



**Press Release**

**For Immediate Release – 4/5/2018**

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**Harlequin Productions' Board of Directors  
Hires Outside Firm to Conduct Investigation**

Olympia – April 4, 2018 - The Board of Directors of Harlequin Productions (HP) announced today its selection of Stellar Associates ([www.stellar-associates.com](http://www.stellar-associates.com)) of Lacey to conduct an independent investigation and assessment of Harlequin Productions.

Stellar Associates, a Northwest management consulting firm will work over a 90-day period to evaluate current practices and provide HP with recommendations to strengthen the organization while helping to improve management decision making, staff productivity, effectiveness, accountability, and success. Additional details on the process will be released at a later date.

In 2015, the Chicago Theatre Community, in a unified voice, established #NotInOurHouse, a set of standards, agreements and practices to free the Arts Industry from issues of harassment and bullying. As part of this assessment process, Harlequin is considering adopting these standards that are becoming an industry norm.

Harlequin Productions also named Hap Clemons as Interim Executive Director of the organization. In the next 90 days, the board will work with Clemons to outline fully the new position of Executive Director and conduct a search to fill the position. Clemons was first named development director in the Fall of 2016, and has made great strides in expanding and strengthening HP's philanthropic base. Clemons will be leaving on June 30th, relocating to Missouri. However, a permanent Executive Director will likely be appointed before that time.

In more decisions by the board, longtime cast member and show director Aaron Lamb was named Associate Artistic Director. He and founding artistic director Linda Whitney are finalizing the lineup for Season 28, to be announced in two weeks. Meanwhile, Lamb will also be directing the upcoming *Three Days of Rain*, opening Thursday, May 3rd. Tickets available now at [www.harlequinproductions.org](http://www.harlequinproductions.org).

The board and organization will continue to update the community on these steps and processes on a regular basis as we work to create a more vibrant future for everyone in the regional arts community.

For more information, photos, or to schedule an interview, please contact:

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Tickets and information online at [www.harlequinproductions.org](http://www.harlequinproductions.org)

Harlequin Productions is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization #91-1478538

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