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Office of Public Information, "Acclaimed Children's Entertainer to Perform at USD" (2001). *News Releases*. 4066.

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Office of Public Relations

News Bureau

May 17, 2001 Media contact: Liz Harman 619-260-4682

ACCLAIMED CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINER TO PERFORM AT USD

Performance Is a Benefit for USD Employee

In 1997 Laurie Berkner was a preschool teacher in Manhattan when parents began encouraging her to record her imaginative children's songs. Today, she's so popular that she performed at last year's White House Easter Egg Hunt, not to mention the birthday parties of the children of both Madonna and Sting.

Sunday, June 10, at 3 p.m., Berkner will do a benefit concert at the University of San Diego. A hit with the 7-and-under set, *Billboard* magazine called her albums, "Victor Vito" and "Whaddaya Think of That?" "winsome, witty and delightful." *Time* magazine said they provide "more cool sounds for small fry." Berkner's songs include original tunes like "The Goldfish" about some fish taking a shower and new takes on classics like "O Susannah." Her appearance at USD's Shiley Theatre is part of an international tour with stops in New York City and Toronto.

All concert proceeds will benefit Cindy Grandee, a teacher at USD's Manchester Family Child Development Center who is battling breast cancer for the second time.

WHAT: Laurie Berkner Children's Concert. Tickets are \$15. Call 619-260-4620 to order. Also sold at the door if available.

WHEN: Sunday, June 10 at 3 p.m.

WHERE: USD Shiley Theatre (use west campus entrance on Linda Vista Road, off Morena Blvd. ##