

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The 52nd Street Project Announces Brian Adamczyk as Next Executive Director

Adamczyk will succeed longtime Executive Director Carol Ochs following her retirement after 35 years of leadership

NEW YORK, NY — September 2, 2026 — The 52nd Street Project today announced the appointment of Brian Adamczyk as its next Executive Director. Adamczyk will succeed Carol Ochs, who will retire in November after 35 years of leadership at the organization.

Ochs has played a defining role in The Project's growth from a small after-school arts program operating out of borrowed spaces into a year-round community institution serving young people in Hell's Kitchen. During her tenure, she helped secure The Project's first permanent home and expanded its capacity to provide free theater and arts programming, academic mentoring, and youth development opportunities.

Cathy Dantchik and Louis Friedman, Co-Chairs of The 52nd Street Project, commented, "Carol has been an integral part of The Project for more than three decades, and while we celebrate her wonderful contributions, we will deeply miss her daily presence and guidance. Fortunately, we know that she will continue to be part of The Project's family and a valuable resource for Brian."

Adamczyk is an arts nonprofit executive, educator, and professional musician with extensive experience leading accessible arts programming for young people and underserved communities. He currently serves as Executive Director of **Brooklyn Music School**, where he has strengthened the historic organization's financial and operational foundation while advancing its fundraising, partnerships, and organizational culture. Earlier in his career, he held roles at a range of music education institutions focused on program and financial management, curriculum development, and the delivery of free arts programming to Title I students.

His appointment follows a comprehensive search process led by The Project's search committee in partnership with PBR Executive Search.

Adamczyk said, "After I had the opportunity to meet more and more people at The Project and learn about its incredible mission, I became very interested and inspired to join their efforts. Carol has spent over three decades leading this organization with such success, and I feel quite honored and humbled to continue her work and vision. I have spent many years serving very similar missions in a variety of different communities, and I couldn't be more excited to help steward the next chapter of The 52nd Street Project."

Adamczyk will work in close partnership with Artistic Director Natalie Hirsch to advance The Project's artistic mission, strengthen its programs, and guide the organization into its next chapter.