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**Kimberly Motes will depart Children's Theatre Company after nearly eight years**

Chicago Shakespeare Theatre announces Motes as new Executive Director

July 19, 2023—MINNEAPOLIS Today, Children's Theatre Company (CTC) announced that Kimberly Motes, CTC's Managing Director for the past eight seasons will leave this fall. She will become the Executive Director of Chicago Shakespeare Theatre as part of a new co-leadership team that includes internationally acclaimed theatre, television, and film director Edward Hall.

Motes's leadership has been defined by demonstrated successes in financial management and revenue growth, increased philanthropic contributions, and record-breaking ticket sales. During her tenure, in partnership with Artistic Director Peter C. Brosius, CTC has produced 46 plays and musicals including 15 new works, transferred productions and co-produced with the Alliance Theatre, Chicago Children's Theatre, the Old Globe Theatre, Penumbra, Seattle Children's Theatre, and the New Victory; partnered with several commercial producers including Kevin McCollum and Universal Theatrical Group, and toured a production to South Africa and throughout the United States. A major new initiative, Generation Now, is a partnership between CTC and Penumbra, Latino Theatre Company, Mai Yi, and Native Voices at the Autry to commission and develop 16 new plays and musicals by Black, Indigenous, AAPI and Latinx writers for a multigenerational audience.

Motes has led two strategic planning processes, championed CTC's equity, diversity, inclusion and justice efforts to eliminate barriers to participation for those underrepresented in theater, and forged many meaningful community partnerships. Additionally, CTC's education programs have grown to serve over 93,000 students through student matinees, theatre arts training, summer camps, and in-school residencies. A new immersive residency model was created at Bethune Community School where 100% of the students receive arts education experiences throughout the school year that are focused on emotional literacy and critical literacy.

"I am enormously proud of what we at CTC have created together over the past eight years—CTC is in a strong position with a positive culture, a healthy balance sheet, a fabulous, committed staff, a critical mission, and an outstanding senior leadership team and board of directors," states Kimberly Motes. "It has been my great joy to work alongside Artistic Director Peter C. Brosius whose energy, passion, and

enthusiasm for CTC's mission is unmatched. His dedication to young people and the transformational power of theatre is inspiring. This has been the most rewarding role of my career to date."

Board Chair Silvia Perez states, "As she leaves for an extraordinary opportunity, Kim leaves behind a remarkable legacy at CTC. Through courageous leadership and deep understanding of the business of theater, Kim achieved an organization with strategic clarity, financial health, and most important an outstanding staff and culture. Under her leadership, we have significantly advanced our mission serving the broad community with excellence in theatre for young audiences. On behalf of the board of directors, I wish Kim endless success in her new endeavor and thank her for her outstanding contributions to CTC. "

"Kim has been an exemplary partner in moving Children's Theatre Company forward with our incredible staff, senior leadership team, and board," says Artistic Director Peter C. Brosius. " She has been a force both locally and nationally in bringing the arts sector and theaters together to deepen advocacy and resiliency. Kim has brought her tireless energy, hard work, and passion to Children's Theatre Company and we are hugely grateful for her leadership and her deep commitment to creating life changing theatre experiences for our audiences. It has been a true joy to work with her and we wish her every success in Chicago."

CTC will be engaging an executive search firm to conduct the search for a new Managing Director. Last June, CTC launched a search for a new Artistic Director. The selection of a new leadership team is anticipated to be announced in early 2024.

**Kimberly Motes Bio:**

Kimberly Motes has been the Managing Director since 2016 for the Tony Award®-winning Children's Theatre Company (CTC), the nation's largest and most acclaimed theater dedicated to multi-generational audiences. She has led all business aspects and revenue areas of the theater as well as education, equity, diversity and inclusion, community engagement, and board management. During her tenure, CTC produced 46 plays/musicals for the stage including 15 commissioned new works and six co-productions/transfers, increased contributed income, completed a \$25 million capital campaign, and achieved the highest ticket sales all during unprecedented and challenging times. Motes has held several leadership roles in the arts and higher education in Minnesota including Senior Vice President of Institutional Advancement at the University of St. Thomas, Vice President of Institutional Advancement for the College of Saint Benedict, Managing Director at Theater Latté Da, and Executive Director at the Cowles Center for Music and the Performing Arts. Motes spent 13 years in Washington, DC where she was the Director of Development at Arena Stage. She also led adult arts education programming and a ballet training program with legendary ballerina Suzanne Farrell at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. She has served on grant panels for the National Endowment for the Arts and the Minnesota State Arts Board and spoken at many conferences. She earned her BA in music from the College of Saint Benedict. She chairs the Membership Committee for the Minnesota Women's Economic Roundtable Board of Directors, serves on the Meet Minneapolis Board of Directors, and is a member of the Women Presidents Organization. She has facilitated a biweekly Zoom meeting for managing leaders of large producing theaters since the start of the pandemic through Theatre Communications Group.

**Children's Theatre Company (CTC)** is the nation's largest and most acclaimed theatre for young people and serves a multigenerational audience. It creates theatre experiences that educate, challenge, and inspire for more than 250,000 people annually. CTC is the only theatre focused on young audiences to win the coveted Tony Award® for regional theatre and is the only theatre in Minnesota to receive three Tony® nominations (for its production of *A Year with Frog and Toad*). CTC is committed to creating world-class productions at the highest level and to developing new works, more than 200 to date, dramatically changing the canon of work for young audiences.

CTC's engagement and learning programs annually serve more than 93,000 young people and their communities through Theatre Arts Training, student matinees, Neighborhood Bridges, and early childhood arts education programs. ACT One is CTC's comprehensive platform for access, diversity, and inclusion in our audiences, programs, staff, and board that strives to ensure the theatre is a home for all people, all families, reflective of our community. [childrenstheatre.org](http://childrenstheatre.org)