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**First Stage Announces Katie Doral as General Manager
New additions to the Theater Academy and Marketing Department also announced**

Milwaukee, WI – First Stage announces the promotion of **Katie Doral**, former Patron Services Manager, to the role of *General Manager*. Doral has been working at First Stage since 2007. As General Manager, she will head Human Resources, serve as the Administrative Director for the Education Department, and oversee all business operations for the organization. From Rochester, Michigan, Doral holds a B.A. in Speech Communication and Theater from Albion College. She is a graduate of The Purple Rose Theatre Apprentice Program and a proud member of the Actor’s Equity Association having received her union card in 2003 while stage managing at The Purple Rose Theatre Company in Chelsea, MI.



Katie Doral



Ken Williams

First Stage Theater Academy announces the addition of three new staff members. **Ken Williams** joined the Academy staff as *Summer Program Director*. Williams is a professional actor and educator. He has taught at First Stage since 2008. Locally he has worked with the Milwaukee Chamber Theatre, Bunny Gumbo Productions, In Tandem Theatre, Optimist Theatre, Boulevard Ensemble, Lake Geneva Theatre Company, Windfall Theatre, Summer Stage of Delafield, Cornerstone Theatre, Cedar Creek Repertory, Racine Prairie School and Milwaukee Public Schools where he helped to create district-wide teaching standards for theatre education. Ken has a B.A. in Theatre from UW-Milwaukee and is a licensed theatre educator in the state of Wisconsin.

Also new to the Academy staff is **Jennifer Adams**, *Early Stages Program Director*. Adams is a teaching artist and director who will oversee the development of Creative Drama Curriculum for Pre-K through fourth grade. Jennifer earned an M.F.A. in Theatre for Young Audiences from the University of Central Florida and a B.S.Ed. in Theatre Education from Columbus State University of Columbus, Georgia.



Jennifer Adams

Patrick Schley joins the Academy staff as *Academy Services Manager*. Schley has been involved with First Stage as a student, intern and supporter since 1999. Recently he held the position of marketing manager for the Milwaukee Repertory Theater. He has also worked with Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Victory Gardens Theater, the Harris Theater for Music and Dance, Lake Geneva Theater Company and others.

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First Stage position announcements/add one

The First Stage marketing department recently added **Erica Passey** in the position of *Communications Manager*. Passey has over ten years experience in non-profit/arts marketing most recently holding the position of Marketing Director of the Charles Allis Art Museum. Passey holds a B.A. in Communication Arts from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Lindsey Abendschein joins the marketing team on June 28 as *Creative Services Manager*. Abendschein holds a B.F.A. with an emphasis in graphic communications from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh. She has over ten years experience designing for both print and digital media.

Also new to the marketing department is **Christopher Cuhel**, *Patron Services Manager*. Cuhel has over five years experience in patron relationship management with such arts organizations as the Milwaukee Repertory Theater, the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra and the Marcus Center for the Performing Arts.

About First Stage

Celebrating its 25th anniversary in the 2011-12 season, First Stage touches hearts, engages minds, and transforms lives by creating extraordinary theater experiences for young people and families through professional theater productions that inspire, enlighten, and entertain; unparalleled Theater Academy training that fosters life skills through stage skills; and dynamic Theater in Education programs that promote active learning in our schools and community. First Stage is a member of TYA/USA, the American Alliance for Theatre and Education, the Wisconsin Alliance for Arts Education and Americans for the Arts, as well as Theatre Wisconsin and Milwaukee Arts Partners, and is a cornerstone member of the United Performing Arts Fund (UPAF).

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