

AUDITORIUM THEATRE

CHICAGO'S LANDMARK STAGE EST. 1889

THE THEATRE FOR THE PEOPLE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUDITORIUM THEATRE ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD LEADERSHIP AND MEMBERS

CHICAGO (October 4, 2022) – The Auditorium Theatre Board of Directors proudly announces that long time board member **Thomas R. Baryl** has been named its new Chair and **Patti S. Eylar**, its new Vice Chair. In addition, **Kristina Blaschek**, **Robert Gordon**, and **Dr. Kyong Mee Choi** have been appointed to the Auditorium Theatre Board, with all roles effective immediately, for the three-year 2022–2025 term.

"Tom has been an active member of the Auditorium Theatre Board for over a decade, and a great partner to the theatre and its patrons via his leadership at Loop Auto Parks. We welcome his stewardship and look forward to continuing the theatre's growth under his and Patti's direction," said **Rich Regan**, Chief Executive Officer of the Auditorium Theatre. "Further, on behalf of the Board, we offer much gratitude to outgoing Board Chair Ann Nash, who has guided the company through its COVID challenges with grace and strength and has served on the Board for over 16 years. Her dedication has been nothing short of remarkable."

"I am honored to be leading the Board of this landmark institution and look forward to working with my fellow Directors to maintain the Auditorium's role as one of Chicago's finest presenters of dance and music," added Baryl. "I thank Ann for providing the Board with a more-than-solid foundation for growth; I know I have big shoes to fill."

About the Auditorium Theatre's New Leadership



Thomas R. Baryl, Board Chair, is vice-president of Loop Auto Parks, a long-time corporate sponsor and partner of the Auditorium Theatre and the preferred parking location for its patrons. Baryl was elected to the Auditorium Theatre Board in 2012 and has served as Vice-Chair (2019-2022), Secretary (2017-2019) and Chair of the Facilities Committee (2013-2019). He is a graduate of Purdue University.



Patti S. Eylar, Vice Chair, a former dancer for Maria Tallchief at the Lyric Opera Ballet and then with Ballet Chicago, is currently on Faculty at Chicago Ballet Arts and the newly formed Chicago Movement Collective. Eylar also serves on the boards of The Joffrey Ballet, Chicago Dance History Project, See Chicago Dance, and Chicago Ballet Arts, and is a past President of The Joffrey Ballet Women's Board. She was elected to the Auditorium Theatre Board in 2019 and serves as the Chair of the Dance Advisory Committee.

About the Auditorium Theatre's New Board Members



Kristina Blaschek is director of business and technology solutions for William Blair Investment Management, where she has held leadership roles since 2007. Previously, Blaschek worked in the advisory investment banking industry as an associate at Lazard Middle Market and as an analyst at JPMorgan Chase & Company in Chicago. She currently co-leads the William Blair Women's Alliance. She received a BBA in finance with honors from Loyola University Chicago and an MBA from University of Chicago's Booth School of Business.



Robert Gordon serves as the CFO of IncubEx. Previously, he served as a Consultant at Bain & Company; held the CFO role at R2 Companies; and served as CFO of energy.me. He served on the Auxiliary Board of the Auditorium Theatre since its inception in 2010 and is a Big Sibling at Horizons for Youth mentoring program (2013-Present). Gordon graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a bachelor's degree in Economics and later received his MBA from the University of Chicago's Booth School of Business. Gordon is a CFA charter holder.



Dr. Kyong Mee Choi joins the Auditorium Theatre Board as an ex-officio member serving as the Interim Dean of Chicago College of Performing Arts. Dr. Choi, composer, organist, painter, and visual artist, has received several prestigious awards including John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, Robert Helps Prize, Aaron Copland Award, John Donald Robb Musical Trust Fund Commission, Illinois Arts Council Fellowship, First prize of ASCAP/SEAMUS Award, First Prize for the Birmingham Arts Music Alliance Concert Exchange program, Second prize at VI Concurso Internacional de Música Electroacústica de São Paulo, and Winner of the Tempus Continuum Ensemble Composition Competition, among others. Dr. Choi received a DMA at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, a MM in Music Composition at Georgia State University and a BS in chemistry and science education at Ewha Womans University.

About the Auditorium Theatre

The Auditorium Theatre, located at 50 E. Ida B. Wells Drive at Roosevelt University in Chicago, is an Illinois not-for-profit organization committed to presenting the finest in international, cultural, community, and educational programming to all of Chicago and beyond as The Theatre for the People. The organization also is committed to the continued restoration and preservation of this National Historic Landmark that originally opened in 1889.

Upcoming presentations include [Ghostbusters in Concert](#), Oct. 8; [Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan](#), Oct. 14-15; [Deeply Rooted Dance Theater](#), Nov. 5; [Too Hot to Handel: The Jazz Gospel Messiah](#), Dec. 3 & 4; [Celtic Woman – A Christmas Symphony](#), Dec. 11; [Step Afrika!](#), Jan. 14, 2023; [National Geographic Live Greenwood: A Century of Resilience](#), Jan 29; [Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo](#), Feb. 11; [Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater](#), March 8-12; [National Geographic Live How to Clone a Mammoth](#), March 26; [American Ballet Theatre](#), April 14-16; [Dorrance Dance, Trinity Irish Dance Company, M.A.D.D. Rhythms](#), April 22; [National Geographic Live Coral Kingdom and Empires of Ice](#), April 30; and [South Chicago Dance Theatre](#), June 10.

For a complete listing of events at the Auditorium Theatre, please visit AuditoriumTheatre.org.

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