News Release

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APAP Announces Cultural Exchange Fund Grantees
19 performing arts professionals to travel to 15 countries

Washington, DC (July 24, 2018) - The Association of Performing Arts Professionals (APAP) announces a new round of funding recipients of Cultural Exchange Fund (CEF) grants. The Cultural Exchange Fund (CEF) is a travel subsidy award program supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to assist U.S. based APAP-members and their organizations in building partnerships and collaborations with international touring artists, companies and their collaborators outside of the U.S., and to experience the work of artists from around the world in its cultural context.

“Part of APAP’s mission is to fuel the touring and presenting of the performing arts, and the CEF program, now in its tenth year, helps achieve that on a global level. CEF provides U.S.-based APAP members the opportunity to collaborate with artists and arts organizations from around the world,” says Mario Garcia Durham, APAP president and CEO. “Over 400 APAP members have traveled to 80 countries and 6 continents, increasing field knowledge, promoting cultural exchange, and inspiring dialogues that are essential in today’s global arts economy.”

CEF grants provide an opportunity to enhance the cultural experience of American artists, audiences and communities, creating bridges with local U.S. artists to foster joint engagements. This is one of several programs that APAP offers its members to enhance their marketability internationally, and to fully engage the arts industry’s diverse audiences and communities.

“The program is most helpful to rural settings where arts centers can be one of the few spaces which provide access to world class art and artists and connect audiences to the bigger global world,” says Krista Bradley, APAP’s director of programs and resources.
APAP Cultural Exchange Fund Awardees
For travel between July-December 2018

1. Tomeka Reid traveling to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to work with Endris Hassen
2. Wendy Jehlen traveling to Cotonou, Benin to work with Marcel Gbeffa
3. Kathleen Spehar, The O'Shaughnessy at St. Catherine University, traveling to Mexico City, Mexico
4. Ming Ng, The Music Center, traveling to Bogota, Colombia for the Bogota Music Market and Festival and to Mexico City, Mexico for Internacional Cervantino
5. Andrew Wood, San Francisco International Arts Festival/National Performance Network, traveling to Brisbane, Australia for the Australian Performing Arts Market
6. Laura Colby, Elsie Management, traveling to Terschelling, Netherlands for the Oerol Festival
7. Linda Lucero, Yerba Buena Gardens Festival, traveling to Guanajuato, Mexico for various music, dance and theater presentations
8. Paul King, White Bird, traveling to Dusseldorf, Germany for Tanzmesse 2018
9. Charles Santos, Texas International Theatrical Arts Society, traveling to Shanghai, China for the China Association of Performing Arts/2018 China International Performing Arts EXPO
10. James Lemons, Lake Placid Center for the Arts, traveling to Toulouse, France for the European Circus Festival at LaGrainerie
11. Ron Berry, Fusebox Festival, traveling to Hamburg, Germany for the International Sommerfestival and to Groningen, Netherlands for the Noorderzon festival
12. Jodee Nimerichter, American Dance Festival, traveling to London, United Kingdom for Dance Umbrella UK 2018
13. Jeffrey Martin, University of Georgia Performing Arts Center, traveling to Edinburgh, Scotland for the Edinburgh International Festival and Edinburgh Fringe Festival
14. Emmy Carter, The Cedar Cultural Center, traveling to the Canary Islands, Spain for 2018 WOMEX World Music Expo
15. Schree Chavdarov, LEAF Community Arts, traveling to Remera, Rwanda for Kigaliup! Rwandan Music Festival
16. Sarah Curran, Center for the Arts at Wesleyan University, traveling to Rabat, Morocco for the Visa For Music Festival
17. Jay Wegman, NYU Skirball Center for the Performing Arts, traveling to Buenos Aires, Argentina for Festival Internacional de Buenos Aires (FIBA)
18. Christine Tschida, Northrop/University of Minnesota, traveling to Reykjavik, Iceland for ICE HOT Festival of Nordic Dance Artists
19. Brian Jose, University of Florida Performing Arts, traveling to Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain for the 2018 WOMEX-World Music Expo

The APAP Cultural Exchange Fund is funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. For more information about the program please visit www.apap365.org.

About APAP, the Association of Performing Arts Professionals

APAP, the Association of Performing Arts Professionals, based in Washington, D.C., is the national service, advocacy and membership organization dedicated to developing and supporting a robust, performing arts presenting field and the professionals who work within it. Our 1,600 national and international members represent leading performing arts centers, municipal and university performance facilities, nonprofit performing arts centers, culturally specific organizations, foreign governments, as well as artist agencies, managers, touring companies, national consulting practices that serve the field, and a growing roster of self-presenting artists. As a leader in the field, APAP works to effect change through advocacy, professional development, resource sharing and civic engagement. APAP is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization governed by a volunteer board of directors and led by President & CEO Mario Garcia Durham. In addition to presenting the annual APAP|NYC conference—the world’s leading forum and marketplace for the performing arts (January 4-8, 2019)—APAP continues to be the industry’s leading resource, knowledge and networking destination for the advancement of performing arts presenting.

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