

## **NEWS RELEASE**

Contact:  
Kelly Blithe  
Director of Communications  
732-247-7200, ext. 542  
[kblithe@StateTheatreNJ.org](mailto:kblithe@StateTheatreNJ.org)



15 Livingston Ave | New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
732-246-SHOW (7469) | [StateTheatreNJ.org](http://StateTheatreNJ.org)

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

# **STATE THEATRE NEW JERSEY HONORS BANK OF AMERICA**

State Theatre Benefit Gala 2018  
Sat, May 12, 2018

**New Brunswick, NJ (May 1, 2018)**—State Theatre New Jersey will honor **Bank of America** at the **2018 State Theatre Benefit Gala** on **Saturday, May 12, 2018** featuring Grammy Award®-winning artists **Kool & The Gang**.

“We are proud to call State Theatre New Jersey a partner,” said **Robert Doherty, New Jersey President, Bank of America**. “Our support of the arts reflects our belief that the ARTS MATTER: They help economies thrive, help individuals connect with each other and across cultures, and educate and enrich societies,” added Doherty.

**State Theatre Board Chair Scott Fergang** remarked, “We are thrilled to honor Bank of America at this year’s Gala, for their support of the arts throughout New Jersey has a tremendous impact on the region. As a steadfast partner of State Theatre New Jersey, Bank of America upholds our mission to present programming from around the world that delights and inspires our audiences—including Black Violin, Gilberto Santa Rosa, The Temptations & The Four Tops, Masters of Illusion, Broadway tours of *RENT*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *West Side Story*, and the New Jersey premiere of *Jersey Boys*—acts that reflect the rich diversity of our communities.”

Bank of America began serving New Jersey more than 190 years ago. Guided by a common purpose to help make financial lives better through the power of every connection, Bank of America delivers on this through a focus on responsible growth and environmental, social, and governance leadership. Through these efforts, Bank of America is driving growth—investing in the success of their employees, helping to create jobs, develop communities, foster economic mobility and address society’s biggest challenges—while managing risk and providing a return to their clients and their business.

### **Gala Information**

The Gala festivities begin at 5pm at The Heldrich Hotel and the performance will begin at 6pm at State Theatre New Jersey. In addition to the show, Gala guests will enjoy a pre-performance cocktail reception, post-performance dinner dance with an open bar, fabulous auctions, and live entertainment

from The Jersey Joint. *The Benefit Gala, State Theatre New Jersey's biggest annual event, underwrites the State Theatre's artistically-acclaimed programming and nationally-recognized education programs. A portion of each ticket price represents a tax-deductible contribution to the State Theatre. Benefit Gala tickets are \$700. For Benefit Gala tickets please email [rsvp@stnj.org](mailto:rsvp@stnj.org)*

The 2018 Benefit Gala Co-Chairs are John S. Fitzgerald (*Magyar Bank*) and John Reissner (*Magyar Bank*), and Vice-Chairs are Linda Piscadlo (*Retired, Johnson & Johnson*), Matt Taylor (*Moody's Investors Service*) and Tracy Taylor (*Plymouth Rock Management Company of New Jersey*). The 2018 Benefit Gala Corporate Co-Chairs are Timothy J. Brown (*MetLife*) and Craig J. Guiffre (*American Benefits Consulting*).

**Bank of America** is this year's Corporate Honoree. The State Theatre's 2018 Leadership in the Arts Award will be presented to **Betty Wold Johnson**; and the Patron Honoree Award will be presented to **Douglas and Diane Garback of The Garback Agency**.

### **About the Gala Artist**

Grammy Award®-winning artists **Kool & The Gang** have influenced the music of three generations and with over 70 million albums sold worldwide their funk and jazz arrangements have made them one of the most sampled bands of all time. Kool & The Gang's hits include "Cherish," "Jungle Boogie," "Summer Madness," "Open Sesame," and "Celebration." In addition to their two Grammy Awards®, they've earned seven American Music Awards, 25 Top Ten R&B hits, nine Top Ten Pop hits, and 31 gold and platinum albums.

**For GALA tickets** that include the show, a pre-performance cocktail reception, post-performance dinner dance with an open bar *please email [rsvp@stnj.org](mailto:rsvp@stnj.org). For performance only tickets, more information, or group discounts, call State Theatre Guest Services at 732-246-SHOW (7469), or visit us online at [STNJ.org](http://STNJ.org).* State Theatre Guest Services, located at 15 Livingston Ave, New Brunswick NJ, is open Monday through Friday from 10am to 6pm; Saturday from 1pm to 5pm; and at least three hours prior to curtain on performance dates unless otherwise specified. *Additional ticket and transaction fees may apply.*

### **About State Theatre New Jersey**

*The theater exists to enrich people's lives, contribute to a vital urban environment, and build future audiences by presenting the finest performing artists and entertainers and fostering lifetime appreciation for the performing arts through arts education. State Theatre New Jersey's programs are made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. Grant funding has been provided by the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders through a grant award from the Middlesex County Cultural and Arts Trust Fund. United is the official airline of the State Theatre.*

## **STATE THEATRE NEW JERSEY**

*Creating Extraordinary Experiences Through the Power of Live Performance*

15 Livingston Ave

New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Guest Services - 732-246-SHOW (7469)

Online - STNJ.org

**PHOTOS AND INTERVIEWS FURNISHED UPON REQUEST**

Please contact Kelly Blithe at  
732-247-7200, ext. 542 or by email at [kblithe@stnj.org](mailto:kblithe@stnj.org).  
Information in this release is current as of May 1, 2018.

Up-to-the-minute information on events and State Theatre news,  
online at [STNJ.org](http://STNJ.org).

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