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## Theatre Communications Group Announces Cycle A Recipients of Third Round of Global Connections Program

New York, NY – Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for theatre, is pleased to announce the Cycle A recipients for the third round of **Global Connections**. Supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, this grant program encourages reciprocity and cultural exchange throughout the world through **ON the ROAD** grants to foster new relationships with international colleagues and **IN the LAB** grants to further pre-existing international collaborations. Now in its third year, the Global Connections program awarded up to \$5,000 to seven projects through **ON the ROAD** and \$10,000 to three projects through **IN the LAB**.

“Twelve countries and at least eight different languages are represented in this round of the Global Connections program,” said Teresa Eyring, executive director of TCG. “Through advancing cultural exchange and collaboration, we not only enhance our art form, but deepen peace and mutual understanding.”

### **ON the ROAD**

The following seven recipients were each awarded up to \$5,000 for unrestricted travel support to foster new relationships with international colleagues that will inspire future collaborations:

**Alexander Borinsky** (Brooklyn, NY) will collaborate with theatre-makers Rahel Zegeye and Daniel Balabane in partnership with Masrah Ensemble in Beirut, Lebanon to reimagine both his American monodrama *Baltimore* and Ethiopian playwright Tesegaye Gebre-Medhin’s *Tomorrow’s Man*, resulting in new translations into Arabic, Amharic and English.

**Anisa George** (Philadelphia, PA), the artistic director of Penn Dixie Productions, will forge a new relationship between herself and Lindalinda (Buenos Aires, Argentina) through the creation of a new work, and widen her understanding of and collaboration with the broader Argentine theatre community.

**Hartford Stage’s** (Hartford, CT) Elizabeth Williamson, senior dramaturg and director of new play development, will travel to Tallinn, Estonia to meet with the artists at Teater NO99 and pave the way for future collaboration.

**Interact Center for the Visual & Performing Arts** (Minneapolis, MN), whose Twin Cities home embraces one of the largest Hmong communities in North America, will travel to Hmong Hill Tribes of Chiang Mai Province in Northern Thailand to research stories, music and ceremonies towards the development of a multi-disciplinary, dual-continent, original theater event.

**The Playwrights’ Center’s** (Minneapolis, MN) producing artistic director, Jeremy B. Cohen, will travel to Australia to build relationships with play development, training, and producing organizations towards the creation of a multi-faceted U.S./Australian playwright exchange.

**Théâtre du Rêve** (Atlanta, GA) will bring Béleck Georges of Haiti to Atlanta, GA to create a dialogue with young artists and Atlanta-based professionals in a five-day workshop, exploring their artistic and socio-political voices.

**Anna Vigeland** (Amherst, MA) and Peter Balov of Quebec, Canada will travel to Sofia, Bulgaria in preparation for a collaborative cross-disciplinary theatre production with the Red House Centre for Culture and Debate, uniting Bulgarian, U.S. and Canadian artists.

#### **IN the LAB**

The following three recipients were each awarded \$10,000 to further pre-existing international collaborations by supporting residencies that advance the development of a piece and/or explore elements leading up to a full production:

**Bond Street Theatre** (New York, NY) will continue their collaboration with Thukhuma Khayeethe Theater of Myanmar on a contemporary production of Ben Johnson's *Volpone* adapted to reflect current political and social realities, now beginning the next phase of the creative process, including set and costume preparation, rehearsals, music and choreography.

**Dell'Arte International** (Blue Lake, CA) will bring French director/designer Alain Schons to the U.S. to collaborate with company members Joan Schirle and Laura Muñoz on research and development of *Elisabeth's Book* leading to completion of a script.

**The TEAM** (Brooklyn, NY) will collaborate with the National Theatre of Scotland on a new work exploring the political legacy of the Scottish Enlightenment on both modern American politics and the pending referendum on Scottish Independence.

The **Global Connections selection panel** included **Suzanne Appel**, managing director, The Cutting Ball Theater (San Francisco, CA); **Seth Bockley**, playwright and director (Chicago, IL); **John Flax**, producing artistic director, Theater Grottesco (Santa Fe, NM); **Terry Greiss**, executive director, ensemble actor and co-founder, Irondale Ensemble Project (Brooklyn, NY); and **Lauren Ignaut**, director of studio programming, Guthrie Theater (Minneapolis, MN).

The next application deadline for the Global Connections program is March 3, 2014. To learn more and the program and how to apply, please visit [www.tcg.org/globalconnections](http://www.tcg.org/globalconnections) and register for our Grant Info Session teleconference being held on February 6, 2014.

The **Andrew W. Mellon Foundation** is a private philanthropic institution that makes grants on a selective basis in four core program areas: higher education and scholarship; scholarly communications and information technology; museums and art conservation; and performing arts. The Foundation's Performing Arts program focuses on achieving long-term results by providing multi-year grants to leading organizations in the disciplines of music, theater, and dance. Annual giving in the area of the performing arts has averaged approximately \$30 million per year since 2005. In 2004 The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation was awarded a National Medal of Arts, the highest award given to artists and arts patrons by the United States government. [www.mellon.org](http://www.mellon.org).

For over 50 years, **Theatre Communications Group** (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre, has existed to strengthen, nurture and promote the professional not-for-profit American theatre. TCG's constituency has grown from a handful of groundbreaking theatres to nearly 700 member theatres and affiliate organizations and more than 12,000 individuals nationwide. TCG offers its members networking and knowledge-building opportunities through conferences, events, research and communications; awards grants, approximately \$2 million per year, to theatre companies and individual artists; advocates on the federal level; and serves as the U.S. Center of the International Theatre Institute, connecting its constituents to the global theatre community. TCG is North America's largest independent publisher of dramatic literature, with 12 Pulitzer Prizes for Best Play on the TCG booklist. It also publishes the award-winning AMERICAN THEATRE magazine and ARTSEARCH®, the essential source for a career in the arts. In all of its endeavors, TCG seeks to increase the organizational efficiency of its member theatres, cultivate and celebrate the artistic talent and achievements of the field and promote a larger public understanding of, and appreciation for, the theatre. [www.tcg.org](http://www.tcg.org).

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