

THE WALLIS ANNENBERG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS APPOINTS NEW CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, LYNNE BOLEN



Bolen's Previous Experience Includes Nonprofit Organizations Such As South Coast Repertory and Public Counsel

BEVERLY HILLS, CA - December/January TBD — [The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts](#), the leading arts and cultural center in Beverly Hills, announced that Lynne Bolen will serve as the organization's new Chief Financial Officer, effective January 3, 2024. As CFO, she will report to and work in close partnership with The Wallis' Executive Director & CEO, Robert van Leer.

Bolen, who holds an MBA and an MS, will lead all financial operations at The Wallis, establishing strong fiscal systems, maintaining internal controls, and ensuring compliance, in addition to overseeing accounting, budgeting, audits, and risk management functions. Bolen will play an integral role in collaborating with the Board and senior leadership in strategic discussions and advancing the mission of The Wallis, providing financial forecasting and analysis while supervising the dedicated team of finance professionals at the organization.

"As we prepare for an inspiring 2024, we are delighted to have Lynne Bolen join The Wallis team," said Executive Director and CEO, Robert van Leer. "Her expertise in finance and her passion for the arts provides the perfect pairing of aptitudes that will be invaluable to our team as we aim to bring the very best in dance, music, theater, and more to Angelenos."

“I am overjoyed to be joining the impressive and talented group of individuals at the prestigious Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts,” says Bolen. “I look forward to playing a meaningful role in the continued development of this iconic Los Angeles arts venue and cultural center – one that has endless growth opportunities ahead.”

Previously, Bolen served as CFO for nonprofit organizations such as United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, and the Memorial Medical Center Foundation. For a decade, she simultaneously held the roles of Controller and Director of Development at St. Jude Memorial Foundation. Additionally, Bolen worked for South Coast Repertory as their Controller, the nonprofit theater’s top financial position.

Throughout Bolen’s career, she has handled fiduciary responsibility for \$180 million in restricted and endowment assets in over 1,000 funds, financial management of a \$40 million budget with 750 employees, over \$250 million in investment transactions, purchases, sales, and transfers, and accounting for a \$97 million capital campaign, including building construction and loan repayment.

Additionally, Bolen has extensive experience in collaborating and partnering with C-suite executives, serving as their advisor by providing financial guidance. She also has proven success in working closely with Boards of Directors, fund accounting, budgets, cashflow, grants administration, and much more.

The Wallis enlisted San Diego-based recruitment firm, Arts Consulting Group, to assist in placing Bolen in the CFO role.

About Lynne Bolen

Bolen brings over two decades of experience in the top financial positions of nonprofit organizations, starting with South Coast Repertory, the Tony award-winning professional producing theatre on the campus of the Segerstrom Center for the Performing Arts. Most recently, Bolen served as the Chief Financial Officer of the Orange County Museum of Art that opened a new \$97 million building in October 2022, also on the Segerstrom Center campus.

Prior to OCMA, Bolen was the Vice President Finance and CFO of Public Counsel, the largest provider of pro bono legal services in the United States. She was also the CFO of United Cerebral Palsy of Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, a leading service provider and advocate for adults and children with disabilities.

Previously, Bolen was the VP Finance and CFO of Memorial Medical Center Foundation, and Controller/Treasurer of St. Jude Memorial Foundation. She holds an MBA and a Master of Science.

About Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts, located in the heart of Beverly Hills, CA, is a dynamic cultural hub and community resource where local, national, and international artists share their artistry with ever-expanding audiences. Distinguished by its eclectic programming that mirrors the

diverse landscape of Los Angeles and its location in the entertainment capital of the world, The Wallis has produced and presented more than 400 theater, dance, music, film, cabaret, comedy, performance arts, and family entertainment programs, boasting nominations for 79 Ovation Awards and nine L.A. Drama Critic's Circle Awards as well as six architectural awards. Since its doors opened in October 2013, The Wallis has been committed to robust and distinctive presentations and education programs curated with both creativity and social impact in mind. Hailed as "au courant" (LaLa Magazine), The Wallis was lauded by Culture Vulture, which proclaimed, "If you love expecting the unexpected in the performing arts, you have to love The Wallis." Broadway legend Patti LuPone, who was The Wallis' 2015/2016 Season Artistic Advisor, described the venue as "one of the best in the country, allowing for an unparalleled intimacy between [the artist] and the audience." A recent patron survey produced audience comments about The Wallis ranging from "amazing, engaging, inspiring!" to "fun. entertaining. educational." The breathtaking 70,000-square-foot facility, celebrating the classic and the modern, was named after philanthropist Wallis Annenberg, whose original \$25-million dollar donation was instrumental in transforming the former Beverly Hills post office building into an arts complex. Designed by acclaimed architect Zoltan E. Pali (SPF:architects), the restored building features the original 1934 Beverly Hills Post Office (on the National Register of Historic Places), whose eight towering fresco murals are one of two sets of WPA frescos remaining in the entire California Federal Building system. The Wallis' lobby, now known as Jim and Eleanor Randall Grand Hall, serves as the theater's dramatic yet welcoming entryway to the contemporary 500-seat, state-of-the-art Bram Goldsmith Theater; the 150-seat Lovelace Studio Theater; an inviting open-air plaza for family, community and other performances; and GRoW @ The Wallis: A Space for Arts Education, where learning opportunities for all ages and backgrounds abound. Together, these elements embrace the city's history and its future, creating a performing arts destination for L.A.-area visitors and residents alike. Michael Nemeroff is Chairman of The Wallis' Board of Directors and Robert van Leer is Executive Director and CEO.

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