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Alabama Shakespeare Festival appoints new directors to Executive Board

MONTOMERY, AL

The Alabama Shakespeare Festival, the State Theatre of Alabama has appointed four new members to its statewide Board of Directors.

Alexia Borden is Vice President of Governmental Affairs for Alabama Power Company. Prior to joining the Power Company, she was a partner at Balch & Bingham. During her career at Balch & Bingham, Alexia represented numerous clients in environmental and natural resources issues, and state governmental relations. She joined the firm after earning her Juris Doctorate from the University of Alabama. She earned her bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. She and her husband, Gray, a U.S. magistrate judge for the Middle District of Alabama, have two sons.

Janice Hawkins, the First Lady of Troy University, recently spearheaded the renovation of the Cultural Arts Center for Troy's main campus, which includes a park named in her honor by the Troy University Board of Trustees, an amphitheater and the renovation of Stewart Hall, which houses Troy's arts and design program and two galleries. She has served the State of Alabama in many capacities, including Chair of the Alabama Historical Commission, and on the Board of Directors for the Alabama Humanities Foundation, Alabama Board of Interpreters for the Deaf, and Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from David Lipscomb University and a Master of Science from the University of Alabama in Birmingham with a major in special education for the multiple disabled with emphasis on the visually impaired. Mrs. Hawkins speaks nationally on education of the blind and visually impaired.

Barry Prim has been involved in the banking, trust operations, and asset management industry since 1990. He worked in various trust officer and lender positions with Regions Financial Corporation and as Senior Vice President and Private Banking Sales Manager. He also served as Senior Vice President, Chief Investment Officer and Chief Operating Officer for the Trust Company of Sterne, Agee & Leach. In 2007, Mr. Prim and two partners formed AlaTrust, Inc., an independent trust company, which merged into Oakworth Capital Bank in 2015, where Mr. Prim currently serves as a Managing Director for Wealth Management. Mr. Prim's community involvement includes service on the boards of the Family Sunshine Center, the Family Guidance Center, St. James School and St. James United Methodist Church, and participation in Leadership Montgomery.

Dr. Carl A. Stockton, the sixth Chancellor of Auburn University at Montgomery (AUM), has strong ties to Alabama and the Southeast and an active and successful history of service and leadership in higher education. In his 32 years in higher education, as both administrator and faculty member, Dr. Stockton has raised more than \$100 million in grants and capital support for the universities and programs he has served. His distinguished career spans progressive levels of achievement as educator, researcher and author, and administrator, as well as active professional and community involvement. Dr. Stockton holds a Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts in Health Education from the University of Florida and a Doctor of Philosophy in Health Education from the University of Tennessee.

"We couldn't be more excited that such a stellar group of individuals has joined our board," said Dr. Laurie Weil, ASF's Board Chairman. "Alexia Borden, Janice Hawkins, Barry Prim and Dr. Carl Stockton bring significant leadership skills and talents that will strengthen the state's theatre and promote its mission: "to build community by engaging, entertaining, and inspiring people with transformative theatrical performances and compelling educational and outreach programs."

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The Alabama Shakespeare Festival is among the largest Shakespeare theatres in the world. Designated as The State Theatre of Alabama, ASF has been located in Montgomery since 1985 when it moved from Anniston as a result of Mr. and Mrs. Wynton M. Blount's gift of a performing arts complex set in the 250-acre Wynton M. Blount Cultural Park. This program/project has been made possible by grants from the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Art

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