

sandra feinstein-



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Gamm Theatre Names New Executive Committee, Expands Board of Directors

PAWTUCKET, RI (April 18, 2005) —The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre (The Gamm) is pleased to announce the naming of a new executive committee and the addition of several new members to its volunteer board of directors.

At The Gamm's annual meeting last October, the board unanimously voted to appoint the following new officers:

Coline Covington, *president*

Ms. Covington has lived in Providence for more than 20 years. During that time, she has been active as a volunteer and board member for several non-profit organizations, including the Women's Center and the Providence Preservation Society. She has served on the board of directors for The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre since 1998. Upon graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Ms. Covington worked as a newspaper reporter for the Raleigh News Observer and as a publicist for the Coconut Grove Playhouse. She lived in New York City for 30 years, working first in television production and then as an editor for Conde Nast.

Pia Potter, *vice president*

As chief operating officer of Ibis Consulting since 2000, Ms. Potter leads the company's strategic development and business operations. She joined the Providence company in 1997 as controller. A frequent lecturer and panel member, she has spoken on the success of Ibis' corporate culture and has authored several articles including "Manual Processing of Electronic Data is Outdated," published by the National Law Journal. Prior to joining Ibis, Pia served as controller for Rhode Island's largest municipal water utility. She began her career at a regional public accounting firm.

Samuel F. Babbitt, *president emeritus & treasurer*

Retired since 1993 as senior vice president for development at Brown University, Mr. Babbitt has been on the Gamm/Alias Stage board of directors since 1994, when the theater moved from Providence's Olneyville section to the Jewelry District. He was president of the board for much of that time, and now serves as treasurer. From 1965 to 1978, Mr. Babbitt was president of Kirkland College in Clinton, NY; and, following that, was vice president for program, planning and resources at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. He and his wife, Natalie, moved to Providence in 1983.

In addition, The Gamm's board of directors recently voted in several distinguished additions including:

Richard J. Blockson, *general manager, The Times*

Mr. Blockson, general manager of The Times of Pawtucket, for the Journal Register Company, is responsible for the day to day operations of the newspaper. He joined The Times in May 2004 after a brief absence from the Rhode Island media community. A native of Providence, Mr. Blockson attended St. Andrew's School in Barrington, and then Boston University. Until recently, he was vice president of sales for Sebago Energy Conservation Corp., in Cheshire, Conn. From 1993 to 2000, Mr. Blockson worked in a various positions for NYNEX Mobile Communications Company and later the Bell Atlantic Yellow Pages. He helped launch the company's cellular division in Rhode Island and then marketed trial products throughout the country. He returned to Rhode Island in 1997 as regional sales manager for the company's Yellow Pages. Mr. Blockson started his media career at WPRI-TV 12 in Providence, where from 1974 to 1985 he was a producer and production crew chief.

Lynne Kelly, *community relations manager, Collette Vacations*

As community relations manager for Collette Vacations, Ms. Kelly is responsible for corporate sponsorships, the company's employee volunteer program, and the community and employee scholarship program. She serves on the company's board of directors and administers grant requests to its corporate foundation, The Alice I. Sullivan Foundation. Ms. Kelly has served on the steering committees of the Anchor of Hope Scholarship Fund for the Diocese of Providence and the Rhode Island Community Food Bank. As a member of The Gamm's board of directors, she chairs the development committee. Ms. Kelly lives in Barrington with her husband Keith and her children Sean and Meghan.

Stephen Gamm, *D.M.D.*

Dr. Gamm earned his Dental Degree in 1963 and completed his specialty training in orthodontics in 1967, both at Harvard University's School of Dental Medicine. For the last 38 years, he has maintained a private practice, currently in Mansfield, Mass. For about 25 years, he was privileged to be on the faculties of orthodontics at both Harvard and Boston University. He has been fortunate to have his son practice with him for the last 10 years, and is looking forward to retiring this summer and having his son take over. For many years, Dr. Gamm performed with The Musicale Players, a community theater company based in Sharon, Mass. There his late wife, Sandra, in

whose honor The Sandra Feinstein-Gamm Theatre is named, directed him in such shows as *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Oklahoma* and *Li'l Abner*. Dr. Gamm has lived in Providence for 11 years. He and his wife, Celia, have 7 children and 9 grandchildren between them.

Diane Rocco, account executive, LVMH Perfumes & Cosmetics

Ms. Rocco is in her 12th year as an account executive for Givenchy/Guerlain Perfumes & Cosmetics, a division of Louis Vuitton Moet Hennessy, the world's largest luxury goods company. She manages a staff of 35 and is responsible for the sales, marketing and promotion of a \$4 million business comprising the company's Northeast territory. She is actively involved in numerous charitable events and assists her husband, Joe Rocco, in coordinating the Newport Summer Comedy Series, among other events. Prior to joining LVMH, Ms. Rocco held similar positions with Sanofi Beaute, Inc. and Estee Lauder, Inc. She holds a B.A. from Rhode Island College and a M.A. from Providence College. She resides in Rehoboth, Mass.

Maury Ryan, Esq., Maury Ryan Law Associates

Mr. Ryan has been practicing law for the past 45 years in Rochester, NY and Rhode Island. He is president of the Rhode Island Spring Flower & Garden Show, as well as the Tampa Bay Flower Show. Mr. Ryan is a member of the Rhode Island Bar Association, Providence Rotary and the Providence Chamber of Commerce. He holds a B.A. from Yale University, an L.L.B. from the University of Virginia Law School and a Certificate P.M.D. from Harvard University Business School. Mr. Ryan lives in Providence.

William P. Wingate, arts management consultant

Mr. Wingate retired in 2001 from his position as managing director of Trinity Repertory Company in Providence. He has worked in arts management, particularly non-profit theater, since earning his M.B.A. from Harvard University in 1968. He spent 19 of those years at the Mark Taper Forum in Los Angeles as managing director; and managing director of its parent company, Center Theatre Group, overseeing both the Taper and Ahmanson Theatres. Mr. Wingate moved to New York in 1988, where was executive director for New Musicals, Inc. and The New York City Ballet before starting his own consulting firm, focusing on executive search, planning and financial management. He became vice president of The National Arts Stabilization Fund in 1993, and resumed his consulting practice in 1995. He moved to Providence in 1998 to work for Trinity. Mr. Wingate is a member of the building committee for the Arts Exchange at the Pawtucket Armory. He is also a site evaluator for the National Endowment for the Arts and the Rhode State State Council on the Arts; a founding board member of Rhode Island Citizens for the Arts; and a member of the board of directors for the Verrazano Foundation of Brooklyn and Staten Island.