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DANCE CHICAGO**

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## DAVID MCDERMOTT NAMED NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HUBBARD STREET DANCE CHICAGO

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CHICAGO – Following a national search led by Koya Leadership Partners, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago announces today that **David McDermott** will join Hubbard Street's leadership team as its new Executive Director, effective October 16, 2017, alongside Artistic Director Glenn Edgerton.

“Dave will make an exceptional partner as we move Hubbard Street into our 40th Anniversary Season and beyond,” says Edgerton. “I’m looking forward to guiding the company and working together to broaden our reach here in Chicago and internationally, and continue to expand our education, artist training, and artistic programming.”

Joining Hubbard Street as its fourth Executive Director in its 40-year history, McDermott comes to Hubbard Street Dance Chicago with extensive knowledge of Chicago's cultural and political scene, currently serving as the First Deputy Commissioner of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events (DCASE).

“Dave is deeply immersed in the arts culture of Chicago – having managed all aspects of an internationally recognized cultural organization,” says Hubbard Street's Chairman of the Board Marc Miller. “He understands the need for cultural institutions to remain relevant into the future. Dave also understands problem solving and bringing teams together – and has revitalized some of Chicago's premier cultural and civic events in the last six years. He is willing to challenge and to build – and he is committed to doing that in Chicago.”

As First Deputy Commissioner at DCASE, McDermott manages the day-to-day operations of the department and has played instrumental roles in major initiatives such as creating the Chicago Cultural Plan, revitalizing the Taste of Chicago, and ensuring the success of the Chicago Architecture Biennial.

“Dave has been an invaluable asset to DCASE and our work across the City of Chicago over the last six years. His organizational leadership alongside his ability to find creative solutions and think big

about the future played a crucial role in stabilizing DCASE during a time of transition. He will bring real vision to Hubbard Street as their new Executive Director as they work to expand their role as leaders in Chicago's great cultural community," says DCASE Commissioner Mark Kelly.

Prior to his employment with the City, McDermott led United States Senator Richard Durbin's Department of Community Outreach, served as the Senator's Political Director, and managed political campaigns at the congressional, county, and municipal levels. He recently completed a fellowship at the University of Chicago's Civic Leadership Academy and holds a degree in Public Policy from Trinity College at the University of Dublin.

McDermott joins Hubbard Street as it enters its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrating the work of innovative nationally and internationally recognized choreographers, while expanding upon programming for Chicago communities including outreach in Chicago Public Schools, Adaptive Dance programs for people with Parkinson's Disease and Autism, and extensive artist training beginning with the Youth Dance Program all the way to the new Professional Training Program for aspiring professional dancers.

"I am honored and humbled to join Glenn and Marc in leading Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and to continue the work Lou Conte started forty years ago. Hubbard Street's stellar international reputation, commitment to fostering new talent, and willingness to push the boundaries of contemporary dance are matched only by their deep commitment to engaging citizens through their teaching, community programs, and innovative cultural partnerships," says McDermott. "Thanks to the leadership, staff, and dancers at Hubbard Street, dance truly changes lives. I couldn't be prouder to join them in this inspiring work."

Hubbard Street opens Season 40 next week with *Space, In Perspective*, an immersive and interactive performance choreographed by Peter Chu at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance. Hubbard Street then continues its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season celebrating today's most exciting choreographers with full evening programs featuring Crystal Pite, Alejandro Cerrudo, and Ohad Naharin.

### **About Hubbard Street Dance Chicago**

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's core purpose is to bring artists, art and audiences together to enrich, engage, educate, transform and change lives through the experience of dance. Celebrating Season 40 in 2017-18, under the artistic leadership of Glenn Edgerton, Hubbard Street continues to innovate, supporting ascendant creative talent while presenting repertory by internationally recognized living artists. Hubbard Street has grown through the establishment of multiple platforms alongside the Lou Conte Dance Studio – now in its fifth decade of providing a wide range of public classes and pre-professional training – while extensive Youth, Education, Community, Adaptive Dance and Family Programs keep the organization deeply connected to its hometown. Visit [hubbardstreetdance.com](http://hubbardstreetdance.com) for artist profiles, touring schedules, and much more.

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