and a fourth in 2004 (*A Raisin in the Sun*). She made her San Francisco Symphony (SFS) debut on opening night of the 1998-99 season singing selections from *Porgy and Bess* with Michael Tilson Thomas (MTT) and again appeared at the Opening Gala concert in the 2001-02 season. She most recently performed at Davies Symphony Hall with the Audra McDonald Ensemble in April 2006. Ms. McDonald has sung regularly with all the major American orchestras, including the San Francisco Symphony, the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the National Symphony, the New York Philharmonic, and the Philadelphia Orchestra, and under many of the world's greatest conductors, such as Michael Tilson Thomas, John Adams, Sir Simon Rattle, Esa-Pekka Salonen, and Leonard Slatkin. She was the muse behind the *Ellington Suite*, a set of arrangements of favorite Duke Ellington tunes created by several of America's top arrangers and commissioned jointly by the San Francisco Symphony and the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Overseas she is a returning guest at the BBC

Proms (where she was only the second American in over 100 years to solo during the famed “Last Night of the Proms”), with the London Symphony Orchestra, and the Berlin Philharmonic. In September 2006, Audra McDonald released her first solo album in four years—*Build a Bridge*—on Nonesuch Records. The recording features jazz/pop songs by artists as diverse as Laura Nyro, Elvis Costello, Nellie McKay, Neil Young, Rufus Wainwright, John Mayer and Randy Newman. In 2009 she was recognized with two Grammy Awards for her role in the Kurt Weill opera *Rise and Fall of the City of Mahagonny*. McDonald is well known outside the concert hall for her roles on television. She currently appears in the ABC drama “Private Practice” (a spinoff of “Grey’s Anatomy”) as Dr. Naomi Bennett.

WHO: [Audra McDonald](#), soprano
 [Ted Sperling](#), conductor
 [San Francisco Symphony](#)

WHEN & Monday, April 26 at 8:00 p.m.

WHERE: Davies Symphony Hall, 201 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco

PROGRAM: Soprano Audra McDonald performs a night of Broadway favorites and songs from contemporary musical theater in a special concert with the San Francisco Symphony

TICKETS: \$15-\$105; available through the SFS Box Office at (415) 864-6000, or at sfsymphony.org.

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