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A.J. PIETRANTONE JOINS JACOB'S PILLOW AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR

October 11, 2018– (Becket, MA) Jacob's Pillow announces that nonprofit executive A.J. Pietrantone, Vice President for Finance and Administration at the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation, will join the organization as Deputy Director beginning on October 22, 2018. Jacob's Pillow, located in the Berkshires of Western Massachusetts, is a National Historic Landmark, a National Medal of the Arts recipient, home to America's longest running dance festival, and has recently expanded to become a year-round center for dance research and development.

"A.J.'s deep experience in nonprofit management will greatly support this institution at a pivotal time in its development. His collaborative spirit and commitment to community partnership will thrive here. As an avid Pillow subscriber and active cultural patron, his passion for the arts and dance is palpable. I so look forward to working with him," says Jacob's Pillow Director Pamela Tatge.

"I am honored and excited to be joining the Pillow at this point in time," says A.J. Pietrantone. "It is a once in a lifetime opportunity to bring my skills and passion together in service to an iconic organization that is integral to our cultural history and future."

As Deputy Director, Pietrantone will work closely with Director Pamela Tatge to achieve the Pillow's strategic goals, particularly in regards to Vision '22, the organization's ambitious growth and development plan through 2022. Pietrantone will oversee the management of finances, facilities, human resources, and organization-wide operating systems. He will also supervise marketing, communications, and retail, and be one of the Pillow's leading representatives in its work with funders, national service organizations, and a range of partners.

Pietrantone joins Jacob's Pillow with more than 30 years experience as an executive at a broad range of nonprofits. Most recently, he served as the Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation's Chief Operating and Financial Officer and provided high-level support to its finance and investment committees, which oversaw a \$12 million annual operating and grant-making budget, as well as stewardship of \$150 million in charitable assets. He has held senior finance and administrative positions with organizations focused on the arts, social services, civil rights, and the environment, including national nonprofits Environmental Defense Fund and the Human Rights Campaign.

Based in New York City from 1997 to 2014, Pietrantone served as the Executive Director of Friends of Hudson River Park, the fundraising and advocacy arm of the longest waterfront park in the U.S., and as Executive Vice President of KidRo Productions, the multi-media company and charitable foundation of actress Rosie O'Donnell. His volunteer efforts include a seven-year term chairing the board of the Liz Lerman Dance Exchange of Takoma Park, MD from 1995 to 2002; Lerman received the Jacob's Pillow Dance Award in 2017. A graduate of the Catholic University of America, Pietrantone earned his M.B.A. in Finance and Investments at George Washington University. He currently resides in Millerton, N.Y.

ABOUT JACOB'S PILLOW: Jacob's Pillow is a National Historic Landmark, recipient of the National Medal of Arts, and home to America's longest-running international dance festival. While celebrating its 85th Festival in 2017, the Pillow announced its transition to becoming a year-round center for dance through a five-year strategic plan titled Vision '22. Each Festival includes more than 50 national and international dance companies and over 350 free and ticketed performances, talks, tours, classes, exhibits, events, and community programs. The School at Jacob's Pillow, one of the most prestigious professional dance training centers in the U.S., encompasses the diverse disciplines of Ballet, Contemporary, Musical Theatre Dance, Choreography, and an annual rotating program (Gaga in 2018). The Pillow also provides professional advancement opportunities across disciplines of arts administration, design, video, and production through seasonal internships and a year-round Administrative Fellows program. With growing community engagement programs, the Pillow serves as a partner and active citizen in its local community. The Pillow's extensive Archives, open year-round to the public and online at danceinteractive.jacobspillow.org, chronicle more than a century of dance in photographs, programs, books, costumes, audiotapes, and videos. Notable artists who have created or premiered dances at the Pillow include choreographers Antony Tudor, Agnes de Mille, Alvin Ailey, Donald McKayle, Kevin McKenzie, Twyla Tharp, Ralph Lemon, Susan Marshall, Trisha Brown, Ronald K. Brown, Wally Cardona, Andrea Miller, and Trey McIntyre; performed by artists such as Mikhail Baryshnikov, Carmen de Lavallade, Mark Morris, Dame Margot Fonteyn, Edward Villella, Rasta Thomas, and hundreds of others. On March 2, 2011, President Barack Obama honored Jacob's Pillow with a National Medal of Arts, the highest arts award given by the United States Government, making the Pillow the first dance presenting organization to receive this prestigious award. For more information, visit www.jacobspillow.org.

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