



**David Diamond**

Artistic Director, Headlines Theatre

Born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Mr. Diamond is a 1975 Bachelor of Fine Arts graduate of the University of Alberta. He was a founding member of Vancouver's Headlines Theatre (1981) and has been its artistic director since 1984.

Mr. Diamond has directed approximately 450 community-specific projects on issues such as racism, civic engagement, violence, addiction, street youth, intergenerational conflict and homelessness. He has worked throughout Canada, the United States and Europe, as well as in Namibia, New Zealand, Australia, Brazil and Singapore. In addition, he has pioneered the development of live, interactive forum television and webcasting.

He is the originator of the Theatre for Living project, a merging of Augusto Boal's Theatre of the Oppressed, and Diamond's own lifelong interest in systems theory. Theatre for Living recognizes communities are complexly integrated living organisms, and invites them to engage in constructive social change, moving from various forms of violence to respectful engagement.

David is the recipient of numerous awards, including the City of Vancouver's Cultural Harmony Award; the Jessie Richardson Award for Innovation in Theatre; an honorary doctorate from the University of the Fraser Valley; and the Otto René Castillo Award for Political Theatre. He is the author of *Theatre for Living: the Art and Science of Community-Based Dialogue* (winner of the 2008 American Alliance of Theatre and Education Distinguished Book Award).

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