



Media Contact: Dawn Kellogg  
Communications Manager  
(585) 420-2059  
[dkellogg@gevatheatre.org](mailto:dkellogg@gevatheatre.org)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# GEVA THEATRE CENTER HOLDS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, BOARD ELECTS NINE NEW TRUSTEES

*The Northeast's most attended professional regional theatre enjoyed an incredibly successful season with over 150 sold-out performances.*

Rochester, NY. June 28, 2018 – Ted Boucher, Chair of the Board of Trustees for Geva Theatre Center, Mark Cuddy, Artistic Director and Co-CEO and Christopher Mannelli, Executive Director and Co-CEO, have announced board transitions for Geva, which were voted on at the organization's Annual Meeting on June 21, 2018.

Officers of the Board of Trustees for 2018-2019 will be led by Chair **Dennis Bassett**. Mr. Bassett is currently the Director of Customer Operations at Ortho Clinical Diagnostics and has held a variety of executive positions at Bausch and Lomb, including Vice President of Field Sales and Vice President of Sales Development and Customer Relations. He has been an active member of many boards including Western Regional Off-Track Betting, American Heart Association, Rochester Area Community Foundation and Monroe Community Foundation. The slate of officers includes **Kelly Shea**, Treasurer; **Stephanie Caffera**, Secretary; and **Maggie Symington, Peggy Boucher, Barbara Bruning, Ted Boucher** (Immediate Past Chair) and **Faheem Masood** as Vice-Presidents.

Renewing their three-year terms as Trustees are **Dennis Bassett, Richard Gray** (President, Gray Locey, CPA, P.C.), **Suzanne Nasipak-Chapman** (Regional Director, USI Insurance Services, Inc.) and **Kelly Shea** (President and Co-Founder, The Landmark Group, Inc.).

Elected as New Trustees are **Philip L. Burke** (Partner, Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP); **Essie Calhoun-McDavid** (Community Volunteer and Advocate, Retired Corporate Vice President, Eastman Kodak Company); **Dr. Lloyd A. Holmes** (Vice President of Student Services, Monroe Community College); **Diane F. McCue** (Founder, Savvy Girl Golf LLC, former General Manager and Vice President of Printing Plates Division of Eastman Kodak Company); **Dr. Dawn F. Lipson** (Retired Labor Relations Consultant, and New York State Workers

Compensation/Disability Benefits Board); **Frank Novak** (Partner, Harter Secrest & Emery, LLP); **Loren J. Ranaletta** (President and CEO Episcopal Senior Life Communities); **Mary Freund Tilton** (Real Estate Broker); and **John Williams** (Retired Attorney, former Development Director at ImageOut and Literacy Volunteers of Rochester).

Outgoing trustees **Theresa Conroy, Terry Hartmann, Suzanne Gouvernet, Joanna Grosodonia, Grace Soong** and **Sam Tilton** were recognized for their extraordinary generosity of time and resources to Geva Theatre Center. Former Board Chair Joanna Grosodonia has been named an Honorary Trustee.

Geva enjoyed one of its most successful seasons in recent history, with **over 150 sold-out performances**. The theatre has nearly **12,000 subscribers** and welcomed approximately **20,000 new visitors** this season.

In his annual "State of the Art" address at the Annual Meeting, **Mark Cuddy** commented, "What is to account for our year-long audience success? I think that Attendance is the result of Quality, Communication, and Connection. The Quality onstage has to be high, the Communication through our marketing efforts has to be compelling, and the Connection to community has to be real. Honestly, if we focus and invest in those three areas then we will succeed."

Subscriptions are selling briskly for the upcoming 46<sup>th</sup> season. The organization's fiscal year ends July 31, and audited financial results for the 2017-2018 Season will be available in November.

**For further information or photographs, please contact:  
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#### **GEVA THEATRE CENTER**

Founded in 1972, Geva Theatre Center is a not-for-profit, professional theatre company dedicated to creating and producing professional theatre productions, programs and services of a national standard. As Rochester's leading professional theatre, Geva Theatre Center is the most attended regional theatre in New York State, and one of the 25 most subscribed in the country, serving up to 160,000 patrons annually, including more than 16,000 students.

The 516-seat Elaine P. Wilson Stage is home to a wide variety of performances, from musicals to American and world classics. The 180-seat Ron & Donna Fielding Stage is home to Geva's own series of contemporary drama, comedy and musical theatre; Geva Comedy Improv; Geva's New Play Reading Series and the Hornets' Nest - an innovative play-reading series facilitating community-wide discussion on controversial topics. In addition, the Fielding Stage hosts visiting companies of both local and international renown.

Geva Theatre Center offers a wide variety of educational, outreach and literary programs, nurturing audiences and artists alike. Since 1995, the organization has been under the artistic direction of Mark Cuddy.

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