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CITY THEATRE HOLDS BOARD ELECTIONS
Betty Cruz, Caitlin Green, and Delvina Lorraine (Smith) Morrow, join board; former board leaders Norbert J. Connors and Beth W. Newbold elected to Honorary Board; and officers re-elected

Pittsburgh, PA (June 22, 2020). At its regularly scheduled board meeting on Thursday, June 4, 2020, City Theatre held a series of elections for its governing board and Honorary Board; and also re-appointed its officers for the 2021 fiscal year which begins July 1.

Elected to their first three-year term of service were Betty Cruz, Caitlin Green, and Delvina Lorraine (Smith) Morrow. With their election, City Theatre’s board of directors now consists of 22 community volunteers who provide oversight and counsel on the governance and operations of this 45 year 501(c)3 nonprofit cultural organization.

“We are honored to welcome Betty, Caitlin, and Delvina to the City Theatre board,” said Alex Condron, who is entering is second year as board president. “While it takes a special person to donate their time and talent to any nonprofit, to do so during a national emergency such as the Covid crisis represents a profound commitment and belief in the value and impact City Theatre brings to Pittsburgh. Their presence and passion will make our board stronger as we face head-on the challenges the sector is experiencing.”

In addition, current board members Judy Cheteyan and Kenneth Glick, M.D. have been elected for a second term; and Marcia Morton, Susan Smerd, and Nancy Traina were re-elected for a third term. City Theatre’s by-laws cap service at a total of nine years.

Two of its past board officers, Norbert J. Connors and Beth W. Newbold, were elected to the second ever class of City Theatre’s Honorary Board. In 2018, the board of directors established its honorary board to recognize the extraordinary contributions of previous volunteers and leaders who have been instrumental to the organization’s continued growth and success. Mr. Connors first joined the board in the early 1990s and served for many years as its Treasurer and on the Executive Committee. Ms. Newbold served four years (and 10 total on the board) as President, from 2015-2019. She served on the search committees for both Managing Director James McNeel (2014) and Artistic Director Marc Masterson (2018); and was closely involved in the planning and construction of the recently completed Philip Chosky Production Center.

“Beth and Norb are the epitome of the extraordinary citizens that have prioritized City Theatre throughout our over four decades of nationally-recognized history,” said Marc Masterson. “They join the ranks of some of the most influential and impactful philanthropists in not only our organization’s history, but Pittsburgh’s. I’m proud to call both of them friends and forever grateful for all they have done for our artists, staff, and audiences.”

Other members of the City Theatre Honorary Board, who were all long-time members of its governing body, are: Carol R. Brown, Robert M. Frankel (in memoriam), Ira H. Gordon (in memoriam), Edward H. Harrell, Thomas Hollandier, Gerri Kay (in memoriam), Roslyn Litman (in memoriam), David E. Massaro, Dee Jay Oshry, David L. Porges, Iris Amper Walker, and Florence H. Zeve (in memoriam).
At the June 4 board meeting, the officers for the 2020-21 fiscal year were re-elected. In addition to Mr. Condron as President, Judy G. Cheteyan and Jeffrey Solomon are Vice Presidents; Matthew Galando is Secretary; and K. Scott Baker is Treasurer. Joining the officers on the Executive Committee will be Governance Chair Nancy D. Washington and Strategic Planning Chair David Betts.

For a complete list of City Theatre’s current board, visit CityTheatreCompany.org/board.

ABOUT THE NEW BOARD MEMBERS:

Betty Cruz assumed the role of President and CEO of the World Affairs Council of Pittsburgh in January of 2020. Prior to joining the Council, Betty served as the leader of Change Agency, a social enterprise which she founded in 2016, and Project Director for All For All, an immigrant inclusion initiative. Betty has extensive experience in community outreach, communications, partnership-building, and program management – spanning nearly 20 years. She has developed citywide initiatives for Pittsburgh Mayor William Peduto, managed major accounts for a national nonprofit dedicated to building playgrounds across the U.S., and supported public relations for global brands representing a wide range of industries. Originally from Miami, Florida, Betty is the daughter of Cuban immigrants and a first-generation college graduate. She holds a BA in History from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania and an MPA from the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (GSPIA) where she was selected for the Johnson Institute for Responsible Leadership Portfolio Program and U.S. Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship in Portuguese. Betty is fluent in Spanish, Portuguese, and English. In recent years, Betty has received the following accolades: 25 Essential Pittsburghers by NEXTpittsburgh in 2019, Pittsburgh Magazine 40 Under 40, Global Pittsburgh Immigrant Champion, 2018 Women of Achievement, 2018 CLASS Community Heroes Award, Islamic Center of Pittsburgh for Humanity Day, The Incline as a Community Leader, Peace Islands Institute and Turkish Cultural Center for Public Service, 2014 YWCA Racial Justice Awardee in Government, and GSPIA 4 Under 40 Distinguished Alumnus. In 2015, Governor Tom Wolf appointed Betty to the Governor’s Advisory Commission on Latino Affairs. Betty serves on several local boards including Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and Global Minds Initiative. Betty is a member of the BMW Foundation Responsible Leaders Network and is a Next City Vanguard.

