

# OAK VIEW GROUP'S THEATER ALLIANCE PRESENTS PRESTIGIOUS IMPACT AWARD TO LEGENDARY BOCH CENTER PRESIDENT JOSIAH SPAULDING, JR. DURING GALA AT RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL ON OCTOBER 29



At Oak View Group Theater Alliance Gala presented by DeKuyper Josiah "Joe" Spaulding, Jr., Accepts Theater Alliance Impact Award from Noel Mirhadi (left) and Joe Giordano

Download Photo of Impact Award Presentation Available Here

New York, NY (October 30, 2024) – Oak View Group's Theater Alliance presented the prestigious Impact Award to legendary theater operator Josiah ("Joe") Spaulding, Jr., who recently retired after a nearly 40-year career as President/CEO of Boch Center in Boston, MA, at the second annual Theater Alliance Gala presented by DeKuyper on Tuesday, October 29, 2024 at Radio City Music Hall in New York City.

**The Daily Show's Michael Kosta** hosted this prestigious event, which was an unforgettable evening of music, entertainment, and philanthropy, where pop rock group **HANSON**, Brooklyn's **TimaLikesMusic** and the Garden of Dreams Choir performed.

Through Spaulding's determination, strategic partnerships, and passion for the arts, he successfully transformed the Boch Center, home of Boston's historic Wang and Shubert Theatres, into one of the most prominent and respected non-profit performing arts centers in the country.

"Joe's impact has gone far beyond the stage," said **Joe Giordano, Vice President of Oak View Group's Theater Alliance**. "It is an honor for the Oak View Group Theater Alliance to pay tribute and honor Joe at our Gala as he was instrumental in the formation of the Theater Alliance. He has been a tireless advocate for arts education and community engagement. Through the Boch Center's programs, hundreds of thousands of youths, teens, and families from underserved and vulnerable communities have been impacted: Many through free youth development and free ticket access programs."

"Collaboration and partnership have always been the cornerstone of my success in our business and to be recognized tonight by the Oak View Group Theater Alliance and my peers for the first prestigious Impact Award will be a true highlight of my career," said **Spaulding**. "The Theatre Alliance that Joe (Giordano) and Noel (Mirhadi) have established can only lead all of us involved to greater success as an industry. To celebrate this achievement at a gala at Radio City Music Hall is just magical!! I couldn't be prouder!"

One of the crowning achievements of Spaulding's career is the 2019 establishment of the Folk Americana Roots Hall of Fame, a unique initiative that celebrates the rich history of folk, Americana, and roots music through exhibits, concerts, educational programs, and more.

The Theater Alliance Gala is a cornerstone event for the OVG Theater Alliance Fund and represents a commitment to sustaining the cultural vibrancy of communities across North America. Attendees can look forward to an evening filled with live performances, a silent auction, and networking opportunities with industry leaders and philanthropists.

All proceeds from the Gala support the OVG Theater Alliance Fund, a 501(C)3, created in collaboration with Music's Promise, to enable theaters to continue their invaluable work and ensure the arts continue to thrive.

The OVG Theater Alliance is a nationwide collective of marquee theaters and performing arts venues in top-tier markets across North America where its members benefit from collective buying power, routing of non-traditional content, sponsorship opportunities, industry best practices, and resources.

Josiah A. Spaulding, Jr. has been an arts and cultural leader for decades, dedicated to working with local and state government on arts funding, policy, and legislative issues. A nonprofit entrepreneur with years of experience, he negotiated a public-private partnership between the Center and Citigroup (2006), championed a unique co-booking partnership with Madison Square Garden Entertainment (2008), and most recently, he negotiated a landmark naming sponsorship between the Center and the Boch Family (2016).

He has received honorary doctorate degrees from Curry College and Salem State College. He was Chair of the Boston Theatre District Association (1989-91) and the Massachusetts Cultural Council (1991-95) and is a graduate of Bowdoin College. Josiah Spaulding is currently an Honorary Trustee of Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital and Partners Continuing Care and a Trustee of Mass General Brigham.

# **About Oak View Group**

Oak View Group (OVG) is the global leader in live experience venue development, management, premium hospitality services, and 360-degree solutions for a collection of world-class owned venues and a client roster of arenas, convention centers, music festivals, performing arts centers, and cultural institutions. Founded by Tim Leiweke and Irving Azoff in 2015, OVG is the leading developer of major new venues either open or under development across four continents. Visit OakViewGroup.com, and follow OVG on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and X.

## **About DeKuyper**

DeKuyper is premium liqueur that was founded in 1695 by Petrus DeKuyper, today available in more than 100 countries worldwide. DeKuyper is represented in the USA by Suntory Global Spirits, headquartered in New York City. Suntory Global Spirits' guiding purpose is to inspire the brilliance of life by creating rich experiences, in harmony with nature. This purpose, along with our values of growing for good and giving back to society, drive us boldly toward our ambition, while treading lightly on the earth. Suntory Global Spirits have been crafting the highest quality premium spirits for over 200 years.

#### **About the Boch Center**

The Boch Center is one of the nation's leading nonprofit performing arts institutions and a guardian of the historic Wang and Shubert Theatres. As New England's largest cultural venue, the Boch Center is home to theater, classical and popular music, dance, comedy, opera, Broadway musicals, family entertainment, and more.

Located in Boston's historic Theater District, the Boch Center also offers a diverse mix of educational, cultural and community outreach initiatives, including the City Spotlights Leadership Program and the Folk Americana Roots Hall of Fame; collaborates with artists and local nonprofit arts organizations; preserves historic venues; and acts as a champion for Greater Boston's arts and cultural community. Learn more at <a href="bochcenter.org">bochcenter.org</a>.

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