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BioMed Realty and Global Arts Live Announce Launch of New Nonprofit, 585 Arts, to Activate Arts and Cultural Programming for 585 Third Street and Canal District Kendall

Organization will lead vision for first new live Boston-area performance theater in 15 years

Cambridge – March 10, 2021 – BioMed Realty, a leading provider of real estate solutions to the life science and technology industries, and Cambridge-based nonprofit performing arts presenter Global Arts Live announced today the formation of 585 Arts, a new nonprofit dedicated to operating and programming the arts and cultural activation at 585 Third Street. 585 Third Street, [which was recently rezoned by unanimous approval](#) of the Cambridge City Council, is a planned 16-story laboratory and office building in Cambridge’s Kendall Square. The project, which is part of the larger Canal District, will include more than 30,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor public space to be used for performances and community gathering.

“585 Arts will play the vital role of programming, managing, and publicizing the incredible array of arts experiences we aspire to host at and around 585 Third Street,” said Global Arts Live Board President, Nagesh Mahanthappa. “Our aim for this project is to create a thriving hub for communities and creatives to come together – one that will bring another dimension of diversity and culture to Kendall Square. We are very excited to be working together with BioMed in bringing 585 Arts forward.”

“From the outset, we’ve been committed to working with community partners and arts organizations to develop a sustainable operating model for 585 Third Street,” said Sal Zinno, BioMed Realty’s Vice President of Development. “585 Arts is the culmination of that promise, and Global Arts Live is the right partner to help make it all possible. We can’t wait to get started.”

Once operational, 585 Arts will be an independent organization that will oversee the programming, presentation, and promotion of a diverse array of performers and artists throughout the Canal District.

It will manage a 30,000 square foot indoor and outdoor public space at 585 Third Street, including a 300-seat theater featuring state of the art audio and visual systems, a rehearsal studio, flexible multipurpose rooms for workshops and meetings, an indoor garden and outdoor performance spaces. 585 Arts will also activate additional indoor and outdoor public spaces throughout the 10-acre Canal District and is committed to diverse and inclusive programming.

“585 Arts is an important step forward in revitalizing the arts in Cambridge, which have faced tremendous losses in recent years,” said Cambridge Vice Mayor Alana Mallon. “When I voted to move this project forward, I knew the energy and creativity of the Cambridge arts community could do so much with the opportunity it presented. Choosing Global Arts Live to oversee the formation of 585 Arts as the operator for the space shows a tremendous commitment to local, cultural leadership and bodes well for the future of the space.”

Global Arts Live, which has pledged to raise operating funds for the new 585 Arts entity, will be an anchor tenant at the 585 Third Street theater upon completion, which is expected in 2025. Committed to hosting at least 100 nights of programming per year, Global Arts Live will bring its reach and 30 years of experience presenting international music, contemporary dance, and jazz to provide both the economic and artistic foundation for a diverse and inclusive performing arts series. More than 200 nights per year will be available for additional artists and cultural organizations to produce and present their work. The nonprofit will place a particular focus on attracting artists and audiences of color and tapping into the vibrant neighborhoods that surround Kendall Square. In this mission, 585 Arts will be supported by an expanded Arts Influencer Circle, a volunteer body of Cambridge and Greater Boston creatives who provided input from the cultural community during 585 Third Street’s initial design and feedback stages.

“This is great news, not only for artists like myself but also for the audiences that enable us to follow our passions,” said Alex Ambila, Artistic Director for street and club dance nonprofit The Flavor Continues. “Few organizations have the resources and organizational mandate to engage artists- especially artists from underrepresented backgrounds- and I can’t wait to see the wide range of artists that 585 Arts will discover, nurture, and show off to the world.”

To learn more about 585 Arts, 585 Third Street, and the Canal District neighborhood, please visit <https://www.canaldistrictkendall.com/585thirdstreet>.

About BioMed Realty

BioMed Realty, a Blackstone portfolio company, is a leading provider of real estate solutions to the life science and technology industries. BioMed owns and operates high quality life science real estate comprising 13.1 million square feet concentrated in the leading innovation markets throughout the United States and United Kingdom, including Boston/Cambridge, San Francisco, San Diego, Seattle and Cambridge U.K. In addition, BioMed maintains a premier development platform with 3.0 million square feet of Class A properties in active construction to meet the growing demand of the life science industry. Additional information is available at <http://www.biomedrealty.com>. Follow us on Twitter [@biomedrealty](https://twitter.com/biomedrealty).

About Global Arts Live

Global Arts Live is a Cambridge-based nonprofit organization that brings the best international music, contemporary dance, and jazz from around the world to stages across Greater Boston. By putting the spotlight on artistic excellence from all corners of the globe and reflecting the diverse and vibrant community that is Boston, we aspire to transcend borders, cultivate community, and enrich lives. A trusted curator for almost 30 years, Global Arts Live has made live, international music and dance a vital part of greater Boston's cultural scene by featuring more than 800 artists from 70+ countries in over 1,500 performances attended by more than 1 million people.

globalartslive.org

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