

---

**CALIFORNIA BALLET COMPANY ANNOUNCES  
THE APPOINTMENT OF *NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR***

**MICHAEL ANDREW CURREY**

San Diego - January 4, 2018 - California Ballet is excited to announce the appointment of Michael Andrew Currey as Executive Director. The selection comes after a six-month search led by the Board of Trustees and Founding Director Maxine Mahon. Mr. Currey's tenure began on January 3, 2018.

Currey was most recently the General Manager of Ballet West, Salt Lake City, Utah. There he was instrumental in fundraising efforts for that company's \$3 million campaign to produce a new *Nutcracker*. He also oversaw the design and construction of the Jessie Eccles Quinney Ballet Centre, Ballet West's new home next to the Capitol Theatre in downtown Salt Lake City. Currey was also responsible for the construction and renovation of the Frederick Quinney Lawson Ballet West Academy Trolley Square, Thanksgiving Point and Park City campus locations.

In an over 30 year career in theatre, Currey has served in leadership roles at The Joffrey Ballet, New York City Opera, Chicago Children's Theatre, Maine State Music Theatre and Ballet West. A San Diego native, Currey was on the staffs of San Diego Opera, San Diego Civic Light Opera (Starlight), and Moonlight Amphitheater before moving east to further his career.

"I am excited to return to San Diego and lead this wonderful company into its next 50 years," says Currey, "San Diego is truly America's Finest City, and its natural beauty is only matched by the great cultural arts organizations that have long been a part of the fabric of this great city. I am exhilarated about leading this company to a new level, and working with the wonderful staff and artists to bring sustainable growth to the organization."

Founding Director Maxine Mahon says, "I am delighted to welcome Michael into the California Ballet family. San Diego's reigning ballet company is clearly in the capable hands of a seasoned and cultured professional. California Ballet was built for our community through the love and commitment of our staff, board, dancers and patrons. Mr. Currey will preserve the California Ballet legacy while pursuing an exciting new vision for the classical arts in our fine city."

About Currey, Associate Artistic Director Jared Nelson says, "I'm excited to start the next 50 years of California Ballet Company with Michael Currey as our new Executive Director. We have a shared vision to grow this company artistically and financially to give San Diego a world class, versatile dance company. Michael brings a professional skill set, and experience that will enhance California Ballet's mission."

Currently in its 50th season, California Ballet Company presents professional ballet productions and educational programming to the people of San Diego. The resident ballet company of the San Diego Civic Theatre, California Ballet preserves the classical art form while pioneering new works and encouraging the artistic growth of its dancers and choreographers.

For more information please contact Joe Shumate at [jshumate@californiaballet.org](mailto:jshumate@californiaballet.org)  
or 858.560.5676 ext. 118.