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SEATTLE CHILDREN'S THEATRE ANNOUNCES JOHAMY MORALES AS ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

(Seattle, Wash.) Seattle Children's Theatre (SCT) is excited to announce Johamy Morales as its Associate Artistic Director. Morales, a dynamic theater artist, educator, and director, will begin her tenure in this role effective March 13th, 2023, following her more than four-year tenure as Director of Education and Engagement at SCT.

Said Artistic Director, Idris Goodwin, "I am so happy to announce Johamy's transition into this new role as SCT's Associate Artistic Director. She will serve as a key thought partner and practitioner, ensuring SCT's consistent delivery of impactful programming."

Morales is a 20-year veteran of Theatre for Young Audiences and is dedicated to producing new works, community engagement, and social justice through the arts. In 2020 she led the development and creation of the Active Audience Guide for *A Kids Play About Racism* that served over 280k students and educators, nationally and worldwide, a project that was awarded the Social Impact Theatre Innovation Award from the Sheri and Les Biller Foundation. Recently she served on SCT's Artistic Advisory Circle, as an advisory for Reimagine: New Plays by BIPOC in TYA, and as a Trustee for Theatre Communication Group (TCG) where she advised on the Rising Leaders of Color program and TCG's Education Conference for four consecutive years. Prior to working with SCT, Morales served as the Education Director for Creede Repertory Theatre in Colorado and directed the Comparative Arts Department and the Junior Musical Theatre Program at Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan.

"SCT has been an important part of my story as I started my professional career in 2008 when I participated in SCT's Education Internship. That summer provided me the opportunity to learn about the craft of teaching artistry, curriculum building, nurturing relationships, and the impact theatre has on a young person's life," said Morales. "Today, it is a privilege to come full circle in this role and use my full artistry, skillset, and talent to support the art of storytelling. I am excited to continue my SCT journey and inspire future generations through stories we produce, new work development, and the germination of education."

Morales is an alumnus of the Allen Lee Hughes Fellowship at Arena Stage and the British American Drama Academy in Oxford, England, where she studied Contemporary & Classical works. She was invited through the US State Department, the US Embassy & Consulate of India, and several NGO's to promote awareness of gender violence and global diversity in India. Her directorial work includes *This Girl Laughs, This Girl Cries, This Girl Does Nothing, Last Stop on Market Street, Copper Horns in Water, Twelfth Night, Anonymous, Reading! And Other Superpowers, Bones, Brave Irene, Dear Edwina, Underground Jungle, and Snow Angel.*

"We are thrilled to have Johamy take on this new role at SCT," said Anh Nguyen, SCT Board President. "In her role as Director of Education and Engagement, Johamy elevated the reach and impact of SCT's programs, and now she will be able to further apply her demonstrated strengths as a dramaturg and director to help propel SCT's artistic vision. Johamy is a well-respected, multi-faceted, leader who has been domestically and internationally recognized, and we are fortunate to have a person of her caliber in our midst."

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With our 2022-23 Season, Seattle Children Theatre's celebrated its 121st World Premiere since 1975. SCT is a leading generator of new works, providing youth of all ages access to professional theater and theatre education. Under new initiatives, SCT for All provides low-cost and free tickets to young people and families. In addition, every first and fifth grade classroom in Seattle Public Schools can receive free tickets under One&Five. Learn more information about both of these programs at sct.org.

The 2022-2023 season is supported by generous contributions from season sponsors Microsoft, ArtsFund, and The Shubert Foundation, which will help the organization serve 130,000 annually and provide more than 60,000 free or significantly reduced tickets to children in the Puget Sound area.