



FIVE THEATRE-PLAYWRIGHT PARTNERSHIPS RECEIVE GRANTS THROUGH DORIS DUKE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION'S THEATRE COMMISSIONING AND PRODUCTION INITIATIVE

New York, NY, January 14, 2016 — The Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF) today announced the second round of recipients of its [Theatre Commissioning and Production Initiative](#). The program grants \$125,000 to select theatres to produce a new, large-scale work by an American playwright as well as commission an additional new work by the same playwright. In doing so, the initiative looks to encourage the ongoing work of playwrights, who are often undercompensated for their work; foster long-term relationships between theatres and writers; and support the production of plays that may not have immediate commercial appeal, yet serve a theatre's nonprofit mission.

"We are honored to support these outstanding theaters in sustained relationships with playwrights to bring bold new works to the public," said Cheryl Ikemiya, senior program officer for the Arts at the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. "This initiative aims to recognize and honor playwrights, nonprofit theatres and the partnerships they can forge to bring plays of ambitious scale and thematic importance to the national public."

This second round of grants will support:

- [Children's Theatre Company](#) (Minneapolis, MN) in its collaboration with playwright Philip Dawkins, including the production of *Dr. Seuss' The Sneetches*.
- [Goodman Theatre](#) (Chicago, IL) in its collaboration with playwright José Rivera, including the production of *Another Word for Beauty*.
- [Lincoln Center Theater](#) (New York, NY) in its collaboration with playwright J.T. Rogers, including the production of *Oslo*.
- [Roundabout Theatre Company](#) (New York, NY) in its collaboration with playwright Meghan Kennedy, including the production of *Napoli, Brooklyn*.
- [Victory Gardens Theater](#) (Chicago, IL) in its collaboration with playwright Marcus Gardley, including the production of *A Wonder in My Soul*.

The foundation has awarded a total of \$1.25 million of funding to date through the Theatre Commissioning and Production Initiative, the first round of which was announced in early 2015. Each grant is composed of three parts: \$75,000 to the theatre to support its production of the play; \$25,000 to the playwright; and \$25,000 to be shared between the theatre and playwright to support a new commission and potential development activities such as workshops and artist residencies. Visit the [Theatre Commissioning and Production Initiative](#) page on www.ddcf.org to learn more.

About the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

The mission of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF) is to improve the quality of people's lives through grants supporting the performing arts, environmental conservation, medical research and child well-being, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke's properties. The Arts Program of DDCF focuses its support on contemporary dance, jazz and theatre artists, and the organizations that nurture, present and produce them. For more information, please visit www.ddcf.org.

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