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TRINITY REP AWARDED GRANT FROM DORIS DUKE FOUNDATION

PROVIDENCE, RI: The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF) announced last week that it has awarded a grant of \$67,818 to Trinity Repertory Company. Trinity Rep will partner with director and community facilitator Laurie Woolery to enhance Trinity Rep's bilingual Spanish-English programming and develop theater work based on oral histories of the Latinx people of Rhode Island with director Mark Valdez. Trinity Rep was one of fourteen organizations selected for an award as a part of the foundation's Building Demand for the Arts program.

The DDCF's Building Demand for the Arts program supports organizations and artists in joint efforts to ignite interest and engagement in jazz, theater and/or contemporary dance from their communities. This program is predicated on the beliefs that artists are key connectors to communities, and that artists and organizations can work together in imaginative new ways to attract and engage audiences. These grants also promote deeper partnerships, longer relationships, and new kinds of conversation and cooperation between organizations and artists.

The Building Demand for the Arts program launched in 2013 as part of a larger, ten-year special initiative through which DDCF earmarked \$50 million for the performing arts above its existing funding. With this final cohort of grantees, the program will have awarded a combined total of more than \$6.6 million to 90 teams of artists and organizations. Trinity Rep previously received a grant through this program in 2015.

Associate Artistic Director and Director of New Play Development **Tyler Dobrowsky** said of the project, “We’re incredibly proud that the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation is rewarding the mutually beneficial engagement work we’ve been doing with Rhode Island Latino Arts and Marta Martínez over the past five years. Laurie Woolery is a visionary leader in this field, and her expertise will be invaluable as we continue to build deep, long-lasting relationships between Trinity Rep and the surging Latinx population of Rhode Island in the years to come. We are beyond thrilled to work with Laurie, and we hope this award helps ensure that future generations of Latinx Rhode Islanders feel at home in our theater.”

Director and community facilitator **Laurie Woolery** said, “I am thrilled to deepen my partnership with Trinity Rep and the community of Rhode Island. So much incredible work has happened over the last several years and getting the opportunity to dig deeper into strengthening those partnerships, continuing to build sustainable infrastructures and create more excellent art is such a powerful affirmation of the importance of theater in community and community in theater.”

ABOUT LAURIE WOOLERY

Laurie Woolery is a director, playwright, educator, and producer. She has worked at the Public Theater, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Yale Repertory Theatre and many more. She is currently the director of public works at the Public Theater, an initiative that seeks to engage the people of New York by making them creators. Woolery has also served as the associate artistic director of Cornerstone Theater Company, as well as artist-in-residence at Hollygrove Children’s Home in Los Angeles. Woolery teaches at institutions across the United States and serves on the board of Latinx Producers Action Network, Latinx Commons, and is a founding member of the Sol Project in New York.

TRINITY REPERTORY COMPANY

Rhode Island’s Tony Award-winning theater, Trinity Rep has created unparalleled professional theater for and with its community since its founding in 1963. Trinity Rep strives to facilitate human



connection and has been a driving force behind the creativity that fuels and defines the region for more than 50 years.

Trinity Rep is committed to reinventing the public square and inspiring dialogue by creating emotionally-stimulating live productions that range from classical to contemporary and innovative education programs for all ages and abilities. Its annual production of *A Christmas Carol* has brought families together for more than four decades and made memories for over a million audience members. Teatro en El Verano tours free bilingual productions to outdoor locations around Rhode Island each summer.

Subscriptions and single tickets are now on sale for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 Seasons. The current season included the world-premiere of *The Prince of Providence* by George Brant, based on the book *The Prince of Providence* by Mike Stanton; with *Fade* by Tanya Saracho; August Wilson's *Radio Golf*; and continues with *A Tale of Two Cities* by Brian McEleney, based on the novel by Charles Dickens; *Sweat* by Lynn Nottage; and *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* with music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim and book by Hugh Wheeler.

For more information on our 2019-20 Season, call the box office at (401) 351-4242 or visit Trinity Rep's website at www.TrinityRep.com.

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