

ARENA STAGE MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARENA STAGE RENAMES CAFÉ SPACE THE RICHARD AND BETH NEWBURGER SCHWARTZ CAFÉ AND ANNOUNCES NAMING OF THE MARGOT KELLY TERRACE

(Washington, D.C.) Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater is pleased to announce the renaming of its café space, the Richard and Beth Newburger Schwartz Café, or **Richard's Place**. Formerly known as the Catwalk Café, Arena's casual dining area has been renamed in memory of the late Richard Schwartz, a longtime supporter of Arena Stage and the Washington, D.C. theater community, and Arena Stage board president Beth Newburger Schwartz. Arena Stage is celebrating this change with an updated redesign of the dining area and a recommitment to its menu of dramatic cuisine inspired by the plays being performed.

Arena Stage is also pleased to announce the naming of the **Margot Kelly Terrace**. Located at the north end of the Mead Center for American Theater and overlooking the newest expansion of the Southwest neighborhood, The Wharf, the Margot Kelly Terrace is named for one of Arena Stage's most ardent supporters.

This recognition celebrates two important leadership contributions to The Ovation Campaign.

Richard Schwartz co-founded and chaired the Boat Owners Association of The United States (BoatUS), the predominant advocacy and boater services organization for the nation's recreational boat owners. After 47 years as the leader of the more than half million-member boating association, he remained chairman of the BoatUS Board of Director and the BoatUS National Advisory Council. He received a bachelor's degree in political science in 1951 from Princeton University and graduated from Yale Law School in 1956, before founding BoatUS in 1966. After retiring from BoatUS, Mr. Schwartz began and managed Richlynd Federal, an Alexandria-based firm that represents small technology businesses. He served on the board of TheatreWashington. His honors included the Coast Guard's Distinguished Public Service Award in 2013.

Beth Newburger Schwartz is an entrepreneur who has founded and sold several businesses and is currently heading Richlynd Federal and Epoch Communications. She is known for her work as director of communications for the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Prior to joining the National Trust, she was appointed by President Clinton to co-chair the Presidential Women's History Commission and vice-chair the bi-partisan Congressional Women's Progress Commission. She also served in both Clinton administrations as associate administrator of the general services administration and outreach coordinator for the White House Office of Women's Initiatives and Outreach. Before entering public service, Beth was the founder and CEO of Corabi International Telemetrics, Inc., the company that invented and marketed the patented telepathology process that allows physicians to make diagnoses from a remote location. She was also the founder/president of Owlcat/Digital Research, Inc., the company that developed the first computer-based test preparation products for the SATs. Newburger Schwartz has also served as publisher of *Washington Woman Magazine*, chairman/CEO of Health Street, Inc., marketing manager of *The Washington Post* and the director of advertising for the *New Republic Magazine*.

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Newburger Schwartz is a former chairman and currently a trustee of the National Children's Museum and the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library. In addition to Arena Stage, she also serves on the boards of the Eleanor Roosevelt Papers, President's Council of Cornell Women, ApolloPacs and Boat Owners Association of the United States. The Cornell University graduate shared her love of theater and the arts with her late husband, Richard Schwartz, the founder of BoatUS and an extraordinary philanthropist.

Margot Kelly came to Washington, D.C., in 1950 as a member of the German Embassy. She immigrated a few years later and became associated with real estate. During the latter part of the 1960's she shifted her emphasis to rehabilitation and restored several classical revival and beaux arts buildings on Capitol Hill, receiving an award for one of them. In the early 1990s, she served as President of the Barracks Row Business Alliance. The organization was created to improve the business environment and to work toward the creation of a Main Street Program. She also served as a board member of CHAMPS, concentrating on zoning issues. Reaching a certain age, Margot resigned from both organizations. She enjoyed extensive travels early on to places like China, Tibet and Siberia, Margot still enjoys cross-country skiing, gardening, walking the beach in Rehoboth and the company of good friends.

Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater, under the leadership of Artistic Director Molly Smith and Executive Director Edgar Dobie, is a national center dedicated to American voices and artists. Arena Stage produces plays of all that is passionate, profound, deep and dangerous in the American spirit, and presents diverse and ground-breaking work from some of the best artists around the country. Arena Stage is committed to commissioning and developing new plays and impacts the lives of over 10,000 students annually through its work in community engagement. Now in its seventh decade, Arena Stage serves a diverse annual audience of more than 300,000. arenastage.org

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