

# ARTISTS REPERTORY THEATRE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Artists Repertory Theatre JOINS LEAGUE OF RESIDENT THEATRES (LORT) Increasing compensation for artists

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Portland, Oregon | May 25, 2016.** Artists Repertory Theatre is proud to announce the 34 year-old theatre company has been accepted as the 72<sup>nd</sup> member of the League of Resident Theatres (LORT). Artists Rep is the first new member to join LORT in seven years. Artists Rep joins the Northwest's other three LORT theatre companies: Portland Center Stage, Seattle Repertory Theatre and A Contemporary Theatre (ACT), in Seattle.

"Joining the League of Resident Theatres marks a major accomplishment for Artists Rep and fulfills the vision of the hundreds of artists who built the company over more than three decades from a scrappy start-up, subsidized by the artists themselves, to a leading regional theatre with a growing community of support from audiences and donors," said Dámaso Rodriguez, Artistic Director. "Being a part of LORT represents our commitment to compensating artists at the level of our peers nationally."

"The induction of a second Portland theatre company into LORT says something very exciting about our growth and stature as an arts community," says Sarah Horton, Artists Rep's Managing Director. "It's a signal that Portland is well past being regarded as a cultural outpost, and is a place where the arts and theatre in particular are thriving, despite the economic challenges of the last ten years. It's an assertion not just by Artists Rep, but by our whole community that we value professional artists, and I believe is a sign of great things to come."

### **ABOUT LEAGUE OF RESIDENT THEATRES (LORT)**

LORT is the largest professional theatre association of its kind in the United States, with 72 member Theatres located in every major market in the U.S., including 29 states and the District of Columbia. LORT administers the primary national not-for-profit collective bargaining agreements with Actors' Equity Association (AEA), the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC), and United Scenic Artists (USA). LORT also deals directly with personnel and management issues involving Theatre staff, artists, and craftspeople. LORT members communicate collectively via LORT Counsel's office in New York.

LORT is also a forum for sharing information regarding all aspects of theatre. Semi-annual Meetings provide opportunities for LORT members to study, discuss, and exchange information on such non-labor management issues as development, marketing, public relations, education, and technology, as well as

provide a forum for developing professional relationships. LORT is also committed to the continued training of current and future LORT Managers. To learn about the principle objectives of LORT, as stated in LORT's by-laws, visit their [website](#).

### **ARTISTS REPERTORY THEATRE**

Portland's premiere mid-size regional theatre company is led by Artistic Director Dámaso Rodríguez and Managing Director Sarah Horton. Founded in 1982, Artists Repertory Theatre is the longest-running professional theatre company in Portland. Artist Rep became the 72<sup>nd</sup> member of the League of Resident Theatres (LORT) in May 2016 and is an Associate Member of the National New Play Network (NNPN).

[Artists Rep's 2016/17 season](#) offers a stylistically diverse season of seven imaginative and entertaining plays that grapple with family and the pursuit of happiness. The season features one World Premiere commissioned by Artists Rep's new play development program [Table | Room | Stage](#), along with five Northwest Premieres (including a musical) by some of the best emerging contemporary playwrights in the country, and one re-imagined classic featuring an all-female cast. The 2016/17 selections emphasize the aesthetic and scope of work Artists Rep has been committed to producing for almost 35 years as Portland's premiere mid-size regional theatre.

Artists Rep productions feature the work of a core group of 24 multidisciplinary theatre professionals. Hailing from around the country, our [Resident Artists](#) are nationally renowned and award-winning actors, directors, writers, designers and educators who have chosen to make Portland and Artists Rep their artistic home. Working together and independently, they create inventive and theatrically rich experiences for our audiences while playing a major role in defining Portland's cultural landscape.

Artists Rep is also home to the [ArtsHub](#), serving as a community arts center, where our performance venues and lobbies buzz with creative energy and Portland's arts-loving audiences can gather. We offer a home within our facility to a diverse range of artists and arts organizations. They can thrive here with access to affordable administrative, performance and rehearsal space, as well as a myriad of support services. Over the last year, hundreds of performances, events and happenings by Portlanders found a place in our building.

Artists Rep's mission is to engage diverse audiences in fresh, thought-provoking and intimate theatre. We are committed to world-class acting, directing, design and stagecraft that support new playwriting and aspire to embody great literature, moving audiences to truly feel — to *experience* — storytelling in a way that only the best live theatre can.

Artists Repertory Theatre season sponsors are Ronni Lacroute/WillaKenzie Estate and David and Christine Vernier. Other season support comes from the Regional Arts Culture Council, Oregon Community Foundation, Collins Foundation, Meyer Memorial Trust, James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation and Work for Art.

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