



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Theatre Communications Group Announces New Appointments to Board of Directors

Kathryn M. Lipuma to Assume New Role as Board Chair

New York, NY - Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for theatre, welcomes seven new members to its board of directors: **Jeremy B. Cohen**, producing artistic director, Playwrights' Center, Minneapolis, MN; **Snehal Desai**, producing artistic director, East West Players, Los Angeles, CA; **Kelvin Dinkins Jr.**, assistant dean/general manager, Yale School of Drama/Yale Repertory Theatre, New Haven, CT; **Nataki Garrett**, director and producer, Denver, CO; **Laurie McCants**, co-founder, Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble, Bloomsburg, PA; **David Schmitz**, executive director, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Chicago, IL; and **Harold Steward**, managing director, The Theater Offensive, Boston, MA.

"In the past year, TCG has faced some of the most complex challenges in our recent history, and the board's leadership has been essential every step of the way," said **Teresa Eyring**, executive director, TCG. "This new class of trustees will bring their deep personal and professional experiences to further our mission to strengthen, nurture, and promote the theatre field."

Kathryn M. Lipuma, executive director, Writers Theatre, Glencoe, IL, moves from vice chair to chair, replacing Kevin Moriarty, artistic director of Dallas Theater Center, Dallas, TX. Lipuma joins a slate of officers that includes: vice chairs **Larissa FastHorse**, playwright and choreographer, Santa Monica, CA and Meghan Pressman, managing director, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Washington, DC; treasurer **Ellen Richard**, executive director, Laguna Playhouse, Laguna Beach, CA; and secretary **Eileen Morris**, artistic director, The Ensemble Theatre, Houston, TX. **Rebecca Hopkins**, managing director of Florida Studio Theatre, returns as the League of Resident Theatres (LORT) liaison.

"Over the past 20 years, I have been a proud member of TCG," said **Kathryn M. Lipuma**, executive director, Writers Theatre. "I believe so strongly in its mission and value, both personally and professionally, its services, programs, and commitment to the field. I look forward to working with the amazing staff and fellow board members to continue this organization's important and inspiring work and being a part of its exciting future."

Returning board members include: **Christopher Acebo**, associate artistic director, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Ashland, OR; **Joseph P. Benincasa**, president and CEO, The Actors Fund, New York, NY; **Raymond Bobgan**, executive artistic director, Cleveland Public Theatre, Cleveland, OH; **Kristen Coury**, founder and producing artistic director, Gulfshore Playhouse, Naples, FL; **Joshua Dachs**, president, Fisher Dachs Associates Theatre Planning and Design, New York, NY; **Will Davis**, director and choreographer, New York, NY; **Teresa Eyring**, executive director, Theatre Communications Group, New York, NY; **Derek Goldman**, co-founding director, Laboratory for Global Performance and Politics; Director, Playwright/Adapter, Professor, Georgetown University, Washington, DC; **Jamie Herlich**, director of development, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Seattle, WA; **Susan Hilferty**, costume and set designer, New York, NY; **Benita Hofstetter Koman**, executive director, The Roy Cockrum Foundation, Knoxville, TN; **Johamy Morales**, education director, Creede Repertory Theatre, Creede, CO; **Eileen J. Morris**, artistic director, The Ensemble Theatre, Houston, TX; **Lisa Portes**, director and educator, Chicago, IL; **Meghan Pressman**, managing director, Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, Washington, DC; **Francine T. Reynolds**, artistic director, New Stage Theatre, Jackson, MS; **Randy Reyes**, artistic director, Mu Performing Arts, St. Paul, MN; **Ellen Richard**, executive director, Laguna Playhouse, Laguna Beach, CA; **Blake Robison**, artistic director, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Cincinnati, OH; **Nikkole Salter**, actress, playwright, educator, and arts advocate, Bloomfield, NJ; **Tim Sanford**, artistic director, Playwrights Horizons, New York, NY; and **Robert P. Warren**, president, The William & Eva Fox Foundation, Bethesda, MD.

Members of TCG's board serve up to three two-year terms. Board officers serve terms of one-year, renewable, and concurrent with the fiscal year of July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. Learn more about the TCG Board here: <http://www.tcg.org/about/board.cfm>.

For over 55 years, **Theatre Communications Group** (TCG), the national organization for U.S. theatre, has existed to strengthen, nurture, and promote the professional not-for-profit theatre. TCG's constituency has grown from a handful of groundbreaking theatres to over 700 Member Theatres and affiliate organizations and more than 12,000 individuals nationwide. TCG offers its members networking and knowledge-building opportunities through conferences, events, research, and communications; awards grants, approximately \$2 million per year, to theatre companies and individual artists; advocates on the federal level; and through the Global Theater Initiative, TCG's partnership with the Laboratory for Global Performance and Politics, serves as the U.S. Center of the International Theatre Institute. TCG is North America's largest independent publisher of dramatic literature, with 16 Pulitzer Prizes for Best Play on the TCG booklist. It also publishes the award-winning *American Theatre* magazine and ARTSEARCH®, the essential source for a career in the arts. In all of its endeavors, TCG seeks to increase the organizational efficiency of its Member Theatres, cultivate and celebrate the artistic talent and achievements of the field, and promote a larger public understanding of, and appreciation for, the theatre. www.tcg.org.

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