



NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

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Ten Thousand Things Artistic Director Michelle Hensley To Join Theatre Communications Group Board

Hensley one of seven new members on board of
national organization for theatre

(Minneapolis, MN) — **Ten Thousand Things Artistic Director Michelle Hensley** will join six other American theatre leaders as new members of the board of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for theatre. With nearly 700 member theatres and affiliate organizations nationally and more than 13,000 individuals worldwide, TCG offers its members networking and opportunities, grants approximately \$2 million per year to theatre companies and individual artists, advocates on the federal level, and serves as the US Center of the International Theatre Institute. TCG also is North America's largest independent publisher of dramatic literature.

The new board members also include: **Cynthia Fuhrman**, director of marketing and communications, Portland Center Stage, Portland, OR; **Ed Herendeen**, artistic director, Contemporary American Theatre Festival, Shepherdstown, WV; **Chris Jennings**, managing director, Shakespeare Theatre Company, Washington, DC; **Tim Jennings**, managing director, Seattle Children's Theatre, Seattle, WA; **Kevin Moriarty**, artistic director, Dallas Theater Center, Dallas, TX; **Ralph Peña**, artistic director, Ma-Yi Theater Company, New York, NY.

The full board roster, includes: **Douglas R. Brown**, president and CEO, Cambridge Homes, Inc., Libertyville, IL; **Ralph Bryan**, managing director – investments, Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC., La Jolla, CA; **James Bundy**, artistic director, Yale Repertory Theatre and dean, Yale School of Drama, New Haven, CT; **Dawn Chiang**, lighting designer, Bridgeport, CT; **Debbie Chinn**, consultant, Towson, MD; **Mark Cuddy**, artistic director, Geva Theatre Center, Rochester, NY; **Lydia Diamond**, playwright, Boston, MA; **Teresa Eyring**, executive director, Theatre Communications Group, New York, NY; **Joseph Haj**, producing artistic director, Playmakers Repertory Company, Chapel Hill, NC; **Andrew Hamingson**, principal, AD Hamingson and Associates, New York, NY; **Aimee Hayes**, artistic director, Southern Rep, New Orleans, LA; **Philip Himberg**, producing artistic director, Sundance Institute Theatre Program, Sundance, UT; **Robert Hupp**, producing artistic director, Arkansas Repertory Theatre, Little Rock, AR; **Morgan Jenness**, creative consultant, Abrams Artists Agency, New York, NY; **Marshall Jones III**, executive director, Crossroads Theatre Company, New Brunswick, NJ; **Rachel Kraft**, executive director, Lookingglass Theatre Company, Chicago, IL; **Martha Lavey**, artistic director, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Chicago, IL; **Marc Masterson**, artistic director, South

Coast Repertory, Costa Mesa, CA; **Jonathan Moscone**, artistic director, California Shakespeare Theater, Berkeley, CA; **Lynn Nottage**, playwright, Brooklyn, NY; **Diane Rodriguez**, director of new play production, Center Theatre Group, Los Angeles, CA; **Olga Sanchez**, artistic director, Miracle Theatre Group, Portland, OR; **Sean San Jose**, program director, Intersection for the Arts, San Francisco, CA; **Roche Schulfer**, executive director, Goodman Theatre, Chicago, IL; **Mark Shugoll**, CEO, Shugoll Research, Bethesda, MD; **Megan Wanlass Szalla**, executive director, SITI Company, New York, NY; **Mark Valdez**, national coordinator, Network of Ensemble Theatres, Los Angeles, CA; **Clyde Valentin**, executive director, Hip-Hop Theater Festival, Brooklyn, NY; **Kate Warner**, director/producer, Cambridge, MA; **Angel Ysaguirre**, director of global community investing, The Boeing Company, Chicago, IL.

“TCG’s board is an extraordinary assemblage of theatre artists and practitioners that represent the aesthetic, cultural and geographic diversity of the theatre community,” said Teresa Eyring, executive director of TCG. “The insight and knowledge that these forward-thinking leaders bring to the table help TCG stay on the pulse of issues, trends and innovation in the field.”

Hensley is the founder and Artistic Director of **Ten Thousand Things Theater**, a company that brings quality, award-winning theater to people with little access to the wealth of the arts. With minimal sets and costumes, the finest quality actors in the region perform with skill and imagination in prisons, homeless shelters, housing projects and other low-income centers, confronting the honesty and insight of men and women who have lived hard lives. Hensley’s awards include Best Director in the Twin Cities by *City Pages* in 2010, 2006 and 2004, and in 2010 by *Minnesota Monthly*, as well as the Francesca Primus Prize for outstanding contribution to American theater by a female artist.

For 50 years, **Theatre Communications Group (TCG)**, the national organization for the American theatre, has existed to strengthen, nurture and promote the professional not-for-profit American theatre. Founded in 1961, TCG’s constituency has grown from a handful of groundbreaking theatres to nearly 700 member theatres and affiliate organizations nationally and more than 13,000 individuals worldwide. TCG offers its members networking and knowledge-building opportunities through conferences, events, research and communications; grants approximately \$2 million per year to theatre companies and individual artists; advocates on the federal level and serves as the US Center of the International Theatre Institute, connecting its constituents to the global theatre community.

TCG is North America’s largest independent publisher of dramatic literature, with 11 Pulitzer Prizes for Best Play on our 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.

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