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For Immediate Release**BERKELEY REP TO RECEIVE \$50,000 GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS****Funds to support The Ground Floor: Berkeley Rep's Center for the Creation and Development of
New Work**

February 4, 2021 — Berkeley Repertory Theatre today announced the theatre has been approved for a \$50,000 Art Works grant to support **The Ground Floor: Berkeley Rep's Center for the Creation and Development of New Work**. The Ground Floor is among 1,073 projects across America totaling nearly \$25 million that were selected during this first round of fiscal year 2021 funding in the Grants for Arts Projects funding category.

"The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to support this project from Berkeley Rep," said Arts Endowment Acting Chairman Ann Eilers. "Berkeley Rep is among the arts organizations across the country that have demonstrated creativity, excellence, and resilience during this very challenging year."

"We're thrilled that the NEA continues to support this project," said Berkeley Rep Managing Director Susie Medak. "During this period of struggle and uncertainty in the arts, it is ever more meaningful the NEA considers the work of innovative artists as a critical investment."

Since 2012, 134 Ground Floor residencies have been awarded to artists working on a wide range of projects, including Sarah Ruhl's *Becky Nurse of Salem*, Anna Deavere Smith's *Notes from the Field*, John Leguizamo's *Latin History for Morons*, Anaïs Mitchell's Tony Award-winning musical *Hadestown*, Dave Malloy's *Ghost Quartet*, Lauren Yee's *Cambodian Rock Band*, and Marcus Gardley's *The House that will not Stand*.

The Ground Floor is supported by Louise Gund, Frances Hellman & Warren Breslau, Michael & Sue Steinberg, and other individual supporters of Berkeley Rep's Create Campaign. Additional funding is provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Tournesol Project, and Bank of America.

For more information on projects included in the Arts Endowment grant announcement, visit [arts.gov/news](https://www.arts.gov/news).

ABOUT THE GROUND FLOOR

The Ground Floor: Berkeley Rep's Center for the Creation and Development of New Work seeks to enhance and expand the processes by which Berkeley Rep makes theatre. We strive to offer the most flexible environment possible for artists to come together and share ideas in person, to receive customized support on each individual project, and to work together across disciplines. We will maintain an ongoing conversation with our audience and community about the work we are creating, and we will champion the spirit of innovation so inherent to Berkeley and the Bay Area.

ABOUT BERKELEY REP

Berkeley Repertory Theatre has grown from a storefront stage to an international leader in innovative theatre. Known for its ambition, relevance, and excellence, as well as its adventurous audience, the nonprofit has provided a welcoming home for emerging and established artists since 1968. Over 5.5 million people have enjoyed nearly 500 shows at Berkeley Rep, which have gone on to win six Tony

Awards, seven Obie Awards, nine Drama Desk Awards, one Grammy Award, one Pulitzer Prize, and many other honors. Berkeley Rep received the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre in 1997. To formalize, enhance, and expand the processes by which Berkeley Rep makes theatre, The Ground Floor: Berkeley Rep's Center for the Creation and Development of New Work was launched in 2012. The Berkeley Rep School of Theatre engages and educates some 20,000 people a year and helps build the audiences of tomorrow with its nationally recognized teen programs. Berkeley Rep's bustling facilities — which also include the 400-seat Peet's Theatre, the 600-seat Roda Theatre, and a spacious campus in West Berkeley — are helping revitalize a renowned city. Be a Rep.

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