



Media contact: Terence Keane
510.647.2917, tkeane@berkeleyrep.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BERKELEY REP ANNOUNCES SEVEN NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Tony Award-winning theatre also elects new officers for the 2006/07 Season

JULY 13, 2006 – Today Berkeley Repertory Theatre announced seven new members of its board of directors and seven board officers as the Tony Award-winning Theatre enters its 39th season. The new members include **Becky Bleich, William Falik, Nashormeh N.R. Lindo, Helen Meyer, Laura Onopchenko, Jack Schafer, and Philip Trapp**. This volunteer leadership will be critical to Berkeley Rep's success in the coming year as it stages work with eminent artists such as **Neil Bartlett, Paul Dresher, David Hare, Delroy Lindo, Martin McDonagh, Stew, Lisa Peterson, and Les Waters**.

"I am pleased to welcome these prominent community leaders to our leadership," said **Susan Medak**, managing director of Berkeley Rep. "Our trustees committee engaged in a thorough analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of our existing board, and I'm pleased to say that the next class of trustees is a strong complement to our current membership. The idea that unifies all of our board members is that every one of them loves theatre – with a particular passion for the ambitious, adventurous, and intelligent work presented here at Berkeley Rep."

The **officers**, elected to one-year terms, are as follows:

- President: **Richard F. Hoskins**, managing director of Genstar Capital
- Executive Vice President: **Richard A. Rubin**, president of Richard A. Rubin Associates
- Treasurer: **Peter Pervere**, retired financial officer for Sybase and Commerce One
- Secretary: **Marjorie Randolph**, senior vice president of human resources and administration at Walt Disney Feature Animation
- Chair of the Annual Fund: **Patricia Sakai**, learning and organizational development consultant
- Chair of the Capital Campaign: **Felicia Woytak**, managing director of the 65th Street Development Company
- Chair of the Trustees Committee: **Dr. Dale Rogers Marshall**, president emerita of Wheaton College

The seven **new members** of Berkeley Rep's board are as follows:

- **Becky Bleich is a community leader who has held a variety of volunteer positions** on school boards, in classrooms, and in various other community activities over the past ten years. She prepared for her current career as a volunteer by getting a BA in Philosophy from Mount Holyoke College; working in a neuropsychology ward, an architecture firm, and an investment bank; and then earning an MBA at Georgetown. She and her husband Jeff, a litigation partner at Munger, Tolles & Olson, live in Piedmont with their three children: Jake, Matthew, and Abby. She and Jeff have enjoyed coming to Berkeley Rep for more than 16 years with her parents, Marilyn and David Pratt, and her sister and brother-in-law, Amy and Ken Stratton.

(MORE)

BERKELEY REP ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD MEMBERS / 2 OF 3

- **William Falik is managing partner of Westpark Community Builders.** A graduate of Cornell University and Harvard Law School, he sits on the boards of Democracy Alliance and the Fisher Center for Real Estate Policy. He resides in Berkeley with his wife, Diana Cohen, who previously served on Berkeley Rep's board. Mr. Falik's interests include biking, golf, skiing, tennis, and his three children.
- **Nashormeh N.R. Lindo is a visual artist and an independent museum consultant.** She works as an artist, cultural worker, and educator at institutions such as the Baltimore Museum of Art, the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Oakland Museum of California, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. She earned a Master's degree in education from Bank Street College and a bachelor's in art from Pennsylvania State University. Ms. Lindo also serves on the boards of the Brandywine Graphic Workshop in Philadelphia and the San Francisco Art Institute. She and her husband, the prominent actor Delroy Lindo, have a son. The Lindos live in Oakland and New Jersey.
- **Helen Meyer is co-founder and executive vice president of Meyer Sound in Berkeley.** A graduate of UC Berkeley, she also sits on the Alameda County Workforce Investment Board and formerly served on the board of the Berkeley Community Fund. Ms. Meyer lives in Berkeley with her husband John, the president, CEO, and co-founder of Meyer Sound. The Berkeley-based clan also includes their son, Perrin Meyer, an R&D software manager for Meyer Sound; his wife, playwright Sharon Eberhardt; the Meyer's daughter, Tara Jacquet, a full-time mom to two children; and her husband, Gregoire Jacquet, chef and owner of Gregoire's Restaurant in Berkeley and Oakland.
- **Laura Onopchenko is managing director of Techfarm Ventures in Mountain View.** She received a BA in Economics at UC Berkeley and is pursuing an MBA at Wharton, with graduation anticipated in May. She also serves on the board of Primaxx Corporation. An avid baker, Ms. Onopchenko lives in San Francisco with her husband, Martin Dragomirecky.
- **Jack Schafer is president of Jack Schafer Associates,** which provides consulting expertise to shopping centers and department stores in Asia. A graduate of Harvard College, Mr. Schafer serves on the boards of numerous organizations, including the Jewish Community Center of San Francisco, Jewish Community Endowment, San Francisco Arts Institute, and Straus Family Historical Society. He lives in San Francisco with his wife, Betty. They have three married daughters, five grandsons under the age of five, and another two grandchildren on the way.
- **Philip Trapp is vice president for business development at Emeryville's Ravenflow.** He also sits on the boards of NTM in Fremont and Endymion Systems in Danville. Mr. Trapp earned a bachelor's degree in English Literature from UCLA. His interests include bicycling, music, and theatre for children – which ties in nicely with his highest priority, his grandchildren. He lives in Danville with his wife, Melody.

