

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



188 Campus Drive, Arcadia, CA 91007
www.arcadiapaf.org
(626) 821-1781

Press Contact:
Gary Kovacic, President/CEO
gkovacic@arcadiapaf.org

ARCADIA PERFORMING ARTS FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES CORPORATE EXECUTIVE AND ARTS VETERAN MAKI HSIEH AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



ARCADIA, CA – March 13, 2017 – The Arcadia Performing Arts Foundation's Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Maki Hsieh as its new Executive Director.

Hsieh will lead all aspects of the Foundation, manage the Arcadia Performing Arts Center, promote high-quality cultural and artistic programming, and advance the Foundation's vision to raise funds supporting arts education in the schools.

Constructed with proceeds from a bond measure voted by the citizens of Arcadia, the stunning \$20-million, 40,000-square foot Center opened in 2012. The Center is located on the 40-acre

Arcadia High School campus, and houses the school's acclaimed dance, music, and theatre companies. The state-of-the-art regional performing arts venue is also a location for touring artist concerts, recitals, distinguished speakers, special events, and commercial filming.

Hsieh was selected from a field of 50 candidates after a national search led by the Foundation's Chairman of the Board James Romo, President/CEO Gary Kovacic, and Director Richard Tauer. Carolyn Wagner Consulting was retained to conduct the executive search.

Chairman Romo, speaking on the Board's behalf states: "We are very excited to have Ms. Hsieh join our team as Executive Director. Her depth of experience and passion for reaching the goals of the Foundation impressed the Board, making her our top choice."

Raised in Taipei and Tokyo, Hsieh brings a global presence to her leadership roles as a corporate executive, nonprofit professional and performing artist. Hsieh's accomplished track record includes closing more than \$6.6 billion in sponsorships, investment banking, and new business development during her twenty years in media, entertainment and finance industries. Prior to joining the Arcadia Performing Arts Center, Hsieh served as Executive Director for the private equity company JTN Group. She also has extensive experience in executive communications for the Chairman at The Walt Disney Company, institutional advancement as Director of Development at the Gallo Center for the Arts, and asset management for Fortune 500 corporations including Visa and Deutsche Bank.

Classically-trained at Peabody Conservatory as violinist, concert pianist and opera singer who performs in 12 languages, Hsieh's debut at age 15 was held at the National Recital Hall for Taiwan's First Lady. After classical music accolades including competition prizes and performing for Queen Paolo of Belgium, Hsieh's 2013 Skrillex remix made number one for five weeks on Global, U.S. and Los Angeles electronic music charts. Hsieh has appeared in a Cannes Film Festival film and in over 300 red carpet events, performing arts centers, festivals, and arenas including the Special Olympics World Games and singing the national anthem at a Major League Baseball Division Series televised on FOX Sports Network.

A cultural ambassador, Hsieh attended Taipei American School with arts awards in orchestra, choir, theatre, poetry and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Voice of Democracy Speechwriting Prize. At Phillips Academy Andover, she was concertmaster of two orchestras and received the Andover Music Prize. Hsieh graduated from the Johns Hopkins University as pre-med majoring in Sociology, won the Hopkins Provost Prize for her research of inner-city youth academic achievement, and worked for Al Gore as part of her Hopkins fellowship. Hsieh relocated her family to the Arcadia Unified School District in 2012 so that her two daughters Camilla and Aubrey could balance academic excellence with talent development at the Center.

Hsieh says of her new position: "It is a privilege for me to be entrusted with the stewardship of the Arcadia Performing Arts Foundation. I am honored for the opportunity to lead the Center as a cultural destination and youth talent incubator that makes great art accessible, and to contribute towards integrating cultural narratives in the United States."

"I look forward to collaborating with our dedicated board, staff, community partners and executive leaders in our shared vision to launch this exciting new chapter in the Foundation's development, and in the Center's transformation."

About the Arcadia Performing Arts Foundation

The Arcadia Performing Arts Foundation, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, was created to support arts education in the schools and is dedicated to maintaining the Performing Arts Center as a nucleus for the arts, education and engagement where the lives of students and the greater community are enriched. The Arcadia Performing Arts Center is destined to be a world-class venue where lessons are learned, talent is fostered and an impressive array of arts is shared and cultivated.

Maki Hsieh is available for media interviews upon request.

For more information, please contact:

Gary Kovacic, President/CEO

gkovacic@arcadiapaf.org

###