



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0023

PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

THOMAS A. DESJARDIN
ACTING COMMISSIONER

EXHIBIT #VII.E.

TO: Members of the State Board of Education

FROM: Thomas A. Desjardin, Acting Commissioner*

DATE: July 15, 2015

SUBJECT: Approval of the Review Team for the Circus Conservatory of America Degree-granting application review to offer Bachelors of Arts and Bachelors of Fine Arts degree in the Circus Arts.

BACKGROUND: The Circus Conservatory of American's Board of Trustees has directed the Conservatory administration to seek legislative authorization to award the Bachelors of Arts and Bachelors of Fine Arts degrees with in the State of Maine. The Circus Conservatory of America (CCA) has been established in order to meet the need of circus artists seeking a U.S. based accredited college. The primary aim is to support, educate, and showcase the unique talents of circus artist. The CCA curriculum will consist of the following academic opportunities for students to:

- Master a circus discipline (acrobatics, aerials, balance, manipulation, and/or physical theater);
- Perform in the professional-level circus productions;
- Serve as circus coaches in our community;
- Learn the business and production of circus; and
- Engage in community and international "social circus" programs, bringing together circus techniques with social intervention practices.

RECOMMENDATION: That the State Board of Education approves the list of potential State review team members for the Circus Conservatory of America (CCA) degree-granting application and designate Dr. Wilson Hess, President of the University of Maine at Fort Kent as the team chair.

*Presented by Ángel Martínez Loredo
Higher Education Specialist
Maine Department of Education

Proposed State Review Team Membership
Thompson Point, Portland
September 20 – 22, 2015

Chair Wilson Hess PhD
President
University of Maine at Fort Kent

Emily Haddad, PhD
Dean, College of Liberal Arts &
Sciences
The University of Maine

Chris Sullivan, MFA
Assistant Professor, Fine Arts
Department
St. Joseph's College

Richard J. Schuhmann, PhD
President
The Landing School

Dan Bilodeau
Chair, Theatre-Dance Division,
School of Performing Arts
The University of Maine

Non-Voting Participants

State Jane Sexton, Member
Board Maine State Board of
Observer Education

State Ángel Martínez Loredo
Consultant MDOE Higher
Education Specialist