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Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation (SDCF) Announces Leigh Silverman as Newly Elected SDCF Board President

(New York, NY, November 12, 2025) Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation (SDCF), the not-for-profit foundation of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC), announces that **Leigh Silverman** has been elected SDCF Board President, joining Board Officers **Ellenore Scott** (Vice-President and Secretary) and **Sharon Ott** (Treasurer) and fellow SDCF Trustees **Maggie Burrows, Justin Emeka, Jonathan Parker, Laura Penn, Maria Torres, Victoria Traube, and Barbara Whitman.**

“It is an extraordinary honor to be named President of the SDC Foundation,” said Silverman. “I have experienced firsthand the incredible impact the Foundation has on our Membership and the field. I look forward to championing SDCF programming that amplifies, advocates, and supports directors and choreographers at all stages of their careers and I am eager to work alongside our new Foundation Director, Laura Peete and my fellow Trustees. I dedicate this service to my friend, Foundation President 2022-2024, Mark Brokaw, and hold his generous spirit and inspirational leadership in my heart.”

Founded in 1965, Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation (SDCF) exists to pass on the art of directing and choreographing to future generations—crafts that take years to master. As a creative home for directors and choreographers, SDCF helps artists grow, connect, and shape the stories that reflect our world. SDCF provides professional development programming for early-career creatives, honors and recognizes established directors and choreographers through for craftsmanship and legacy in the field, and awards over \$100,000 in grants annually to artists at every stage of their careers.

“As we approach the close our 60th anniversary, we could not be more excited to welcome Leigh Silverman as our new Board President,” said Laura Peete, SDCF’s Director. “A bold, imaginative, and two-time Tony-nominated director, Leigh has consistently pushed our field forward. She knows firsthand the challenges and triumphs directors and choreographers face, and she champions their wellbeing, artistry, and sustainability with unmatched passion. With Leigh at the helm, SDCF will continue to innovate, invest in artists, and protect the future of our craft.”

Silverman is a two-time Tony nominee and has directed over 60 world premiere new plays and musicals. Broadway: *Yellow Face* (Roundabout); *Suffs* (Tony nom); *Grand Horizons* (Williamstown, 2ST); *The Lifespan of a Fact*; *Violet* (Tony nom), *Chinglish*; *Well*. Recent Off-Broadway credits include: *The Seat Of Our Pants* (The Public Theatre); *Harry Clarke* (West End, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Vineyard/Audible); *Merry Me* (NYTW); *Suffs* (Public); *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe* (Shed,Taper); *Hurricane Diane* (NYTW); *Soft Power* (CTG/Curan/Public); *Sweet Charity* (New Group). Encores: *Violet*; *The Wild Party*; *Really Rosie* and Sutton Foster's streaming concert, *Bring Me to Light*. Audible projects include *Yellow Face*, *Harry Clarke* and *Dykes to Watch Out For* which was named Best of the Year. She received a 2011 Obie Award and 2019 Obie for Sustained Excellence.

Founded in 1965, Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation (SDCF) celebrates, develops, and supports professional stage directors and choreographers throughout every phase of their careers. We work to build a theatrical community that reflects the cultural, racial, and gender diversity of our nation by creating opportunities for artists of all backgrounds to bring their full, authentic selves to their work as creative leaders in the theatre. Visit our website: sdcfoundation.org