



**HELEN HAYES  
AWARDS**

**THEATRE WASHINGTON**

# Theatre Washington Team

Bonnie Nelson Schwartz  
*Founder, Helen Hayes Awards*

Amy Austin  
*President & CEO*

Liz O'Meara-Goldberg  
*Strategic Communications*

Katherine Ross  
*Advancement Manager*

Lee Cromwell  
*General Manager*



# WELCOME

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## INTRODUCTIONS

Do you have a favorite DC-area theatre?  
Which one? Why?



# 2026 HELEN HAYES AWARDS



# PREVIOUS HONORARY CHAIRS



**SHEILA JOHNSON &  
THE HONORABLE WILLIAM T. NEWMAN JR.**



**ANGIE GATES,  
PRESIDENT AND CEO, EVENTS DC**



# HONORARY CHAIRS 2026

**ROBERT PULLEN,  
PRODUCER,  
NOUVEAU PRODUCTIONS**

**& LUKE FRASIER,  
AMERICAN POPS  
ORCHESTRA**



# TRANSFORMATIVE CULTURAL IMPACT AWARD

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The Transformative Cultural Impact Award will honor Adrienne's sustained investment in artists and institutions, through which she has expanded access to the arts, strengthened creative ecosystems, and championed culture as a public good that enriches civic life.

## Adrienne Arsht

Founding chairman of the  
Adrienne Arsht Center Foundation,  
Chairman emerita of Totalbank



# 2026 LEADERSHIP



**JAN DU PLAIN**



**EDIE FRASER**



**CATHERINE HAND**



**BETH MENDELSON**



**BONNIE NELSON SCHWARTZ,  
FOUNDER OF THE HELEN HAYES AWARDS**



**ANNIE SIMONIAN TOTAH**



**JOSE ALBERTO UCLES  
& TOM NOLL**



# 2026 HOST COMMITTEE

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## PRODUCER

Andrew R. Ammerman  
John & Meg Hauge  
Craig Pascal  
The Savada-Stevenson Family

## SUPPORTER

Nathan & Debbie Ainspan  
Susan & Dixon Butler  
Robert E. Hebda  
David & Rita Sirignano  
Carol Schwartz

## DIRECTOR

Michael Burke & Carl Smith  
Kevin Hennessy & David Lamdin  
Renee Klish & Debbie and Bill Jackson-Lammers  
Sharon Lewis Tompkins  
Abel Lopez  
Bonnie Nelson Schwartz

# Attendees - 2025

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- **Two dozen diplomats** from various countries and embassies
- Local civic and government leadership,
- Local cultural icons including Robert Hooks, Sheila Johnson, Colby King, Virginia Ali & more
- 1,600 total guests
  - Over 700 theatre artists, directors, designers from DC & around the world



# GOALS

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## FUNDRAISING GOALS

- \$400,000 - which includes:
  - 4 new Director Level Sponsors
  - 6 new Supporter Level Sponsors
    - Renewals/upgraded support from 85% of current supporters
  - Corporate Support



# Invited Guests

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- Fill the room with:
  - civic and government
  - arts philanthropists
  - diplomatic community



# SUPPORTER EXPERIENCE

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- 5:00 PM - Red Carpet Arrivals & Cocktail Reception
  - Special VIP entrance and photo station for the Host Committee & Guests, complimentary cocktails
- 6:00 PM - Dinner with table wine service
- 7:00 PM - Awards Ceremony with intermission for dessert and mingling
- Attire is Formal & Festive!



# FOOD AND DRINK

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W  
WINDOWS  
CATERING



# EVENT DETAILS

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Monday, May 18, 2026

The Anthem, 901 Wharf Street SW

- Red Carpet Arrivals beginning at 5pm
- 3-Course Dinner
- Show & Ceremony



# THOUGHTS ON 2026

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