

EXIT STAGE LEFT

June 2019

Dear Friend,

As you may know, I take my final bow as Executive Director of Boise State University's Velma V. Morrison Center for the Performing Arts this June 2019. Over the last eight years, the Center has experienced enormous growth across multiple benchmarks. But like any art form, the performing arts are a collaborative medium and many constituents played a vital role in our success as a top university presenter and one of the busiest venues in the world.

Our Founder's got so much right; they set the stage for all that has been achieved to date. Since that time, we have assembled a unique cast of capable and experienced staff, dedicated volunteers, supportive university leadership, strong presenting and promoting partners, vital sponsors, the generous Morrison Center Endowment Foundation and wonderful patrons. We produced a very successful run. Be proud of all that we have accomplished.

Recording-breaking Broadway productions like *Disney's The Lion King*, *Wicked* and *The Phantom of the Opera*, and technical launches of *War Horse*, *Sound of Music* and more, combined with valued programming from numerous national promoters and local arts groups, including our resident companies (Boise Philharmonic, Ballet Idaho, Opera Idaho), and the University Music and Theatre Departments have been key to our diverse programming. In addition, the physical venue has undergone a remarkable number of facility improvements and upgrades to increase safety and to improve the overall patron experience. The Center was intended to be "The People's Theatre" and the venue, its programs and affordable outreach and education efforts have fulfilled Velma's dream and our mission of providing access and opportunity. Our recent designation as the City of Boise's Cultural Ambassador has cemented our important role in the community.

Thriving performing arts centers are living, breathing and constantly changing organisms and executive leaders have the brief, but pleasurable, role of shepherding them through small windows of time. I am grateful for my time and thankful that the Center has a solid artistic and financial foundation to build on and an exciting future with the landmark presentation of *Hamilton* scheduled in 2020-2021.

Thanks again for your ongoing support.

See you at the theatre (only this time as a patron)!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JP', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

James Patrick
Executive Director