TEATROCÍRCULO

Teatro Círculo Awarded \$85,000 by the New York State Council on the Arts

NYC/NY November 2024 --Teatro Círculo, one of New York City's leading Spanish language theaters, announced that it received 3 grant awards totaling \$85,000 from the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA). These include \$40,000 towards its general operations, \$35,000 for their BIPOC Affordable Rehearsal Studio Rentals <u>https://teatrocirculo.org/rentals/</u>, and a \$10,000 Artist Commission.

Through New York State's continued investment in arts and culture, NYSCA has awarded \$82 million this year to 509 artists and 1,497 organizations across the state.

"As the unparalleled leader of arts and culture, New York's creativity and innovation inspires the world," Governor Hochul said. "Our continued investment in our dynamic creative sector will further boost tourism, strengthen our local economies and continue New York's success as a rich and vibrant place to live, work and visit."

Executive Director of NYSCA Erika Mallin said, "On behalf of the Council and staff, I am so proud that we are supporting the critical work of so many nonprofit organizations all across the state, including work of Teatro Círculo. New York State's art and culture nonprofits make us a global leader, strengthening our connections to each other and the larger world. I thank you for your dedication and service and look forward to all your work in the coming year."

On receiving such critical funding, Founding Artistic Director José Cheo Oliveras said, "As we keep growing our programming and visibility within NYC's cultural landscape, we at Teatro Círculo are both thrilled and humbled by NYSCA's support this year. We also are extremely grateful for Executive Director Erika Mallin's leadership and commitment to the arts, in general, and to Latino arts, in particular."

NYSCA was one of Teatro Círculo's earliest supporters and has played a part in the company's artistic growth. From rehearsing in empty apartment buildings on the Lower East Side, to acquiring and renovating their 64 East 4th Street home, to touring Spain's Golden Age Festivals, Teatro Círculo has earned its reputation as one of the finest interpreters of Spanish Golden Age Classics. Their most recent production of Calderón's *El alcalde de Zalamea* (*The Mayor of Zalamea*), directed by Daniel Alonso de Santos, finished its 3-week run on November 24, 2024, celebrating Teatro Círculo's 30th Anniversary.

Teatro Círculo's season continues February 14-23, 2025 with its CALLBACKseries of new plays, with NYSCA Artist Commission *El espacio entremedias* (*The Space in Between*) by Fernando Travesí; a young couple decides to raise their child without assigning them a gender and their decision is challenged. Carmen Rivera's award-winning *La caída de Rafael Trujillo* (*The Downfall of Rafael Trujillo*), about the Dominican dictator whose desire for absolute power poisoned his humanity and terrorized a nation, will run April 25-May 11, 2025. For tickets go to <u>https://teatrocirculo.org/tickets/</u>

About the New York State Council on the Arts

The mission of the New York State Council on the Arts is to foster and advance the full breadth of New York State's arts, culture, and creativity for all. To support the ongoing recovery of the arts across New York State, the Council on the Arts will award \$162 million in FY2025, serving organizations and artists across all 10 of the state's regions. The Council on the Arts further advances New York's creative culture by convening leaders in the field and providing organizational and professional development opportunities and informational resources.

Created by Governor Nelson Rockefeller in 1960 and continued with the support of Governor Hochul and the New York State Legislature, the Council is an agency that is part of the Executive Branch. For more information on NYSCA, please visit <u>arts.ny.gov</u>, and follow <u>NYSCA's Facebook page</u>, on X <u>@NYSCArts</u> and Instagram <u>@NYSCouncilontheArts</u>.