

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Business for the Arts and The Banff Centre to host 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Canadian Arts Summit in Toronto**

*National leadership forum to focus on the future of Canada's arts and culture sector and will include  
a one-day interactive livestream on Friday, April 10*

(TORONTO, ON – March 26, 2015) Business for the Arts, in partnership with The Banff Centre, will present the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Canadian Arts Summit April 10-11, 2015 at the Aga Khan Museum and the Canadian Film Centre in Toronto. The event is a unique national leadership forum that brings together the executive directors, artistic directors and board chairs of Canada's largest not-for-profit arts and cultural institutions with innovative thinkers and leaders from a diversity of backgrounds and sectors. The theme this year, *An Inspired Future for the Arts*, will explore what lies ahead for the arts sector, including new forms of audience engagement, new trends in corporate sponsorship and philanthropy, and new ways to innovate, collaborate and partner with other cultural institutions and other sectors. The program features a host of compelling speakers and panelists including futurist and visiting scholar at Massey College, **Sanjay Khanna**; Chief Digital Officer at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, **Sree Sreenivasan**; Instagram's Director of Brand Development **Daniel Habashi**; Harbourfront Centre's **Marah Braye**; and Chief curator of Musée des beaux-arts de Montreal **Nathalie Bondil**, among many others.

“We have designed a program that balances inspiring presentations with opportunities for dynamic and candid exchange among peers,” said David Binet, Chair of the 18th Canadian Arts Summit and Chair of the National Ballet of Canada. “In addition to our roster of compelling speakers and panelists, we will reflect on the larger context of our role as institutional leaders within the arts ecosystem, considering opportunities for collective action through ongoing advocacy and research.”

For a complete look at the weekend program and guest speakers, visit <http://canadianartssummit.com/program-2015/>.

To encourage an extended dialogue among leaders in the field, the Canadian Arts Summit will include an opportunity for public engagement and online participation through a one-day interactive livestream of sessions on Friday, April 10. Participants can also join the conversation on Twitter using the hashtag #2015artssummit.



Since 1998, the Canadian Arts Summit has worked with influential leaders — volunteers, artists and executives — to better support Canadian artistic aspirations. Each Summit has been shaped by its participants and has evolved over the years to become an ongoing network of arts leaders cooperating and collaborating throughout the year to address the issues critical to the continued growth and success of Canada's arts and culture sector. To learn more about the 18th Annual Canadian Arts Summit, visit the website at <http://canadianartssummit.com/faq>.

### **About Business for the Arts**

Founded in 1974, Business for the Arts is Canada's only national charitable organization of business members who support the arts. Our vision is to inspire Canada's business community to partner with the arts to ensure a thriving cultural sector. We connect, educate and invest to bridge the gap between business and the arts. Visit [www.businessforthearts.org](http://www.businessforthearts.org).

### **About The Banff Centre**

The Banff Centre is the world's largest incubator of original art and ideas. Thousands of artists and leaders visit the Centre every year to attend programs that allow them to conceive, produce and present new work and ideas that are shared with audiences at The Centre, across Canada and around the world through physical and digital dissemination on multiple platforms.

### **For more information, please contact:**

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