



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Bea González to be Honored June 19 at Syracuse Stage Gala Event**

(Syracuse, NY)— Bea González will be honored with the 4<sup>th</sup> annual *Louis G. Marcoccia Award for Exemplary Service to Syracuse Stage* at the Gala Event taking place at Schine Student Center on Syracuse University's Campus June 19, 2015. The event features a cocktail reception, silent auction, and dinner followed by a concert by Grammy Award-winning Blues artist, Keb' Mo'.

"Bea has been a positive force and a force of nature for us in this theatre for many years," said Producing Artistic Director Timothy Bond. "She has been our conduit to the community and a great ambassador for Syracuse Stage. We are so glad to be able to honor her for her amazing service to this theatre."

Her connection to theatre began early as a student attending local performances. "I think theatre can be transformative because it was for me as a student," González says. "I really believe that creating an opportunity to experience live theatre for as many people as possible is critical because it just might be transformative for them."

Gonzalez, who now serves as the Treasurer of the Syracuse Stage Board of Trustees, following her service as Chair of the Board, has been a moving force making connections that make a difference within the Central New York community. For example, she has helped see that Syracuse Stage productions be part of an effort to reach at risk youth in the community. She has worked to increase accessibility for students to expand their understanding by attending plays pertaining to topics in which they have interest. By involving foundations and city government to assisting with special events to literally buying tickets for individual students, González has made it possible for many in the Central New York community and at Syracuse University to engage with the power of theatre.

"Bea's exemplary passion, skills, and service have significantly influenced numerous important positive changes that have enhanced many greater Central New York community organizations," says Louis G. Marcoccia, President, Syracuse Stage's Board of Trustees. "Syracuse Stage is an illustration of an important community asset that has substantially benefitted from Bea's dedicated leadership and service."

González remembers learning Robert Frost's "The Road Less Traveled By" as a third-grader in Mrs. Corbett's class. It was an early transformative experience for her. "It's one of those things I've used all my life," she explains. "Which way do I go? Do I go this way that is more comfortable, or do I take a little risk?"



González' connection to the theatre is more than professional, it's a personal effort. "You make friends with people. You have ties with people. It's important," she explains. This personal involvement that she brings to all of her roles, from welcoming a cast to a new city by opening her home or sitting and listening to student concerns, is a big part of what makes her such a successful and caring communicator and connector. Bea González is a living testament to the lesson of Robert Frost's poem. She has taken the road less traveled by and it has made a difference in her life, just as her efforts have made a difference for Syracuse Stage, Syracuse University, and the entire Central New York community.

*Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.*

For more information about the 2015 Syracuse Stage Gala, visit [www.syracusestage.org](http://www.syracusestage.org) or follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

## ABOUT SYRACUSE STAGE

Syracuse Stage is Central New York's premier professional theatre. Founded in 1974, Stage has produced more than 300 plays in over 40 seasons including a number of world, American, and East Coast premieres. Each season 70,000 patrons enjoy an adventurous mix of new plays, and bold interpretations of classics and musicals, featuring the finest theatre artists. In addition, Stage maintains a vital educational outreach program that annually serves more than 15,000 students from 14 counties. A solid core of subscribers and supporters helps keep Syracuse Stage a vibrant artistic presence in Central New York. Additional support comes from the government, foundations, corporations and Syracuse University. Syracuse Stage is a constituent of the Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre, and a member of the Arts and Cultural Leadership Alliance (ACLA), the University Hill Corporation and the East Genesee Regent Association. Syracuse Stage is a member of The League of Resident Theatres (LORT), the largest professional theatre association in the country.

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