

ARENA STAGE MEDIA RELEASE

Molly Smith Artistic Director Edgar Dobie Executive Director Zelda Fichandler Founding Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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July 31, 2017

**ARENA STAGE ANNOUNCES 10TH D.C. CAREER FAIR
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH D.C. COUNCILMEMBERS ALLEN AND SILVERMAN,
DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICES, DEPUTY MAYOR'S OFFICE AND THE WHARF
THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 2017**

***** An innovative and collaborative effort focused on career opportunities at The Wharf
for job-ready residents with participation from nearly 50 organizations *****

(Washington, D.C.) **Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater**, in partnership with **Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen, At-Large Councilmember Elissa Silverman**, the **D.C. Department of Employment Services, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development** and **The Wharf** opens its doors for the **10th D.C. Career Fair Thursday, August 10, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at the Mead Center (1101 Sixth St., SW). Throughout the past four years, Arena Stage has partnered with more than 100 participating organizations and served a combined total of nearly 8,000 community members by hosting regular career fairs.

The Wharf Phase 1 will include more than 35 operators, managers and retailers, many of whom are confirmed to participate in this free event, offering employment opportunities in retail, hospitality, leisure and facilities services. Numerous community-based training and services providers will work with job seekers in their individual pipelines to provide focused and personalized job training and professional development skills to create job-ready candidates. This event is only open to those referred applicants who may pre-register for the event.

The 8/10 event will commence with remarks at 9:00 a.m. by Dobie and Silverman, who will be joined by **Joseph P. Lapan** with the Deputy Mayor's Office and Wharf partner **Elinor Bacon**.

For complete details on the *D.C. Career Fair* visit arenastage.org/jobfair.

"All 10 of the career fairs make the top 10 list at Arena," says **Arena Stage Executive Director Edgar Dobie**. "The opportunity to join forces with Councilmembers Allen and Silverman, plus the Department of Employment Services and the good folks at the Deputy Mayor's Office reminds us that Arena Stage as a resident theater has an important role to play beyond our stages and classrooms. This one feels especially sweet with its focus on the wonderful career opportunities at our new neighbors at The Wharf."

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“As we count down the days until The Wharf opens this fall and transforms our waterfront, there’s a huge opportunity for D.C. residents to land a new job or start a career,” says **Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen**. “That’s what this career fair is all about. There isn’t a better and more fitting partner to hold this event than Arena Stage, long a staple of the Southwest community committed to giving back. I want to thank Councilmember Elissa Silverman and the D.C. Department of Employment Services, as well as the many nonprofits and employers, who are ensuring this twice a year career fair will be yet another success.”

“The Wharf is one of the most transformative economic development projects this city has seen,” says **At-Large Councilmember Elissa Silverman**. “We want to leverage it by getting as many jobs for District residents out of the project as possible, and I’m thrilled to have committed workforce partners in developer PN Hoffman in connecting our residents to employment. I also want to thank Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen and Arena Stage for their continuous partnerships hosting career fairs and creating new opportunities for residents.”

Career resource agencies who will be onsite include **Academy of Hope, Amazing Love Health Services LLC, America Works, Anacostia Mentoring Employment Network, Atlas Performing Arts Center, Building Futures, Calvary Women’s Services, Carlos Rosario PCS, Community Partnership, Covenant House, CSOSA, DCPS, DC Central Kitchen, DC Housing Authority (DCHA), Department of Employment Services (DOES), Edgewood/Brookland Collaborative, Friendship Place, Goodwill of Greater Washington, Grant Associates, Living Wages Adult Education Program, Martha’s Table, OIC, RCM of Washington, Samaritan Ministry, Sasha Bruce, Skyland Workforce Center, So Others Might Eat, Strive DC, The Future DC, UDC Community College, UDC Workforce and Uniting People with Opportunity.**

The Wharf Phase 1 includes, among others, the following restaurants, music venues and lifestyle services, many of which will participate in the Career Fair—**Bella Moda, Ben & Jerry’s, Blink Optical, Blue Bottle, Bozzuto Properties, Brighton, Cantina Bambina, CBRE, CMC/Associa, Colonial Parking, Concord, Cordial Wine & Spirits, CVS, Del Mar, District Hardware, Dolcenza, Florentijn, Hank’s Oyster Bar, Kaliwa, Kirwan’s Irish Pub, La Vie, Madison Marquette Realty, Marinai, Mi Vida, Officina, Patrick’s, Pearl Street Warehouse, Rappahannock Oyster, Requin, Rival Rye, Shake Shack, Taylor Gourmet, The Press, The Wharf Project Association, Todd Thrasher, Union Stage and The Anthem**, along with three hotels—**InterContinental, Canopy by Hilton and Hyatt House.**

Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater, under the leadership of Artistic Director Molly Smith and Executive Director Edgar Dobie, is a national center dedicated to American voices and artists. Arena Stage produces plays of all that is passionate, profound, deep and dangerous in the American spirit, and presents diverse and ground-breaking work from some of the best artists around the country. Arena Stage is committed to commissioning and developing new plays and impacts the lives of over 10,000 students annually through its work in community engagement. Now in its seventh decade, Arena Stage serves a diverse annual audience of more than 300,000. arenastage.org

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