



April 30, 2025

Dear Co-Chair Fred Girod, Co-Chair Rob Nosse, and Members of the Subcommittee on Capital Construction,

On behalf of Profile Theatre, I am writing to express our strong support for Portland State University's request for \$85 million in Article XI(G) Bond funding to build academic facilities as part of a state-of-the-art Performing Arts and Culture Center.

Now in our 27th year, Profile Theatre is one of the longest-running theaters in the state with a unique mission: we center the season around a deep dive into the bodies of work of contemporary writers, centering the season around their vision with a season of world-class productions and community engagement activities that broaden perspectives and deepen compassion.

As a pillar in the Portland arts and culture eco-system, I recognize this once-in-a-century opportunity will create a nationally distinct performing arts and education hub in the heart of downtown Portland. With the City of Portland committed to replacing the aging and seismically vulnerable Keller Auditorium, this project is not just about replacing a building—it's about transforming our city. Located just blocks from the future renovated Keller, the new PACC will anchor a thriving entertainment and education district that restores confidence in downtown Portland and elevates Oregon's statewide arts ecosystem.

PSU's commitment to an inclusive, diverse and thriving Portland community is well-established. A partnership with PSU in the creation of a world-class performing arts center doubles the civic impact of the City's desire to replace the Keller by embedding it in the largest and most democratic educational institution in our region. PSU is committed to making the PACC available to community organizations with a complex of spaces of various sizes and capabilities. In my opinion, the educational and cultural impact can't be understated.

Thank you for your service and consideration of this request. Together, Portland and Portland State University, can do big things. We look forward to celebrating the opening of this center with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Hecht".

Josh Hecht  
Artistic Director