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### **The Colonial Theatre Announces Kenneth L. Metzner as New Executive Director**

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The Colonial Theatre, the historic non-profit movie palace in Phoenixville, PA, welcomes Ken Metzner as its next Executive Director. Ken succeeds founding Executive Director Mary Foote who steps down on July 31 after 20 years of leadership.

"After Mary announced her plans to pursue new challenges, we faced our own challenge of finding the right person to carry on our mission and lead the Colonial during its new phase as a multi-theatre arts venue," said Association for the Colonial Theatre President of the Board of Directors, Marian Moskowitz. "After an exhaustive search, it became clear that Ken Metzner, who has a distinguished record in both the arts sector and the world of big business, is that leader." Added Foote, "I am thrilled with the work of the Search Committee, the board and the staff in identifying Ken Metzner as our next Executive Director. This is an exciting time for ACT and the Colonial Theatre. I am confident the community will welcome him with open arms as we begin introducing him to members, patrons and neighbors."

Before his current work in the non-profit arena, Metzner navigated a very different environment as a New York City lawyer and, ultimately, as General Counsel for the fashion retailer Saks Fifth Avenue. In addition to honing his legal, public relations and business skills, his experience at Saks as president of the company's charitable foundation led to invaluable insights into corporate philanthropy, which nourished Metzner's passion for arts and culture. In 2007, Metzner switched gears to become the founding Executive Director of Philadelphia's acclaimed Kun-Yang Lin/Dancers (KYL/D) and KYL/D's CHI Movement Arts Center.

For the past three years, Metzner also has served as President of the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Cultural Fund, which awards more general operating grants for arts and culture than any funder in Pennsylvania, and as a Board Member of the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance, the region's leading arts advocacy organization. In addition to being a lawyer and arts activist, Metzner is a Spanish-speaking, ordained Interfaith Minister who has been a frequent guest speaker at universities and arts service organizations such as Temple University, University of Pennsylvania and the University of the Arts. Metzner studied international relations, law and languages at Georgetown University, the London School of Economics and the University of Virginia.

"The Colonial is a storied community asset with roots firmly planted in the past and an ethos that embraces the now and welcomes the future," said Metzner. "I am thrilled and humbled by the invitation to build on the legacy of Mary Foote and the momentum generated through the collective efforts of the Colonial's extraordinary staff, volunteers, board and community. I look forward to working with this amazing team to ensure that the Colonial continues to inspire people of all backgrounds to discover more of themselves and others through encounters with exceptional and eclectic film and performances."

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Located in the heart of downtown Phoenixville, The Colonial Theatre is owned and operated by the Association for the Colonial Theatre (ACT), a nonprofit corporation. The historic, three-screen venue consists of the original 658-seat theatre and two new theatres in the adjacent Bank of Phoenixville building. Programming includes first-run, independent and classic films, young audience shows, concerts, and community events. For upcoming shows and times visit [www.thecolonialtheatre.com](http://www.thecolonialtheatre.com).