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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TheTheatreTimes.com's International Online Theatre Festival is the second-place winner of the <u>Culture Online International Award for "Best Online Project."</u> In 2021, a total of 452 projects were submitted from more than 20 countries.

<u>IOTF: The International Online Theatre Festival</u> is a yearly event streaming international theatre shows organized by TheTheatreTimes.com. <u>IOTF 2021</u> showcased 33 shows from 24 countries, IOTF 2020 featured 42 shows from 16 countries, and IOTF 2019 featured 26 shows from 10 countries. In total, over a million people participated in the three editions. IOTF also offers talks and online events related to the screenings, including panels and post-show talkbacks with the artists.

IOTF 2021 has been curated by co-Artistic Directors Xunnan Li, Alma Prelec, and Gabriel Vivas-Martínez; IOTF's Executive Director Maria Delgado; and TTT's Magda Romanska and Kasia Lech. It has been presented with the support of the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, University of London; the Polish Cultural Institute in London; the Center for Drama, Theatre, and Performance Studies at the University of Toronto; Emerson College; and all the companies who have given permission for their work to be screened and shared.

The 2021 Culture Online award was presented as part of the St. Petersburg International Cultural Forum. The organizer of the award in 2021 was the Russian Culture Foundation. The purpose of the award is to encourage cultural institutions that actively implement online technologies in their work, as well as significant projects in the cultural field, carried out with the help of the most modern IT resources. Cultural institutions, creative unions, public organizations, associations, bloggers, and other organizations that have implemented their projects in the cultural field were invited to participate. The award ceremony can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zz5iBTilFdQ&t=739s

<u>TheTheatreTimes.com</u>, an all-volunteer, open-access global theatre and performing arts portal, celebrated its fifth anniversary on November 6, 2021. Since its launch in November 2016, TheTheatreTimes.com has published over 4,500 articles and theatre reviews covering theatre in 90 countries and regions. With 32 thematic sections, more than 150 <u>Regional Managing Editors</u>,

over 60 <u>media partners</u> around the world, and 60,000+ followers on social media, we have grown to be the farthest-reaching and most comprehensive global theatre portal today.

Over the past five years, TheTheatreTimes.com has launched (1) three Spotlight features: Spotlight on Russia, Spotlight on Poland, and Spotlight on China; (2) Performap.com: an Interactive Digital Map of Theatre Festivals, funded through the Yale Digital Humanities Lab and an LMDA Innovation Grant and currently listing 340 international theatre and performing arts festivals, searchable by date, location, and type; and (3) IOTF: The International Online Theatre Festival, a yearly event streaming international theatre shows.

The Theatre Times.com strives to offer global theatre coverage through local sources.

Magda Romanska Executive Director and Editor-in-Chief Kasia Lech
Executive Director and Director of
Research and Global Initiatives