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* IN MEMORIAM



Dear Members of The Wallis Community,

"Men are free when they belong to a living, organic, believing community, active in fulfilling some unfulfilled, perhaps unrealized purpose."

-D.H. Lawrence

My name is Michael Nemeroff and I am honored to serve as the new Chairman of the Board of The Wallis. I look forward to collaborating with our world-class Artistic Director, Paul Crewes, and Managing Director, Rachel Fine, as well as our fellow board members and a dedicated staff. Drawing upon my experience in the business and philanthropic sectors, I am eager to continue and build on the vision and leadership of outgoing Chairman David C. Bohnett. David will assume a new position as Chairman of the Executive Committee, and we will continue working together on leadership initiatives critical to the future growth and success of The Wallis.

Over the last several years, my wife, Meeghan, and daughters, Sydney, Lauren and Lily, have been fortunate to be spending more time at our home in Beverly Hills as part of my role as President & CEO of the global law firm, Vedder Price. The opportunity to develop the west coast branches of Vedder Price and become part of the Beverly Hills community has been terrific. We are humbled by how warm and welcoming the people of Beverly Hills are — and continue to be — to us. The experience has been made even better by David and friends introducing us to the amazing performing arts center located in the former Beverly Hills Post Office. We are all fortunate to have this treasure and its dedicated mission and team in the heart of our city.

The Wallis is focused on three of my great passions: the performing arts; youth outreach; and community engagement, all of which will be highlighted and celebrated as we kick off our new season on October 8 with a full day of free programming across the spectrums of dance with Debbie Allen & Friends, music with Urban Renewal Project and theater with the Story Pirates on our Promenade Terrace, culminating in our first 2017/2018 Season event featuring brilliant pianist Jonathan Biss.

The season continues this month with The Wallis debut of tap phenoms Dorrance Dance, classical concerts from Harlem Quartet, and two spectacular theater productions: *Feathers of Fire: A Persian Epic* and *Turn Me Loose*, with "Scandal's" Joe Morton playing the late comic and activist Dick Gregory. GRoW @ The Wallis continues to offer a wonderful mix of programs, including with Dancing Through Parkinson's, and Creating Musical Theater, and courses, as well as a new season of The Wallis Youth Theater Company.

I am convinced that The Wallis, in just its fifth season, has — to borrow from the D.H. Lawrence quote above — the "unrealized purpose" of becoming one of the great performing arts centers in the world. However, we need your help in completing the mission. Please join us as a subscriber - or new Flex Pass holder for the 39 and younger crowd. Please also join our growing community of supporters with a tax-deductible contribution. Finally, please share your experiences with our groundbreaking dance, music and theater artists on social media.

Thank you for joining us today for this performance. I look forward to seeing you in person at The Wallis.

Best,

Michael Nemeroff
Board Chairman-Elect



Rachel Fine
Managing Director



Paul Crewes
Artistic Director