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For immediate release:

Local Beatbox Artist Butterscotch to Play Mondavi Center

October 12, 2007; Davis, California—Twenty-two-year-old singer, songwriter, and beatboxer **Butterscotch**, a Davis native who wowed national audiences with her performances on the NBC program *America's Got Talent*, will perform at the **Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts** on October 29. Butterscotch, who has studied music at the **Natomas Charter School's Performing Arts Academy** and at **California State University, Sacramento**, is known internationally for her unique ability to beatbox—vocally mimicking drums and other percussion instruments—while singing, and has won an international reputation in several high-profile beatboxing competitions.

The special event, a new addition to the Mondavi Center's 2007-08 season, will begin at 8 pm on October 29 in the Mondavi Center's Jackson Hall on the **UC Davis** campus. Tickets are available from the Mondavi Center Ticket Office at 530.754.ARTS (2787) or online at MondaviArts.org. Tickets for all seats will be \$25 for adults and \$13 for students and children.

Born in Davis in 1986, Antoinette "Butterscotch" Clinton came to national attention over the course of the summer of 2007 as a contestant and finalist on *America's Got Talent*. An accomplished musician who plays piano, saxophone, flute, guitar, and bass, Butterscotch impressed audiences with her audition performance of "Love to Love You Baby"—a hit for **Donna Summer** during the disco era—which she performed *a capella*, mixing "beatbox" drum sounds with her vocals. The judges were mightily impressed, with **Sharon Osbourne** calling the performance "really, really brilliant" and **David Hasselhoff** commenting that her beatboxing skills were "the best [he'd] ever seen."

Viewers were equally supportive, and Butterscotch appeared on the program several times, performing jazz standards such as "Summertime" and "My Funny Valentine" as well as soul classics such as **Marvin Gaye's** "What's Going On" and **Sly and the Family Stone's** "Dance to the Music," in some cases performing on piano while supplying beatbox accompaniment. In the program's season finale, she performed with **Sean Kingston** on his hit "Beautiful Girls."

The program helped bring Butterscotch to a new, bigger audience, but she had already won considerable acclaim among aficionados of beatboxing—the art of vocally creating percussion sounds and beats. In September 2005, she became the first International World Female Beatbox Champion after battling for the title in Leipzig, Germany, against beatboxers from all over the world. Recently, she won a competition to become West Coast Beatbox Champion, triumphing over 18 men to get the title.

In May 2007, Butterscotch was selected to be included in Verizon's Beatbox Mixer, a video game and beatbox sequencer used as a portal to show the capabilities of high-speed internet, leading her to work with many of beatboxing's best performers, including **Doug E Fresh, Biz Markie, Rahzel, Click, Scratch, Masai Electro**, and the head of Beatboxer Entertainment, **Kid Lucky**. Butterscotch also was featured on **Tom Green's** online show *The Channel*, on the program *Freestyle Fridays* with **Pigeon John**, and is currently touring with the band **Peeping Tom**, which includes **Mike Patton** of **Faith No More, Fatomas**, and **Mr. Bungle**.

Butterscotch has studied music since an early age and has been influenced by a wide range of artists, listing **Frédéric Chopin, John Coltrane**, and **Stevie Wonder** as particular favorites. She began beatboxing about three years ago after watching a friend at Natomas Charter School perform, and began performing at Sacramento-area venues. She plans to continue her music studies at CSU, Sacramento, where she performs with the jazz vocal ensemble. Accepted into the music program as a classical pianist, Butterscotch is currently focusing on her music career outside of school, but hopes to return to create a beatbox or vocal percussion major within the Music Department—a reflection of her belief that beatboxing should be recognized as a legitimate musical genre. She is also an accomplished photographer whose works have appeared in local galleries.

“It is exciting to be able to present a young artist who represents much of what is best about the emerging musical genre of beatboxing, and we look forward to experiencing Butterscotch and her unique talents,” said **Don Roth**, the Mondavi Center's executive director. “We are especially proud that she is from our town and our region.”

What: **Butterscotch**
When: Monday, October 29 • 8 pm
Where: Jackson Hall
Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts
University of California, Davis
Admission: \$25 Adults • \$13 Students & Children
Tickets/Info: 530.754.ARTS (2787)
866.754.ARTS (toll-free)
<http://www.MondaviArts.org>
530.754.5402 [TDD]

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