

ARENA STAGE MEDIA RELEASE

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS FOR THE ARTS TO CONDUCT ARTISTIC DIRECTOR SEARCH FOR ARENA STAGE

Arena Stage today announced that Management Consultants for the Arts (MCA) will conduct the organization's search for a new Artistic Director to succeed Molly Smith after she retires in June 2023. A position description and application process will be released later in the Fall of 2022.

"In the coming weeks, the Artistic Director Search Committee will work with MCA to create a position profile and launch this extremely important search," said Catherine Guttman-McCabe, Chair of the Search Committee and Chair-Elect of Arena Stage's Board of Trustees. "Over the last 25 years, Molly has co-lead Arena Stage with her brilliant artistic vision. Her close collaboration with Arena's Executive Producer, Edgar Dobie, has changed the face of theater in Washington, D.C., and beyond. Recognizing the challenging task at hand, the Search Committee is committed to conducting a broad, rigorous, inclusive, and thoughtful search."

MCA is the leader in executive search and planning services for arts and culture organizations in North America. Their work across disciplines has resulted in successful artistic leadership searches for regional theaters around the country such as A.C.T., Geva Theatre Center, Two River Theater, Magic Theatre, Theaterworks Silicon Valley and many others and executive recruitment processes such as Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's President & CEO, San Francisco Ballet's Artistic Director, Chautauqua Institution's Vice President of Performing and Visual Arts. Leading the MCA team will be Jonathan West (Managing Director/Project Lead), David Mallette (President), and Emika Abe (Field Advisor).

Until the position description is announced, inquiries regarding the search should be directed to Jonathan West at jwest@mcaonline.com.

Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater, under the leadership of Artistic Director Molly Smith and Executive Producer 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 impacting the lives of over 10,000 students annually through its work in community engagement. Now in its eighth decade, Arena Stage serves a diverse annual audience of more than 300,000. arenastage.org

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