

For Immediate Release
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Media Contact: Katie Rosin / Kampfire PR
917-562-5670 / Katie@kampfirefilmspr.com

STUDY EXPLORES GENDER PARITY IN OFF-BROADWAY **League of Professional Theatre Women's *Women Count***

New York, NY - September 5, 2014: The League of Professional Theatre Women (LPTW), as part of an larger initiative called *Women Count*, have analyzed the status of women in Off-Broadway in the four seasons, from 2010 until 2014, examining why male voices dominate theatre seasons and positions of power in theatre. A number of efforts have emerged to count, study, analyze and report on the status of women in theatre, providing pieces of the current picture, lacking in those studies is an analysis of who is employed in various roles Off-Broadway.

The study, conducted by LPTW members and professional theatre women Judy Binus and Martha Wade Steketee, examines Off-Broadway venues for which statistics have been elusive. Counting playwrights, directors, producers, designers, among others and reporting select findings adds several dimensions to current studies on the status of women in theatre. The study, which is now available at www.theatrewomen.org, analyzes employment in 13 professional roles and provides an explicit focus on 355 Off-Broadway productions in 22 theatre companies for four complete seasons, 2010-2011 through 2013-2014.

Binus explains, “*This report doesn’t just list numbers. This report names women who have been working frequently during the study’s four seasons.*”

SAMPLE FINDINGS:

- National rates of female stage managers average 70%. Off-Broadway rates in the study’s 22 theatres for the past four seasons approximate that rate for Production Stage Managers (Table 3.12) and exceed that rate for Stage Managers and Assistant Stage Managers (Table 3.13).
- Off-Broadway sound designers are on average less than 25% female in each of the study years - with a high of 22% in 2011-2012 and a low of 14% in 2013-2014. Three female sound designers account for 85% (57 of 67) of sound design credits for women during the study report’s 4 seasons. Almost 50% of sound design credits during the study period are by Jill BC Du Boff.
- Off-Broadway set designers are about one third female, ranging from 27% in 2010-2011 to 36% in 2012-2013. Thirteen female set designers with three or more productions are represented in the report period, accounting for 73% (82 of 112) of set design credits.
- For the four years of the study, the number of musicals was small, affecting

the numbers and percentages of women employed in musical-related categories - lyricists, composers, etc.

UPCOMING LPTW EVENTS:

On Monday, September 22, 2014 at 6:00pm: Oral History: **Billie Allen** interviewed by **Phylicia Rashad**. The FREE presentation takes place at Bruno Walter Auditorium New York Public Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center (65th Street & Amsterdam Avenue). This program is produced by Betty Corwin and made possible by the generous support of Angelina Fiordellisi, Artistic Director, Cherry Lane Theatre.

Monday, September 29, 2014 6pm-8pm: Networking Monday “A Discussion: Designers and Directors,” panelists include **Carrie Robbins**, Costume Designer; **Jo Bonney**, Theatre Director; **Rachel Hauck**, Set Designer; **Janie Bullard**, Sound Designer; **Christina Watanabe**, Lighting Designer; **Shigeko Suga**, Movement/Choreography. Moderators: **Richarda Abrams** and **Romy Nordlinger**. Theater Lab (357 West 36th Street, 3rd Fl.). Admission is free for LPTW members; \$15 for non-members. To learn more visit: <http://theatrewomen.org/2014/08/29/a-discussion-designers-and-directors/>

October 25 through November 3, 2014 will be a celebration of the **Gilder-Coigney International Theatre Award 2014**. The only international theatre award of its kind, is presented every three years, this year’s recipient is **Patricia Ariza** from Colombia. She will be in NYC from October 24-Nov 4 to receive the Award and participate in a series of events throughout the week honoring her 40-year career as well as the work of 20 other nominees from around the globe.

<http://theatrewomen.org/programs/awards/the-gildercoigney-international-theatre-award>

ABOUT LPTW:

The **League of Professional Theatre Women** is a not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) organization. It presents numerous events each year as part of its mission to promote visibility and increase opportunities for women in the field. None of its work is possible without generous philanthropic support. The League is celebrating its 31st anniversary and boasts a membership of nearly 500 women representing a diversity of theatre professionals in both the for-profit and not-for-profit sectors. League members are actors, administrators, agents, arrangers, casting directors, choreographers, company managers, composers, critics, designers, directors, dramaturges, dramatists, educators, general managers, historians, journalists, librettists, lyricists, press agents, playwrights, producers, stage managers, and theatre technicians. To find out more about how you can support its endeavors, please visit the website www.theatrewomen.org and click on the “Support Us” tab.

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