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KEVIN O'HALLORAN NAMED VCCA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Amherst, Va. — The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA) has announced Kevin O'Halloran will serve as the next Executive Director of the organization.

O'Halloran's involvement with VCCA began when he was elected to serve as Treasurer in November 2018. The Board of Directors appointed O'Halloran as Interim Executive Director in August 2019 following the departure of former Executive Director Joy Peterson Heyrman. In that brief time, O'Halloran has been instrumental in establishing a satellite office in Richmond, Virginia, for VCCA's development and communications team, hiring several new staff members and mounting a successful capital campaign.

VCCA President Quinn Feldmann Graeff says, "The decision to ask Kevin to move into this role was unanimous. Looking back on Kevin's work in his role as Interim, I can only say that there was nothing 'interim' about his focus and commitment. From day one he has demonstrated the foresight, dedication and leadership our organization needs at this momentous time in our history."

O'Halloran brings 30 years of nonprofit management and fundraising experience to VCCA. A long-time resident of Charlottesville, Virginia, he has held leadership positions with the Charlottesville Opera, the Paramount Theater and the Charlottesville Area Community Foundation. His volunteer commitments include the Harvard Club of Charlottesville and the City Planning Commission.

"I am honored that the board has entrusted me with this new role at VCCA," says O'Halloran. "I care deeply about VCCA's mission, and I've come to love its beautiful home at Mt. San Angelo. As VCCA approaches its fiftieth anniversary, I look forward to working with the Board, staff and Fellows to build upon the past and secure VCCA's future."

Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA)

VCCA is a unique Virginia-based organization that provides time and space for national and international writers, visual artists and composers of talent and promise to bring forth their finest works. Since its founding in 1971, VCCA has hosted more than 6,000 writers, visual artists and composers. VCCA is preparing to celebrate its fiftieth anniversary in 2021.

VCCA hosts over 400 artist-Fellows annually at its Mt. San Angelo facility in Amherst, Virginia, and the Moulin à Nef Studio Center in Auvillar, France. The artists who come to VCCA, whether emerging or established, are selected through competitive peer review on the basis of the important or innovative work they are doing in their respective fields.

A typical residency at VCCA ranges from two weeks to two months. Each artist is provided with a private bedroom, a private studio and three prepared meals a day. This distraction-free atmosphere, as well as the energy that results from having some 25 creative people gathered in one place, enable artists to be highly productive.

VCCA Fellows have received worldwide attention including MacArthur fellowships, Pulitzer Prizes, Guggenheim fellowships, National Endowment for the Arts awards, National Book Award, and Grammy Award and Academy Award nominations.

For more information visit <u>https://www.vcca.com</u>

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