

# UNC News Release

## **Carolina Performing Arts announces six new National Advisory Board members**

CHAPEL HILL – Six new members have been appointed to the National Advisory Board of Carolina Performing Arts by Chancellor Holden Thorp. The new members are Hodding Carter III, G. Munroe Cobey, Peter D. Cummings, Patricia R. Morton, Josephine Ward “Josie” Patton and Ambassador Earl N. “Phil” Phillips Jr. The National Advisory Board was created in 2005 to guide and support the Carolina Performing Arts series and other initiatives of the UNC Office of the Executive Director for the Arts. The board includes Chancellor James Moeser and ex-officio members Chancellor Holden Thorp and Emil Kang, Executive Director for the Arts at UNC.

The board, currently led by Tom Kearns of Darien, CT and Jane Ellison of Greensboro, NC, has been responsible for meeting a \$5 million endowment challenge by the William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust in 2007, and recently for ensuring support of the Bolshoi Ballet’s engagement in June 2009.

“The Board and staff are extremely excited about these highly qualified additions to our Board. We are looking forward to benefiting greatly from their ideas and energy,” said Kearns. “This is one of the most exciting and innovative organizations I’ve ever been a part of, and these new leaders share a passion for what we do.”

The new members are:

- Hodding Carter III, of Chapel Hill, NC. A graduate of Princeton University and long-time print and television journalist, Carter became widely known when he served as State Department spokesman under President Jimmy Carter during the long Iran hostage impasse. From 1998 to 2005 Carter served as the President and CEO of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, which had a deep interest in the performing arts. He was named University Professor of Leadership and Public Policy at UNC in 2006
- G. Munroe Cobey, of Greenwich, CT. A graduate of UNC, Cobey is a banking executive who has formerly worked with Bankers Trust in New York City and London, and who is a retired partner of Tudor Investment Corporation. A strong supporter of UNC, he co-created the Donald White Memorial Scholarship, named in honor of an incoming UNC student who died tragically before matriculating. He also serves on the boards of the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, The Educational Foundation and the Arts and Sciences Foundation at the University.
- Peter D. Cummings, of Palm Beach, FL. A graduate of Yale University and the University of Toronto, Cummings is the chair of Ram, an affiliated group of real estate companies. Ram is a full-service property and asset management company headquartered in Florida with a regional office in Chapel Hill. He was the chair of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra while Emil Kang was Executive Director, and currently serves on the boards of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, the New York Philharmonic and the League of American Orchestras.

- Patricia R. Morton, of Charlotte, NC. A graduate of Duke University, Morton is a retired banking executive who previously served as partner with Franklin Street Partners and most recently as founder of PRM Advisors. She recently retired from full-time work to more fully pursue her philanthropic interests. She is a founding member of the Board of Directors of the Bechtler Museum in Charlotte and is a trustee of the National Humanities Center in Research Triangle Park.
- Josephine Ward “Josie” Patton, of Chapel Hill, NC. A graduate of UNC and a deeply involved philanthropist, Patton is particularly involved with the arts. She has worked for Sotheby’s Auction House in New York and has taken the Sotheby’s American Art Course. She has supported many areas of UNC, including the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center and the Arts and Sciences Foundation.
- Ambassador Earl N. “Phil” Phillips Jr., of Chapel Hill, NC. A graduate of UNC with an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School, Ambassador Phillips is president of World Link, Inc. and a partner at Carrboro Capital. He has served as United States Ambassador to the Eastern Caribbean, and in 2006 he created the Phillips Ambassadors program that provides up to 50 Asia focused Study Abroad scholarships to UNC undergraduates each year.

“All my life I have worked in business, with facts and figures. When Tom and Emil asked me to join this board, I thought it would be a great opportunity to give the right side of my brain a jolt,” said Phillips. “Attending performances, serving on the board and helping this great program along the way are things I’m really looking forward to.”

Emil Kang has spoken repeatedly about the importance of the National Advisory Board in the work and mission of Carolina Performing Arts. Since the organization’s inception in 2005, the board has provided important strategic insight and financial support.

“Carolina Performing Arts has had rapid growth in five short years. Much of the credit for our success goes to the leadership of our National Advisory Board, in partnership with the William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust and the University,” said Kang. “We are thrilled that these six new leaders have pledged their time and energies to ensuring our growing impact on the campus and community. Their passion and commitment inspire and encourage us.”

**Web site:** [www.carolinaperformingarts.org](http://www.carolinaperformingarts.org)

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