News Release

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APAP Announces Third Cohort of Leadership Fellows Program

*Continuing evolution of leadership and ever-changing performing arts field demands new avenues for personal and professional development*

Washington, DC (May 23, 2017) - The Association of Performing Arts Professionals (APAP) in partnership with the University of Southern California’s (USC) Arts Leadership Program announces its third class of participants for the APAP Leadership Fellows Program. The third cohort of 25 was chosen from a diverse pool of applicants who have demonstrated a commitment to a collaborative process that will enhance the knowledge, skills and overall capacity needed to effect change in their current work and for the future.

Building upon the program’s inaugural launch in 2015, the APAP Leadership Fellows Program continues to expand the knowledge and proficiency among mid-career professionals in the performing arts field.

In addition to a curriculum-based, five-day intensive at the University of Southern California (USC), the program focuses on the opportunity to learn from and mentor each other over the course of the 20-month arc through annual gatherings at the APAP|NYC conference in New York City and continuous engagement in an online resource and discussion platform.

“The Leadership Fellows Program examines core questions around content and scope of leadership development for the performing arts field. It highlights, supports and helps participants understand and define the many reaches of leadership and its capabilities through peer-to-peer mentoring and creating a community of support,” says Mario Garcia Durham, president and CEO of APAP.
APAP has been committed to leadership development in the changing ecology of the performing arts industry, providing avenues for members to expand and strengthen their leadership skills. Through this program the fellows sharpen their sense of engagement with the arts presenting community and develop leadership skills.

“LFP is a program for leaders who are looking to inspire or get inspired about making change in the field,” says Beatrice Thomas, a member of the first LFP cohort and now a group leader for the third cohort. “It encourages new methodologies for creating sustainability and equity in the field, and arms a cohort of professionals across the country with the tools to advocate for a more equitable inclusive and diverse national arts landscape," says Thomas.

Kenneth Foster, director of USC’s Arts Leadership Program, and Scott Stoner, APAP’s vice president of programs and resources, are co-directors of the Leadership Fellows Program.

A core group of industry professionals will also lead the cohort and guide them through the program including: Dan Froot, producer/performance artist; Stephanie McKee, executive artistic director for Junebug Productions Inc.; Andre Perry, executive director of the Englert Theatre; Beatrice Thomas, multidisciplinary artist, artist coach and consultant; Cathy Zimmerman, creative consultant.

APAP Leadership Fellows Program
Cohort III (June 2017-January 2019)

- Linsey Bostwick, senior producer, The Arts Center at NYU Abu Dhabi – New York, NY
- Andre Bouchard, principal, Walrus Arts Management and Consulting, LLC – Vancouver, WA
- Ben Cohen, senior agent, Cadenza Artists, Los Angeles, CA
- Brett Elliott, executive director, Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center – Old Saybrook, CT
- Liza Green, associate director, NC State LIVE – Raleigh, NC
- Leslie Hanlon, director of fundraising and marketing, Fine Arts Series at the College of Saint Benedict/Saint John’s University – St. Joseph, MN
- Mary Jennings, director of programming and development, Rozsa Center for the Performing Arts – Houghton, MI
• Chanon Judson, associate artistic director and BOLD coordinator, Urban Bush Women Inc. – Brooklyn, NY
• Joshua Kane, artist and founder, Wild Baboo Productions LLC – New York, NY
• Leah Keith, manager of artists and attractions and booking agent, Opus 3 Artists – New York, NY
• Damia Khanboubi, program associate, Junebug Productions – New Orleans, LA
• Michael Liu, director of Chinese Community Initiatives, Flushing Town Hall – Flushing, NY
• Sam Livingston, director, Weill Music Institute at Carnegie Hall – New York, NY
• Miro Magloire, artistic and executive director, New Chamber Ballet – New York, NY
• Stephen Manuszak, program director for international initiatives, Arts Midwest – Minneapolis, MN
• Emily Marks, founder and director, Lionheart Youth Theatre – Austin, TX
• Jack McLarnan, manager of Fine Arts Programs, Seattle Theatre Group – Seattle, WA
• Heena Patel, founder and CEO, MELA Arts Connect – Edison, NJ
• Ronee Penoi, associate producer, Octopus Theatricals – Princeton, NJ
• Theresa Remick, managing director, Performance Center at Saint Mary’s University – Winona, MN
• Sarah Rodriguez, associate director of Institutional Giving, Apollo Theater – Harlem, NY
• Bonnie Schock, executive director, Sheldon Theatre – Red Wing, MN
• Alexandra Rachelle Siclait, professional development program manager, Creative Capital – New York, NY
• Daniel Singh, executive artistic director, Dakshina/Daniel Phoenix Singh Dance Company – Washington, DC
• Dexter Story, artist in residence/production consultant, Community Coalition – Los Angeles, CA

The APAP Leadership Fellows Program is partly funded by the American Express Foundation, The Wallace Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. 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, and 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 (Jan. 12-16, 2018) - APAP continues to be the industry’s leading resource, knowledge and networking destination for the advancement of performing arts presenting.

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