

Press Release
Atlas Performing Arts Center
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Atlas Performing Arts Center Names Jarrod Bennett as Executive Director

Jarrod Bennett will lead the organization after Douglas Yeuell's retirement.

Washington, D.C. – The Atlas Performing Arts Center is proud to announce the appointment of Jarrod Bennett as Executive Director. The appointment marks an exciting new chapter for the Atlas and Bennett brings a wealth of experience, innovative ideas, and deep commitment to serving the Washington, DC community. Bennett, who currently serves as Director of Operations at the Atlas, will succeed Douglas Yeuell, who has led the Atlas with distinction since 2014.

“We are delighted that after an extensive national search led by Board member Steven Brose and a dedicated search committee, Jarrod Bennett has been chosen as our new Executive Director. We were impressed by Jarrod’s proven leadership, strategic planning, and vision for the Atlas and are excited to work with him in his new role,” said Donna Rattley-Washington, Chair of the Board for the Atlas Performing Arts Center. “Jarrod has been a vital member of the Atlas team and will be an excellent leader for the future of the Atlas.”

Jane Lang, Atlas Founder and Chair Emeritus, expressed her enthusiasm, adding “It’s my great joy to welcome Jarrod Bennett as the next Executive Director of the Atlas. Jarrod has demonstrated his stellar management, production, personnel, and technical skills at the Atlas for the past three years. After a national search, I am thrilled that we found our next leader within the Atlas family.”

Bennett is a highly-skilled arts administrator and musician with more than 20 years of management experience in the military as well as in the public and non-profit sectors. The son of a United States Marine and an ESL Teacher/Japanese translator, Jarrod was raised in Japan and Hawaii where he first developed his love of the performing arts and swimming. Previously, Bennett served as Director of Aquatic Programming for the Marine Corps Community Services and held leadership positions with the YMCA of Metropolitan Washington and National Headquarters of the American Red Cross. An active singer, Jarrod has been a member of the Gay Men’s Chorus of Washington, DC (GMCW) since 2009. In 2017, he became Technical Director of GMCW. He joined the Atlas as Director of Operations in 2022.

“As the new Executive Director of the Atlas Performing Arts Center, I am excited to share my vision for the future,” said Bennett. “The Atlas has long been a beacon of art and culture, and it

is my mission to ensure it continues to thrive as a vibrant hub for our community. My vision is built on four pillars: forming new and lasting partnerships, making the arts accessible, innovative programming, and arts education. I look forward to working closely with our community and partners to bring this vision to life. Together, we will ensure that the Atlas Performing Arts Center remains a cornerstone of creativity, culture, and community enrichment.”

The Atlas will hold a formal introduction event where Jarrod Bennett will meet with stakeholders, partners, and community members. The event will be open to the public and media are encouraged to attend. Details of the event will follow shortly.

For additional information please contact Rachel Pearl at rpearl@atlasarts.org.

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ABOUT THE ATLAS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

The Atlas Performing Arts Center is a non-profit performing arts venue and cultural anchor of the H Street, Northeast community in Washington, DC. The Atlas fosters, produces, presents, and curates stellar art in film, dance, music, theater, vocal and choral work, spoken word, and beyond. The Atlas has four performance spaces, and we often host free events in our lobby.

We produce Atlas Presents performances and rent our spaces to other artist groups to create their own productions. We support and partner with DC arts makers – our Resident Arts Partners – including Capital City Symphony, Mosaic Theater Company of DC, Visionaries of the Creative Arts (VOCA), Joy of Motion Dance Center, and Dissonance Dance Theatre.

The Atlas also leads in its arts education initiatives through our City at Peace youth development program and the Atlas Arts Lab dedicated to the creation of new work. In the winter each year, we produce our popular INTERSECTIONS Festival which hosts close to 400 artists and performing groups who entertain and engage thousands of patrons in a multi-week-long celebration of the arts.

Our mission is to bring people together through the arts to expand the reach and strengthen the bonds of our community. We provide shared space in a creative environment that inspires exceptional performances, events, and initiatives that enlighten, entertain, and reflect the best of the arts and our humanity. As the catalyst for neighborhood growth and change, the Atlas continues to play a major role in the regional creative economy and is where the arts, culture, and connection happen on H Street.

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