



Press Release

## National Theatre School Thanks Gideon Arthurs for his Service

**Montreal, January 10, 2022** - It is with a mix of sadness and gratitude that the Board of Directors of the National Theatre School of Canada, Canada's oldest and most innovative arts institution providing professional training in all areas of theatre in both English and French, announces the departure of its Chief Executive Officer, Gideon Arthurs at the end of the school year. After seven years at the school's helm, Gideon was instrumental in the National Theatre School of Canada's evolution, launching the institution's Artistic Leadership Residency program and Centre for Theatre Research and Development. Mr. Arthurs joined the NTS in 2014 after serving as General Manager of Toronto's Tarragon Theatre and as Executive Director of the Toronto Fringe Festival. In a few months, Gideon will become the Executive Director of Soulpepper Theatre Company in Toronto. Founded in 1998, Soulpepper has since become an important part of Toronto's theatre scene and Canada's leading artist-driven theatre company

### **Significant contributions to the school's leadership**

During his tenure at the National Theatre School of Canada, Gideon made significant contributions to the modernization of the institution and will leave several important legacies to the NTS. Firstly, the institution is in excellent financial health and has a solid funding structure thanks to increased public and private revenues. Furthermore, community programs initiated under Gideon's leadership, along with the NTS DramaFest, reach more than 7,700 students, 680 teachers and volunteers in 416 shows in over 350 schools and communities across the country. Moreover, a major restructuring of the Administration has created a more distributed leadership model, better adapted to the complex environment of today's world. Gideon worked with the artistic leadership of the organization to create more synergy between the English and French sections, to develop a new Artistic residency program tailored to Indigenous artists and emerging cultural leaders, and to launch a Centre for Research and Creation at the Monument- National. The renovations brought to the Saint-Denis Campus now allow a broader clientele to access the entire building. These initiatives and others were all designed to broaden the community of the School and drive the organization to be ever more accessible, inclusive and diverse.

"Gideon has made an extraordinary contribution to the National Theatre School and his leadership has enabled us to further reach out to our community and create an inspirational environment for all students," stated the Co-Chairs of the School's Board of Directors, Terrie- Lynne Devonish and Maxime Gagné. "Gideon put this vision into action, all while maintaining the quality of our educational offerings during this time of global pandemic."

### **A replacement process to be defined**

The Board of Directors and Co-Chairs will commence a search for a candidate to fill Mr. Arthurs' position, as the NTS remains dedicated to its bright future. More information about the selection process will be made public in the coming weeks.

**About the National Theatre School of Canada**

The National Theatre School of Canada (NTS) was established in Montreal in 1960 and is now considered the leading theatre training school in Canada. It provides incomparable training in French and English to actors, directors, playwrights, designers and production specialists to prepare them to work in professional theatre; — Delivers a broad range of community programs in order to make theatre more accessible to all Canadians. As a global leader in theatre training, NTS shares its expertise and resources with a broad and diverse community of Canadians to ensure that the performing arts continue to play an important role in society.

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