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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Sept 30, 2019

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## **THEATER LATTÉ DA ANNOUNCES NEXT GENERATION COMMISSION TO SUPPORT NEW MUSICAL THEATRE BY WOMEN ARTISTS AND ARTISTS OF COLOR**

The \$20,000 commission will support the creation and development of new musical theatre projects and help to create a canon of musical theatre that reflects the multiplicity of voices and diversity of our country.

*(Minneapolis/St. Paul)* Theater Latté Da today announces the NEXT Generation Commission, an new opportunity for women artists and artists of color designed to support the creation and development of new musical theatre projects. Theater Latté Da has designed the commission to support the early, generative stages of creation. In addition to the \$20,000 commission awarded to the individual artist or creative team, the project will receive creative and developmental support over an 18-month period, including two developmental workshops totaling a minimum of 50 hours.

“It’s clear to us that if it is our goal to create musical theatre that is reflective of our communities, we need to create more pathways for women and artists of color,” shares Founding Artistic Director Peter Rothstein. “The NEXT Generation Commission is designed to seek out those voices and provide them with the support necessary for their talents to be recognized and nurtured and their stories to be told.”

The NEXT Generation Commission builds on Theater Latté Da’s celebrated commitment to nurturing new work.

Since its founding in 1998 by Artistic Director, Peter Rothstein and Music Director, Denise Prosek, creating and premiering new work has been a part of Theater Latté Da’s DNA. Theater Latté Da has premiered 12 new musicals and 12 area premieres. Each has garnered critical acclaim and earned its artists and TLD a host of awards, including: the 2019 Drama Desk Award for Unique Theatrical Experience awarded to the

Off-Broadway production of its original production *All is Calm: The Christmas Truce of 1914*. It also supports the development of new musical theater through its annual NEXT Festival. New musicals supported in the NEXT Festival include: *Five Points* by Harrison David Rivers, Douglas Lyons and Ethan Pakchar (NEXT 2017); *Goddess* by Saheem Ali, Jocelyn Bioh and Michael Thurber (NEXT 2017) and *Gun and Powder* by Angelica Cheri and Ross Baum (NEXT 2018).

Artists interested in applying for the NEXT Generation Commission should visit [www.latteda.org/next-generation-commission](http://www.latteda.org/next-generation-commission) for complete submission details. The application deadline is December 15, 2019. The Next Generation Commission is funded by the NEA, the Phileona Foundation and Theater Latte Da's NEXT 20/20 donors.

**Theater Latté Da** is an award-winning Twin Cities musical theater company that combines music and story to illuminate the breadth and depth of the human experience. The company seeks to create new connections between story, music, artist, and audience by exploring and expanding the art of musical theater. [www.latteda.org](http://www.latteda.org)