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MEIYU TSUNG APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT FOR WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS

Meiyu Tsung steps into the role with 22 years of professional experience in performing arts fundraising, donor stewardship and engagement, and event management.



(Washington, D.C.) — Washington Performing Arts announced today the promotion of **Meiyu Tsung** as its Director of Advancement. Tsung started in the role on September 15, 2023, joining the management team to lead the organization’s philanthropic work.

As the Director of Advancement, Tsung will develop and guide the implementation of WPA’s overall fundraising strategy for annual, multi-year, special project, and endowment giving. Additionally, Tsung will focus on achieving goals for patron engagement and donor stewardship.

“I am thrilled beyond words, personally and professionally,” said **Washington Performing Arts President & CEO Jenny Bilfield**. “Meiyu possesses the qualities I consider essential in this role: a skilled steward of relationships and resources, experience, integrity, strategic mindset, authenticity, and drive. How fortunate that she is already a treasured and valued member of the WPA family.”

Prior to Washington Performing Arts, Tsung was a critical member at the Studio Theatre in Washington, D.C., where she was recognized with the Offstage Honors by the League of

Washington Theatres for her outstanding fundraising performance and efforts in support of the Theatre's 13 million four-theater complex expansion project.

"Washington Performing Arts has a tremendous culture and proud history," Tsung said. "I am truly grateful to have this opportunity to deepen the partnerships with the board, management team, supporters, and our community. I look forward to working more closely with my colleagues to build on our strong momentum and continue to support the organization's mission, programs, and strategies."

Born and raised in Taipei, Taiwan, Tsung began her Chinese Opera training at age nine at the Fu-Hsin Dramatic and Arts Academy (now the National Taiwan College of Performing Arts) in Taipei, Taiwan. Meiyu specialized in Female Warrior – a role that integrates a choreographed, skillful combination of martial arts, dancing, juggling, and acting – in performance. Meiyu received her B.A. in Chinese Opera Performance at Chinese Culture University in Taipei, Taiwan. She performed regularly in Taiwan and overseas and taught folk dance to children until she came to pursue her M.A. degree in Arts Management at American University in Washington, D.C.

Tsung makes her home in Potomac, Maryland, with her husband and two daughters. Tsung is a two-time marathon finisher: 2022 Marine Corps Marathon and 2023 Boston Marathon.

ABOUT WASHINGTON PERFORMING ARTS

One of the most established and honored performing arts institutions in America, Washington Performing Arts has engaged for more than half a century with artists, audiences, students, and civic life. The city is truly our stage: for decades, in venues ranging from concert halls and clubs to public parks, we have presented a tremendous range of artists and art forms, from the most distinguished symphony orchestras to both renowned and emerging artists in classical music, gospel music, jazz, culturally-specific genres, dance, and more. We also have an ever-expanding artistic and educational presence on the internet, envisioning ongoing opportunities for online connection and community.

Washington Performing Arts deeply values its partnerships with local organizations and other arts institutions. Through events online and in myriad performance venues and neighborhoods, we engage international visiting artists in community programs and introduce local artists to wider audiences. We place a premium on establishing artists as a continuing presence in the lives of both young people and adults through residencies and education programs.

Our achievements have been recognized with a National Medal of Arts and with three Mayor's Arts Awards from the DC Government. We have now embarked upon our second half-century, ever inspired by the motto of our founder, Patrick Hayes: "Everybody in, nobody out."

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