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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **FORD'S THEATRE SOCIETY CHAIRMAN PHEBE N. NOVAKOVIC ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS**

Washington, D.C.—Ford's Theatre Society Chairman Phebe N. Novakovic announced the nonprofit's new members of the Board of Trustees. New members include **B.J. Agugliaro, Steven Barry, Andy Blocker, Elaine Chao, Dianne Cleaver, Mark Crawford, Alphonso Jackson** and **Marc Lampkin**.

The Board of Trustees of Ford's Theatre Society is the governing body with responsibility for governance and oversight of the Society. Members serve three-year terms, with possibility of nomination for an additional three-year term.

"I look forward to welcoming and working with our new board members as Ford's Theatre continues its digital initiatives and plans for a vibrant return to in-person programming, performances and historic site visitation in the coming months," **said Novakovic**. "With the help of our trustees' diverse expertise I am confident in the resilience and growth of Ford's Theatre Society."

**Ford's Theatre Director Paul R. Tetreault** commented, "This is the most diverse class in my tenure. This extraordinary group of individuals from across the country will strengthen our already expansive national reach and will continue forward with our commitment to equity."

### **B.J. Agugliaro**

Agugliaro is the New Jersey Managing Partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. He serves as a Trustee of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce and of Somerset Hills YMCA.

### **Steven Barry**

Barry is an audit partner at KPMG LLP. He is a trustee of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Greater D.C.-Maryland Chapter, and St. Bonaventure University. Barry has been a member of Ford's Theatre since 2011 and KPMG has been an underwriter of Ford's productions since 2007.

**Andy Blocker**

Blocker is the Head of U.S. Government Affairs at Invesco. He serves as a trustee for the Washington Tennis and Education Foundation. Blocker has been a corporate member of the Ford's Theatre Board of Governors since 2019.

**Elaine Chao**

Chao is a former Ford's Theatre Trustee. She served as U.S. Secretary of Labor under President George W. Bush from 2001 to 2009, and as U.S. Secretary of Transportation under President Donald Trump from 2017 to 2021.

**Dianne Cleaver**

Cleaver is the President and CEO of the Urban Neighborhood Initiative in Kansas City, MO.

**Mark Crawford**

Crawford is the U.S. General Counsel and Senior Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion at BP in Houston, TX. BP America has been a major underwriter of Ford's Theatre since 1993.

**Alphonso Jackson**

Jackson is the Chief Executive of A.R. Jackson Advisors, LLC, and former Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. He is a trustee of Howard University, the U.S. Institute of Peace and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board.

**Marc Lampkin**

Lampkin is the Office Managing Partner of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP. He is also a trustee of Horton's Kids and the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools.

A complete list of current Board of Trustees members is below and on the Ford's Theatre website at <https://www.fords.org/about>.

**Ford's Theatre Board of Trustees**

Ford's Theatre Board of Trustees leadership includes Chairman Phebe N. Novakovic, Vice Chairman Ronald O. Perelman, Treasurer James W. Dyer, Secretary Abigail P. Blunt and Chairman Emeritus Eric A. Spiegel. Members include Rima Al-Sabah, Brian C. Anderson, Lisa Arpey, Paul L. Berry, Joyce M. Brayboy, Ian Cameron, Sandy Cornyn, Kasey A. Crowley, Gina Dearborn, Hon. Deborah I. Dingell, Gloria Story Dittus, Lawrence Duncan III, Theresa M. Fariello, Karyn M. Frist, Bruce A. Gates, Michael R. Hemmerich, Susan Hess, Hon. Sven Erik Holmes, Ghada Irani, Frank F. Islam, Norman Jemal, Elizabeth Baker Keffer, Ritu Ahuja Khanna, Albert Baker Knoll, Kent Knutson, Frances R. Lindner, David H. Long, Marlene Malek, Gayle C. Manchin, Susan J. Blumenthal Markey, M.D., Judy McCarthy, Catherine Merrill, Ayesha K. Molino, Majida Mourad, Richard A. Mullen, Noémi K. Neidorff, Kelley Paul, Heather Podesta, Vicki Risch, Elizabeth Roskam, Hilary Geary Ross, Hon. Frederick J. Ryan, Jr., Charles Segars, Betty Ann Tanner, Louise Taper, Alia Tutor, Omar A. Vargas, Iris Weinsall, and Life Trustee Hon. William F. McSweeney.

**Ford's Theatre Society**

One of the most visited sites in the nation's capital, Ford's Theatre reopened its doors in 1968, more than a hundred years after the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. Operated through a partnership between Ford's Theatre Society and the National Park Service, Ford's

Theatre is the premier destination in the nation's capital to explore and celebrate Abraham Lincoln's life and legacy.

Ford's Theatre Society was founded under the guidance of executive producer Frankie Hewitt, who, during her 35-year tenure, established Ford's as a living, working theatre producing performances that highlighted the diversity of the American experience. Since the arrival of Paul R. Tetreault as Director, critics and the theatregoing public have recognized Ford's for the superior quality of its artistic programming. With works from the Tony-nominated *Come From Away* and the nationally acclaimed *Big River*, to the world premieres of *Meet John Doe*, *The Heavens Are Hung In Black*, *Liberty Smith*, *Necessary Sacrifices*, *The Widow Lincoln* and *The Guard*, Ford's Theatre is making its mark on the American theatre landscape. In the past decade, the mission of Ford's Theatre Society expanded to include education as a central pillar. This expansion led to the creation and construction of the Center for Education and Leadership, which opened in February 2012. Under the current leadership of Board of Trustees Chairman Phebe N. Novakovic and through the lens of Lincoln's leadership and legacy, Ford's today endeavors to advance Lincoln's "unfinished work" with programs and performances that cultivate empathy, encourage dialogue and bridge divides in American life.

For more information on Ford's Theatre and the Ford's Theatre Society, please visit [www.fords.org](http://www.fords.org).

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