

National Independent Venue Association

Statement Regarding Confirmation of Small Business Administration's Isabel Guzman

We congratulate Isabel Guzman on her bipartisan confirmation as Administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration. We look forward to working with Administrator Guzman to quickly open the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant Program, which was signed into law on December 27, 2020. Our shuttered industry is still awaiting this emergency relief needed to survive the pandemic. We stand ready to assist Administrator Guzman as we continue our fight to Save Our Stages.

ABOUT NIVA

Formed at the onset of the COVID-19 shutdown, the National Independent Venue Association (NIVA), now represents more than 3,000 members in all 50 states and Washington, D.C. NIVA created and led the #SaveOurStages campaign, resulting in landmark legislation establishing the "Shuttered Venue Operators" Grant program to be administered by the Small Business Administration. NIVA's mission is to preserve and nurture the ecosystem of independent live venues, promoters and festivals throughout the United States. The National Independent Venue Foundation (NIVF) was founded to further this mission by also seeking to support a transparent, competitive marketplace serving a diverse and inclusive community of artists, fans, and industry workers. The NIVA Emergency Relief Fund (ERF) is a tax-deductible way for individuals, companies, and foundations to contribute. The NIVA ERF directly supports the preservation of the independent live entertainment ecosystem that presents music, comedy, and the performing arts, helping these critical spaces survive through the Coronavirus pandemic. Individuals, foundations, businesses, and organizations that are interested in contributing to the NIVA Emergency Relief Fund should visit nivassoc.org/erf.

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