For Immediate Release

APAP Announces 60th Annual Global Performing Arts Gathering January 6-10 in New York

APAP|NYC 2017 features Taylor Mac, Laurie Anderson and other shapers of arts and culture, 60 professional development sessions, 1,000 performance showcases, dynamic 370-booth EXPO Hall, public classical music concert

OCTOBER 26, 2016 — The Association of Performing Arts Presenters (APAP) presents the world’s leading global performing arts gathering, marketplace and membership conference, APAP|NYC 2017, January 6-10, and its pre-conference January 5-6, with many workshops open to the public. Celebrating its 60th year, the massive annual who’s who of the performing arts—themed FLOW—will draw 3,600 performing arts professionals who contribute to the flow of creativity, business, challenges to the norm and the dynamic thinking that will advance the performing arts industry.

Performing arts leaders, artists, managers, agents and presenters will gather in New York City from more than 30 nations (including sizeable delegations from Australia, Mexico and Sweden) and all 50 U.S. states this year to discuss important trends in performing arts, explore challenges and opportunities anticipated for the future, and conduct business by showcasing artists and connecting them to audiences—with a focus on live dance, music, theater, opera, family programing and multidisciplinary collaborations.

“APAP | NYC presents significant opportunities, economically and creatively, for the performing arts community,” says Mario Garcia Durham, president and CEO of APAP. “We provide a platform for those working in performing arts to engage in discussions and solutions around pressing current issues such as cultural conflict and social justice. These are issues that have intensified since last January and that resonate throughout our communities, and fuel our collective need for innovation, creativity and partnership. We will also further explore the real challenges of equity, access and inclusion continually being addressed by performing arts community leaders.”

The gathering draws members of the arts community from around the globe, but also offers events open to the public including free live-streaming of plenaries and many free pre-conference sessions. Also open to the public, APAP’s Professional Development Institute January 5 features a half-day Women’s Leadership Forum and day-long intensives on family programing and student audience engagement, and on building transformative and effective partnerships across sectors in today’s changing communities.

The APAP | NYC 2017 main conference program addresses communities of all types that continue to figure prominently in the shaping of live performances and culture. It includes artists from indigenous and Latin and indigenous cultures, artists with disabilities, and sessions titled “How to Succeed in Hip-Hop Without Selling Your Soul” and “Asian American Artists in an #OSCARsoWhite World.”

Other topics that resonate throughout the program include event security; presenting international artists; artists collaborating with performing arts presenters for positive community engagement and change; and arts organizations leading in a time politically that requires a continual flow of thoughtfulness, planning and action to ensure creativity, relevance and sustainability.

FEATURED SPEAKERS AND ARTISTS
Laurie Anderson, American avant-garde composer, musician and film director will be among those honored at the annual APAP awards luncheon.
**Plenary sessions** feature additional major artists and leaders from arts, culture and other sectors including:

- **Robyn Archer**, Australian singer, raconteur, and artistic director;
- **Jonah Bokaer**, choreographer and media artist whose latest collaboration with Daniel Arsham and Pharrell Williams, “Rules of the Game,” is in the midst of a global tour;
- **Camille A. Brown**, dancer, choreographer, and founder of Camille A. Brown & Dancers;
- **Aaron Dworkin**, dean, School of Music, Theater and Dance; University of Michigan;
- **Paola Prestini**, composer of the new production of the opera “Gilgamesh;”
- **Steven Tepper**, dean, Herberger Institute for Design and the Arts;
- **Maysoon Zayid**, the Arab-American comedienne, writer and tap dancer from New Jersey; and
- **Jawole Willa Jo Zollar**, dancer, teacher, choreographer and founder of Urban Bush Women dance company.

The incomparable playwright, actor, singer-songwriter and performance artist **Taylor Mac** will close the conference. "Taylor's recent work, 'A 24-Decade History of Popular Music,' speaks directly to today's headlines around equality, equity, civility and our fundamental human rights," says Scott Stoner, APAP's vice president of programs and resources. "He has the unique capacity to stream his enormous talent and powerful intellect into a creative flow of words, music and movement that produce a truly transformative experience for audiences of any ilk."

APAP | NYC 2017, held at the New York Hilton Midtown and the Sheraton New York Times Square, will bring together artistry and industry to enhance the creativity, knowledge and experience of artists, agents, managers and presenters. The global conference and marketplace continues to be a critical force in the performing arts and its evolution. It features artists and arts leaders at the top of their fields; more than 1,000 world-class performance showcases; more than 370 exhibitors promoting their artists and their work in the EXPO Hall — the world’s largest of its kind; more than 60 professional development sessions and intensives; the annual APAP awards luncheon, and a free classical music concert at Carnegie Hall.

As part of its year-round programs and services, APAP currently manages more than $3 million in arts and cultural grants to assist organizations and communities. Some will be touched upon at program-themed sessions — such as APAP’s Cultural Exchange Laboratory, a new tool and resource to support the process of identifying, booking and touring international artists; and the Building Bridges initiative that is building greater knowledge and awareness about Muslim societies and how to affect social change in these troubled times.

**COLLABORATING PERFORMING ARTS EVENTS: JANUARY IN NYC**

A dozen festivals, forums and conferences work in collaboration with APAP annually under the January In NYC partnership. This year’s unmatched convergence of live performing arts events takes place January 3-22. It includes American Realness; Wavelengths: APAP World Music Pre-Conference; APAP | NYC 2017, Performance Space 122’s COIL Festival; Chamber Music America; globalFEST; Jazz Connect Conference; The Joyce Theater’s American Dance Platform; New York ISPA 2017 Congress; PROTOTYPE: Opera/Theater/Now; The Public Theater’s Under the Radar Festival and NYC Winter Jazzfest.

**ABOUT APAP**

The Association of Performing Arts Presenters is the non-profit national service, advocacy and membership organization for presenters of the performing arts. APAP is dedicated to developing and supporting a robust performing arts industry and the professionals who work within it. APAP | NYC conference information APAPNYC.org, APAP membership information APAP365.org, Twitter @APAP365, Facebook facebook.com/APAPNYC. For general tourism information about New York see nycgo.com.

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**Media:** Find all media materials and credentials information at the APAP | NYC 2017 press page.

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