

**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**February 6, 2014**

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**Dr. Ge Wang Presents “Music, Computing, and People”  
7 p.m., Wed., Feb. 12 at Berkeley City College Auditorium**

**WHAT:** The Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI), Berkeley City College, and the Simons Institute for the Theory of Computing are co-sponsoring a free public talk on “**Music, Computing and People,**” by Dr. Ge Wang in Berkeley on Wed., Feb. 12 at 7:00 pm. The lecture is part of the “Not on the Test: The Pleasures and Uses of Mathematics” series of six lectures funded by the Simons Foundation and co-presented by MSRI and Berkeley City College.

**WHO: Dr. Ge Wang** will focus on music, computing and people. He is an assistant professor at Stanford University in the Center for Computer Research in Music and Acoustics (CCRMA). He researches programming languages and interactive software systems for computer music, mobile and social music, laptop orchestras, and education at the intersection of computer science and music. Dr. Wang is the author of the ChucK audio programming language, is founding director of the Stanford Laptop Orchestra (SLOrk) and of the Stanford Mobile Phone Orchestra (MoPhO). He also co-founded Smule, and is the designer of the iPhone’s Ocarina and Magic Piano.

**WHEN: 7:00–8:15 P.M., WED., FEBRUARY 12**

**WHERE: Berkeley City College’s Auditorium at 2050 Center St.** in Berkeley (between Shattuck Ave. & Milvia St., one half block west of the Downtown Berkeley BART station on Shattuck Ave; for a map, see <http://goo.gl/0vJRT>).

**WEB PAGE:** See <http://tinyurl.com/GeWang>

**HOW: Free. Please note that tickets are required for admission, go to <http://gewang.bpt.me>**

**SPONSOR:** The generous support of the **Simons Foundation** ([www.simonsfoundation.org](http://www.simonsfoundation.org)) has made possible the “Not on the Test” MSRI-BCC lecture series.

**PHOTO:** A photo of Dr. Ge Wang is available by request to Anne Pfister at [annepf@msri.org](mailto:annepf@msri.org)

**About MSRI:** The **Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI, [www.msri.org](http://www.msri.org))**, in Berkeley, California, is one of the world’s preeminent centers for research in the mathematical sciences and has been advancing mathematical research through workshops and conferences since its founding as an independent institute in 1982. Approximately 2,000 mathematicians visit the MSRI each year, and the Institute hosts about 85 leading researchers at any given time for stays of up to one academic year. The Institute has been funded primarily by the National Science Foundation with additional support from other government agencies, private foundations, corporations, individual donors, and nearly 100 academic institutions. The MSRI is involved in K-12 math education through its annual Critical Issues in Mathematics Education conferences for educators, math circles, the National Association for Math Circles and its website (NAMC, [www.mathcircles.org](http://www.mathcircles.org)), and Olympiad math competitions; in undergraduate education through its MSRI-UP program; and in public education through its “Conversations” series and a variety of public events.

**About BCC: Berkeley City College (BCC)** ([www.berkeleycitycollege.edu](http://www.berkeleycitycollege.edu)), one of California's 112 community colleges, is part of the Peralta Community College District, which includes College of Alameda, Laney College and Merritt College. BCC, which began in 1974, is centrally located in downtown Berkeley, only 1-1/2 blocks from the U.C. Berkeley campus. BCC's mission is to contribute to the success of all students and to the well-being of the community by offering the best possible education which promises intellectual growth, social mobility, economic development and an understanding of diverse ideas and peoples. The college is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. BCC offers transfer and occupational training classes, associate degree and certificate programs. The college is an active partner in local economic development and employment training endeavors. Financial aid, academic and career counseling, programs for students with disabilities and assistance for economically disadvantaged students are available. The college maintains a strong and unique community college/university collaboration with the University of California at Berkeley. BCC is second in California in the percentage of students who transfer to U.C. Berkeley and is second in the state in the percentage of students who transfer to all U.C. campuses in Northern California.

**The Simons Institute for the Theory of Computing** (<http://simons.berkeley.edu>) is an exciting new venue for collaborative research in theoretical computer science. Established on July 1, 2012 with a grant of \$60 million from the Simons Foundation, the Institute is housed in Calvin Lab, a dedicated building on the UC Berkeley campus. Its goal is to bring together the world's leading researchers in theoretical computer science and related fields, as well as the next generation of outstanding young scholars, to explore deep unsolved problems about the nature and limits of computation. The Institute aims to promote fundamental research on the foundations of computer science, as well as to expand the horizons of the field by exploring other scientific disciplines through a computational lens. This second and distinctive goal is motivated by the fact that natural phenomena in many scientific fields (including mathematics, statistics, physics, astronomy, biology and economics), or the models those fields have developed for these phenomena, are intrinsically computational in nature—from chemical processes in living cells to the self-organizing behavior of complex systems of interacting particles, to mechanisms governing human evolution and the collective behavior of competing agents in an economy.

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