Syracuse Stage to receive $10,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts

SYRACUSE, NY – National Endowment for the Arts Acting Chairman Mary Anne Carter has approved more than $80 million in grants as part of the Arts Endowment’s second major funding announcement for fiscal year 2019. Included in this announcement is an Art Works grant of $10,000 to Syracuse Stage for the 2019/2020 season Cold Read Festival of New Plays. Art Works is the Arts Endowment’s principal grantmaking program. The agency received 1,592 Art Works applications for this round of grantmaking, and will award 977 grants in this category.

“These awards, reaching every corner of the United States, are a testament to the artistic richness and diversity in our country,” said Mary Anne Carter, acting chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. “Organizations such as Syracuse Stage are giving people in their community the opportunity to learn, create and be inspired.”

Cold Read is Syracuse Stage’s launch pad for making new play development and production a fully realized part of Syracuse Stage’s mission and programming. Cold Read establishes vital artistic
conversations and relationships with guest artists and excites audiences and the Central New York community about new works for the stage.

The Cold Read Festival of New Plays returns for a third year in the 2019/2020 season (April 1 – 5, 2020) with renowned Latino playwright Octavio Solis and nationally recognized poet Charles Martin represented by his new translation of "Medea." As Festival playwright-in-residence, Solis will share a draft of new work in progress. Solis has written more than 20 plays and has been produced at more than 25 theaters nationwide including Yale Repertory Theater, Mark Taper Forum, Denver Center Theater and the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. His memoir “Retablos: Stories From A Life Lived Along The Border” was released in October 2018 and recounts his childhood in El Paso, Texas. Solis served as a cultural consultant on the Disney Pixar film “Coco.”

“Writing the American story through a Mexican-American lens, Octavio Solis has been a singular poetic and daring voice in the American Theater for more than 20 years,” said Syracuse Stage associate artistic director and Cold Read curator Kyle Bass. “I’m thrilled to bring his necessary voice, exciting new work and generosity of spirit to Cold Read.”

Martin, who features as the local author in Cold Read’s "Write Here" presentation, lives in Syracuse and is the author of eight books of poetry. His new translation of Euripides’ “Medea” has been published by University of California Press.

For more information on this National Endowment for the Arts grant announcement, visit arts.gov/news.

ABOUT SYRACUSE STAGE
Founded in 1974, Syracuse Stage is the non-profit, professional theatre company in residence at Syracuse University. It is nationally recognized for creating stimulating theatrical work that engages Central New York and significantly contributes to the artistic life of Syracuse University, where it is a vital partner in achieving the educational mission of the University’s Department of Drama. Syracuse Stage’s mission is to tell stories that engage, entertain and inspire people to see life beyond their own experience. 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. 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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