These new members bring the total membership on Berkeley Rep's board to 37. In addition to the officers listed above, 20 other board members continue their service: **Kenneth P. Avery** of Deloitte Financial Advisory Services LLP; **Stephen K. Cassidy** of Cassidy, Shimko & Dawson; **David Cox**, former president and CEO of Cowles Media Company; **Thalia Dorwick**, an author and editor retired from McGraw-Hill Higher Education; **William T. Espey** of the Citigroup Private

(MORE)

Bank; **John Field**, retired chairman of Field Paoli Architects; **Kerry L. Francis** of Deloitte Financial Advisory Services LLP; **Scott R. Haber** of Latham & Watkins LLP; **Mary Hamilton** of bebe, Inc.; **Dr. David Hoffman** of Stanford University; **Wayne Jordan** of Jordan Real Estate Investments; **Carole S. Krumland**, community leader; **Sarah McArthur** of Pixar Animation Studios; **Sandra R. McCandless** of Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal; **Dugan Moore**, private investor; **Patrick O'Dea** of Peet's Coffee & Tea; **Mary Ann Peoples** of the Boyd Family Foundation; **Pat Rougeau** of IO Informatics, Inc.; **Stephen Snow** of Delta Investments; **Roger A. Strauch** of The Roda Group; and **Jean Z. Strunsky** of the Ira and Leonore Gershwin Trusts. Two Berkeley Rep staff members also serve on the board: Ms. Medak and Artistic Director **Tony Taccone**.

Berkeley Rep's 2006/07 Season includes seven captivating shows: *Mother Courage*, David Hare's brilliant adaptation of Bertolt Brecht's anti-war masterpiece; *Passing Strange*, the world premiere of an exuberant stage show from the musician known as Stew; *All Wear Bowlers*, a hilarious vaudeville dream that's been a hit on four continents; *The Pillowman*, a darkly funny thriller from Oscar- and Tony-winner Martin McDonagh; *To the Lighthouse*, a world-premiere adaptation of Virginia Woolf's novel featuring music by Paul Dresher; *The Blue Door*, a breathtaking new play directed by Delroy Lindo; and *Oliver Twist*, an astonishing new adaptation of the Dickens classic from London's Neil Bartlett. **For more information**, call the box office at 510.647.2949 or toll-free at 1.888.4.BRT.Tix – or simply click berkeleyrep.org.

Founded in 1968, the Tony Award-winning **Berkeley Repertory Theatre** has established a national reputation for its ambitious programming and dynamic productions. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Tony Taccone and Managing Director Susan Medak, Berkeley Rep seeks to engage its audience in an ongoing dialogue of ideas. Through its bold choice of material and vivid style of production, Berkeley Rep reflects a commitment to diversity, excitement, and quality. The company is especially well known for its presentations of important new dramatic voices and its fresh adaptations of seldom-seen classics. In 2001, Berkeley Rep opened The Roda Theatre, a 600-seat proscenium theatre that complements the 400-seat Thrust Stage, and the Berkeley Rep School of Theatre, housed in the Nevo Education Center. The addition of these two buildings has transformed what was once a single stage into a vital and versatile performing arts complex.

###