

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Alert for Theatre Editors and Journalists

Chance Theater receives recognition from American Theatre Wing

**Anaheim's official resident theater wins prized National Theatre Company Grant honor
from Founder of the Tony Awards**

October 4, 2016 ... Chance Theater is pleased to announce that the **American Theatre Wing, best known as the creator of the Antoinette Perry "Tony" Awards**, is awarding the Company with one of the **2016 National Theatre Company grants**.

Created by American Theatre Wing to recognize and support the most promising emerging theatre companies, the 2016 grants for Initial Support are being presented to seven companies from around the country. Companies chosen to receive the grants have articulated a distinctive mission, cultivated an audience, and nurtured a community of artists in ways that strengthen and demonstrate the quality, diversity, and dynamism of American theatre.

"We are humbled and overwhelmed by this recognition from the American Theatre Wing," said Casey Long, Chance Theater founding artist and Managing Director. "Since we opened our doors, we've been committed to emphasizing the power and uniqueness of live theater by presenting plays and musicals that engage our community in a dialogue about the human experience. This grant is, in part, recognizing that commitment that is shared by theater companies all over the country. We are honored to be included with these great theaters, and grateful to the American Theatre Wing for supporting our mission of creating bold and personal theater here in Southern California."

This year marked the implementation of new guidelines, creating Second-Time Support grants which are being presented to 5 companies. These grants for the 2016 will be distributed for general operating support to companies who have already received the National Theatre Company Grant in grant cycles occurring between 2010 and 2015. It is the American Theatre Wing's hope to provide additional support for companies who plan to advance their work in a significant way and have a strategic goal to build the organization's capacity to continue to innovate and create a more

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dynamic American Theatre and have described an actionable plan to achieve that goal.

More information about the National Theatre Company grants can be found at <http://americantheatrewing.org/program/national-theatre-co-grants/>.

To schedule press interviews, request photos, schedule press comps or for any additional information, please contact Casey Long at (714) 900-3284 or by e-mail at casey@chancetheater.com.

ABOUT CHANCE THEATER

Proud to be one of the leading ensemble-driven theatre companies in Southern California, CHANCE THEATER has won five Ovation Awards (including two for Best Production of a Musical--Intimate Theater for *Triassic Park -- The Musical* and *Jerry Springer: The Opera*). The Chance also received an LADCC Award for its reimagined revival of *West Side Story*. The Anaheim City Council recently named Chance Theater "the official resident theater company of Anaheim". Twice named "Outstanding Arts Organization" by Arts Orange County, Chance Theater is also a recipient of the LADCC's Polly Warfield Award for Excellence. Chance Theater is focused on its goal of being Orange County's premiere mid-size contemporary theater by contributing to a more compassionate, connected, and creative community. As a constituent member of Theatre Communications Group, Network of Ensemble Theaters, and the LA Stage Alliance, Chance Theater continues to bring national attention to the Southern California and Orange County theater scenes.

ABOUT THE AMERICAN THEATRE WING

The American Theatre Wing is dedicated to advancing artistic excellence and nurturing theatre's next generation: on the stage, behind the scenes, and in the audience. For nearly a century, the Wing has pursued this mission with programs that span the nation to invest in the growth and evolution of American Theatre. Traditionally, the Wing has encouraged members of the theatre community to share their off-stage time and talent directly with the theatre audience at large--whether it was singing for the troops in the Stage Door Canteen of the 1940s, or sharing their stories on a podcast today. As the founders of The Tony Awards®, the American Theatre Wing has developed the foremost national platform for the recognition of theatrical achievement on Broadway. Yet the Wing's reach extends beyond Broadway and beyond New York. The American Theatre Wing is now in a long-term partnership with The Village Voice to co-present The Obie Awards, off-Broadway's Highest Honor. The Wing also develops the next generation of theatre professionals through the

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SpringboardNYC and Theatre Intern Network programs, incubates innovative theatre across the country through the National Theatre Company Grants, fosters the song of American theatre through the Jonathan Larson Grants, honors the best in New York theatrical design with the Henry Hewes Design Award, illuminates the creative process through the “Working in the Theatre” program and media archive. Finally, the Wing supports theatre education opportunities for underserved young people and under-resourced public schools around the United States with the newly launched Andrew Lloyd Webber Initiative. Visitors to AmericanTheatreWing.org can gain inspiration and insight into the artistic process through the Wing’s extensive media collection, and learn more about its programming for students, aspiring and working professionals, and audiences.

Follow the Wing on [Facebook.com/TheAmericanTheatreWing](https://www.facebook.com/TheAmericanTheatreWing) and [Twitter.com/TheWing](https://twitter.com/TheWing).

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