Caitlin Green is a senior consultant and client engagement officer at TRG Arts, an international consulting firm dedicated to building resiliency, strength and relevancy in the arts and cultural sector. Prior to TRG, she was the marketing and development director for THEATREWORKS, and the director of the Galleries of Contemporary Art. At THEATREWORKS, she led efforts that resulted in a doubling of contributed revenue and increased earned revenue by more than 50%. She holds an MA in Art History, an MPA in Non-Profit Management, and has nearly 20 years of experience working to build audiences for arts and culture.
For the past ten years, Delvina Lorraine (Smith) Morrow has provided leadership in strategic thinking and community development, which has allowed her to help set the strategic vision for and organize the relationship management, and development for various organizations, ranging from the nonprofit sector, for-profit, life sciences and technology. Currently, Delvina serves as the Director, Strategic and Community Initiatives with the Pittsburgh Penguins, and is responsible for managing key external projects and initiatives relating to the redevelopment of the former Civic Arena, the 28-acre Lower Hill redevelopment which will have a significant impact on the Hill District and entire Pittsburgh region. Additionally, Delvina serves as a liaison between the Penguins and various community, charitable and business organizations. Delvina has worked to design, build and drive the growth of a robust relationship ecosystem for the companies she has served. Each ecosystem in which she has worked, has thrived from her ability to help companies forge, build and maintain essential relationships with top stakeholders. She has an impressive track record of development, fundraising, and event planning, ranging from ongoing coordination of development efforts at a Pittsburgh-area organization, to staging and fundraising successes at a number of high-profile events in New York City. Previously, Delvina served as the Director of Major Programs and New Initiatives with the Pittsburgh Technology Council. And before that as the Director of Development and Community Engagement with the PLSG, and as the Project Manager for The PLSG $500,000 “i6 Challenge” grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce to create and expand cluster-based programs from proof-of-concept through commercialization all related to HIT through the EDA Regional Innovation Strategies (RIS) program. Her success has not gone unrecognized. In 2017, Delvina was named by the Pittsburgh Business Times as one of the inaugural class of its “30 Under 30” honorees and a graduate of the Leadership Pittsburgh LDI Class of 2018, and honoree for Who’s Next 2019: Technology presented by the Incline. Additionally, she is a member of the Pittsburgh Venture Capital Association, Emerging Leadership Board, a Board member with PUMP, and founding Board Member for feminist maker-space Prototype. At a personal level, Delvina aims to inspire women who are first generation college students like herself, to see their full potential and create meaningful lives through fulfilled careers. Delvina is a NYC native, and resides in the South Side with her husband Chris, and their cat Mufasa.

ABOUT CITY THEATRE:

Founded in 1975, City Theatre is closing its 45th season as Pittsburgh’s home for bold new plays. Located in the historic South Side on its four-building cultural campus, the company produces a season of regional and world premiers; its renowned Young Playwrights Festival, celebrating its 20th year; a season-long reading series of new works in progress; and the annual Momentum Festival. City Theatre’s mission is to provide an artistic home for the development and production of contemporary plays of substance and ideas that engage and challenge a diverse audience. With an annual average operating budget of $3 million, City is the largest performing arts organization not located in Pittsburgh’s downtown Cultural District and is a constituent and core member of the League of Resident Theaters (LORT), Theatre Communications Group (TCG), and the National New Play Network (NNPN). Marc Masterson returned as Artistic Director in July 2018, after an 18 year absence, to join Managing Director James McNeel as co-leaders of the organization.

Like all almost all arts organizations, City Theatre was forced to halt its 2019-2020 season in the middle of March due to the Covid-19 national crisis. It is currently in planning and preparations for its 46th season, scheduled to begin in the fall.

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