



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 18, 2010

CONTACTS:
Dafina McMillan
dmcmillan@tcg.org
212-609-5955

Boneau/Bryan-Brown
Chris Boneau/ Susanne Tighe/ Kelly Guid
stighe@bbbway.com

**Theatre Communications Group Announces New International Grant
*Geographically Unrestricted Travel and Project Development Support***

New York, NY – Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for theatre, is pleased to announce a new international grant funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. The ***Global Connections*** program will award \$132,000 in grants to foster relationships by way of cultural exchange and furthering pre-existing international collaborations.

Over the years, TCG has provided nearly 200 recipients with international travel grants and fellowships totaling more than \$600,000. Given the development of TCG’s international programs and services, the ***Global Connections*** program was designed to meet two distinct needs for US-based theatre organizations and individual artists:

- ***On the Road*** – Twelve grants of up to \$6,000 each will provide unrestricted travel funding to foster new relationships with international colleagues that will inspire future collaborations.
- ***In the Lab*** – Six grants of \$10,000 each will further pre-existing international collaborations by supporting residencies that advance the development of a piece and/or explore elements leading up to a full production.

Grants will be awarded in two rounds: January 2011 (deadline, December, 2010) and May 2011 (deadline, February, 2011). Guidelines and applications will be available in early November 2010. Please visit: http://www.tcg.org/grants/global_connections/index.cfm for additional information.

“The support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation will allow theatres and artists the rare and precious opportunity to experience other cultures and aesthetics; share and create work internationally; and serve as an inspiration and important reminder that our national theatre community is part of a larger global community of theatre artists,” said Teresa Eyring, Executive Director of TCG.

--

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation is a private philanthropic institution that makes grants on a selective basis in five core program areas: higher education and scholarship; scholarly communications and information technology; museums and art conservation; conservation and the environment; and performing arts. The Foundation’s Performing Arts program focuses on achieving long-term results by providing multi-year grants to leading organizations in the disciplines of music, theater, and dance. Annual giving in the area of the performing arts has averaged approximately \$30 million per year since 2005. In 2004 The

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation was awarded a National Medal of Arts, the highest award given to artists and arts patrons by the United States government. www.mellon.org

Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre, exists to strengthen, nurture and promote the professional not-for-profit American theatre. Founded in 1961, TCG's constituency has grown from a handful of groundbreaking theatres to nearly 700 member theatres and affiliate organizations and more than 12,000 individuals nationwide. TCG offers its members networking and knowledge-building opportunities through conferences, events, research and communications; grants approximately \$2 million per year to theatre companies and individual artists; advocates on the federal level and serves as the US Center of the International Theatre Institute, connecting its constituents to the global theatre community. TCG is the nation's largest independent publisher of dramatic literature, with 11 Pulitzer Prizes for Best Play on the TCG booklist. It also publishes the award-winning AMERICAN THEATRE magazine and ARTSEARCH®, the essential source for a career in the arts. In all of its endeavors, TCG seeks to increase the organizational efficiency of its member theatres, cultivate and celebrate the artistic talent and achievements of the field and promote a larger public understanding of, and appreciation for, the theatre.

In 2005, TCG received the Tony Honors for Excellence in Theatre in recognition of its impact on the national field. TCG and its member theatres are major contributors to the American theatre sector, which employs nearly 130,000 people, produces over 187,000 performances each year and contributes \$1.9 billion to the US economy annually. A 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization, TCG is led by executive director Teresa Eyring and governed by a national board of directors representing the theatre field. www.tcg.org.

###