

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS: BILL RAUCH



Immediately following the ATHE Annual Awards Ceremony on Thursday, August 8, please join us for our Keynote Address.

Bill Rauch – himself transitioning from the leadership of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival to the Artistic Directorship of the Perelman Center at the World Trade Center – will offer his perspective on the changing

scene of the theatre today. In addition to delivering our opening address, Mr. Rauch will help us kick off our plenary series on Friday, August 9.

Bill Rauch was appointed the inaugural Artistic Director of the Perelman Center at the World Trade Center in February of 2018. His work as a theater director has been seen across the nation, from low-income community centers to Broadway in the Tony Award-winning production of Robert Schenkkan's *All The Way*, as well as at many of the largest regional theaters in the country. From 2007-2019, Bill was the Artistic Director of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the country's oldest and largest rotating repertory theater, where he directed nine world premieres and 20 other classic and contemporary plays, including innovative productions of classic musicals such as *Oklahoma!* and *The Music Man*. Among his initiatives at OSF, Bill committed to commissioning 37 new plays to dramatize moments of change in American history. "American Revolutions: the United States History Cycle" is now in its tenth year of productions, resulting in such watershed plays as Lisa Loomer's *Roe*, Lynn Nottage's *Sweat* (winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize), Paula Vogel's *Indecent*, and *All the Way*, among others. Bill is also co-founder of Cornerstone Theater Company where he served as artistic director from 1986 to 2006, directing more than 40 productions, most of them adaptations of classic plays in collaboration with diverse rural and urban communities nationwide. New York credits include the world premiere of Naomi Wallace's *Night Is A Room* at Signature Theatre, and the New York premiere of Sarah Ruhl's *The Clean House* at Lincoln Center Theater. He has directed world premieres at Portland Center Stage, Center Theater Group, and South Coast Rep, and has directed multiple times each at American Repertory Theater, Yale Rep, the Guthrie, Arena Stage, and Seattle Rep, as well as at Long Wharf Theatre, Berkeley Rep, Pasadena Playhouse, and Great Lakes Theater Festival. His many awards include a Ford Fellowship, the Fichandler, TCG's Visionary Leadership Award, and the Margo Jones Medal.