



Artists Repertory Theatre

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ARTISTS REP ANNOUNCES ARTS CONSULTING GROUP TO GUIDE THE SEARCH FOR THE NEXT ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

ART's Board of Directors have chosen a firm for the national search for next Artistic Director

PORTLAND, OREGON – February 4, 2022 ART's Board of Directors is pleased to announce the selection of Arts Consulting Group (ACG) to guide the search for the next Artistic Director (AD) at Artists Repertory Theatre (ART). Following the announcement that Artistic Director, Dámaso Rodríguez, was stepping down at the end of the 2021 calendar year, ART's Board of Directors committed to a search process for his replacement involving the entire Artists Rep community, focusing on candidates with diverse perspectives and voices.

ACG's collaborative process ensures that candidates match ART's culture, team, and community. ACG will guide the search with input from the Board of Directors, Executive Director J.S. May, Interim Artistic Director Luan Schooler, Resident Artists, staff, donors, members, and supporters to pursue candidates from across the country. "This will only be the third Artistic Director in ART's History," said Board Chair Pancho Savery. "ART was the first LORT theatre in the United States to hire a Latino AD; a leading-edge decision. ART continues its commitment to break new ground and create space for extraordinary theatre from new voices."

In addition to propelling a collaborative process, ACG is committed to prioritizing inclusion, diversity, equity, and access while minimizing unconscious bias. ACG is thoroughly qualified to find candidates prepared to make this commitment. "The Search Committee selected ACG because like ART, it recognizes the critical role theatre plays in our culture and national conversation and accepts responsibility to make positive change through our work, practices, and policies," said Drea Schmidt, Search Committee Chair. "We believe that the ACG team brings a depth and breadth of experience to identify a visionary AD for Artists Rep."

As ART looks forward to moving into the newly renovated space, the next Artistic Director will have the opportunity to demonstrate a progressive vision for ART programming. The ACG team

was selected because they are not only committed to finding candidates that align with ART's mission but also in finding a candidate who will continue to push the arts culture forward. ART is looking forward to ACG's expertise and personalized approach in finding the next Artistic Director at ART.

ABOUT ARTISTS REPERTORY THEATRE

[ARTISTS REPERTORY THEATRE'S \(Artists Rep or ART\)](#) mission is to produce intimate, provocative theatre and provide a home for a diverse community of artists and audiences to take creative risks. Artists Rep (est. 1982) is Portland's oldest professional theatre company and has become a significant presence in the U.S. regional theatre with a legacy of world, national, and regional premieres of provocative new work with the highest standards of stagecraft. In 2016, ART became the 72nd member of the League of Resident Theatres (LORT) and is an Associate Member of the National New Play Network (NNPN). Plays developed by ART have subsequently been produced in New York, Chicago, London, and throughout the country. Recognition for ART developed plays includes the Dramatists Guild Foundation Award, the Edgerton New Play Award, NEA Funding, the Mellon Foundation National Playwright Residency Program, American Theatre Magazine's Most-Produced Plays, and coverage in the New Yorker and the New York Times. In 2021, the Oregon Media Production Association (OMPA) honored Artists Rep with the Creative Innovation Award for the company's pivot to digital mediums in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic. ART recognizes that we are a predominately white organization and operate within systemic racism and oppression, and that silence and neutrality are actions of complicity. We commit ourselves to the work of becoming an anti-racism and anti-oppression organization, and will [work with urgency](#) to end racial inequities in our industry and our culture. To learn more about our organization and programs, please visit <https://artistsrep.org/about/>

ABOUT ARTS CONSULTING GROUP (ACG)

ACG is the leading provider of hands-on interim management, executive search, revenue enhancement, strategic planning & community engagement, and facilities & program planning services for the arts and culture industry. ACG consultants are located in communities throughout North America to best serve the needs of our clients. ACG team members have decades of combined senior leadership experience in every artistic and cultural discipline and area of functional management expertise.

As specialists in the management of arts and cultural institutions who are personally and passionately committed to the creative industries, we are recognized internationally for our expertise, personalized approach, and extraordinary results.

For more information on ACG, please visit <https://artsconsulting.com/>

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