

## THE PUBLIC THEATER APPOINTS RACHEL PIVNICK NEW CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

May 15, 2013 – The Public Theater (Artistic Director, Oskar Eustis; Executive Director, Patrick Willingham) announced today that **Rachel Pivnick** will join the organization as the new Chief Financial Officer, as of May 13. Pivnick was the Chief Financial Officer at American Ballet Theatre for the past nine years, where she supervised financial planning and operations, human resources, information technology, risk management and administration.

“I am so pleased to welcome Rachel to The Public Theater,” said **Executive Director Patrick Willingham**. “She is passionate about the arts and has the invaluable financial and management experience to support The Public as we continue to expand our mission to support artists and engage the community.”

“I am thrilled to join The Public Theater at such an exciting time,” said **Rachel Pivnick**. “The Public has long been a theater I’ve admired and I look forward to working with Oskar Eustis, Patrick Willingham, The Public’s amazing board and its dedicated staff as the theater grows and thrives in the coming years.”

**RACHEL PIVNICK** served as Chief Financial Officer at American Ballet Theatre since 2004. With twenty plus years in senior finance positions, she also worked with Dance Theatre Workshop during their transition from garage to new facility; Kiwi Associates providing interim CFO services; and SBS International, an aviation technology firm. Pivnick holds an M.B.A. in Marketing from Columbia Business School and a Bachelor of Arts from the State University of New York at Albany. She is a trustee of Day Care Council of New York, an advocate for quality child and family care services.

### **ABOUT THE PUBLIC THEATER’S DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION**

Completed in October 2012, the revitalization of The Public Theater’s downtown home at Astor Place physically manifests the Company’s core mission of sparking new dialogues and increasing accessibility for artists and audiences by dramatically opening up its landmark building to the street and community, and transforming the lobby into a public piazza for artists, students, and audiences. Designed by Ennead Architects and constructed by Westerman Construction, the project encompasses enhancements to the building’s interior and exterior while preserving the historic structure. Key elements of the design include infrastructure updates to the 158-year old building, as well as construction of new exterior entry stair and glass canopy; installation of ramps for improved accessibility; an expanded and refurbished lobby; the addition of a mezzanine level with a new lounge, The Library at The Public, designed by the Rockwell Group; expansion and remodeling of restroom facilities; and comprehensive exterior restoration, ensuring stability of the landmark façade.

### **ABOUT THE PUBLIC THEATER AT ASTOR PLACE**

Under the leadership of Artistic Director Oskar Eustis and Executive Director Patrick Willingham, The Public Theater is the only theater in New York that produces Shakespeare and the classics, musicals, contemporary and experimental pieces in equal measure. The Public continues the work of its visionary founder, Joe Papp, by acting as an advocate for the theater as an essential cultural force, and leading and framing dialogue on some of the most important issues of our day. Creating theater for one of the largest and most diverse audience bases in New York City for nearly 60 years, today the Company

engages audiences in a variety of venues—including its landmark downtown home at Astor Place, which houses five theaters and Joe’s Pub; the Delacorte Theater in Central Park, home to its beloved, free Shakespeare in the Park; and the Mobile Unit, which tours Shakespearean productions for underserved audiences throughout New York City’s five boroughs. The Public’s wide range of programming includes free Shakespeare in the Park, the bedrock of the Company’s dedication to making theater accessible to all, new and experimental stagings at The Public at Astor Place, and a range of artist and audience development initiatives including its Public Forum series, which brings together theater artists and professionals from a variety of disciplines for discussions that shed light on social issues explored in Public productions. The Public Theater is located on property owned by the City of New York and receives annual support from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs. The LuEsther T. Mertz Charitable Trust provides leadership support for The Public Theater’s year-round activities.  
[www.publictheater.org](http://www.publictheater.org)

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