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## Ellis Island Medal of Honor Recipient: Michael Barnard

**Phoenix, Ariz.** - Phoenix Theatre is proud to announce that their Producing Artistic Director Michael Barnard has been chosen as a recipient of the esteemed Ellis Island Medal of Honor!

“The Ellis Island Medals of Honor embody the spirit of America in their salute to tolerance, brotherhood, diversity and patriotism. Honorees may be native-born or naturalized, but most importantly, they are individuals who have made it their mission to share their wealth of knowledge, indomitable courage, boundless compassion, unique talents and selfless generosity with those less fortunate.

“Since the Medal was founded in 1986, EIHS has honored distinguished and diverse Americans including seven Presidents of the United States, Vice-President Joe Biden, Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor, Nobel laureates Elie Wiesel and Malala Yousafzai, Coretta Scott King, John Sculley, Muhammad Ali, Lee Iacocca and Rosa Parks, among other outstanding Americans.”

- Ellis Island Honor Society

Michael Barnard will be traveling this spring to accept this prestigious award at the Ellis Island Honor Society’s annual gala. Other 2018 Medalists include Henry Louis Gates Jr., Albert II Prince of Monaco, and Congressman Adam Schiff.

**For more information about the Ellis Island Honor Society and Ellis Island Medal of Honor, visit [www.neco.org](http://www.neco.org)**

### ABOUT PHOENIX THEATRE

The largest producing regional theatre company in Arizona, Phoenix Theatre offers more programs and experiences than any other. With over 400 performances on multiple stages and thriving outreach programs, we inspire more than 100,000 citizens every year.

As a founding member of the Central Arts District, Phoenix Theatre is committed to advancing the performing arts in the Valley, and is recognized nationally as a professional regional theatre of exceptional quality. In this, our 98th season, we are producing eight remarkable productions on the Walton Stage of the Mainstage Theatre and in the intimate setting of the Hormel Theatre. In March, we will host our 19th annual Phoenix Theatre Festival of New American Theatre, two weeks that foster the development of new and original work and contribute to the American theatre canon.

Offstage, we strive to give back to our community.

Our nationally recognized Professional Volunteer Apprenticeship program provides valuable on-the-job training to future arts leaders in areas of production. Our Partners That Heal program provides comfort and entertainment to children and families in healthcare and crisis facilities. Our experiential summer programming nurtures the performing artist inside each of us, promoting confidence and providing interactive theatrical and dance experiences for children, teens and adults.

Every show or service we provide is always measured against our mission – to create exceptional theatrical experiences by using the arts to articulate messages that inspire hope and understanding.

Welcome to Phoenix Theatre.

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**PHOENIXTHEATRE.COM**