Date: October 19, 2023
Names of Attorneys: Nicholas Bazzarone, Andrew C. Compton, and Charles Fraser
Name of Firm: Linklaters LLP
Client Served: IndieSpace, Inc.
Accomplishment: Drafted an artist performance template agreement so IndieSpace can engage artists to entertain at events.

“We were so pleased to get to work with the Linklaters team in order to develop an artist-friendly and supportive contract for the creators that we work with at our events.”

IndieSpace is a grassroots nonprofit organization founded in 2015 that supports individual artists, theater companies, and indie venues. The beneficiaries of IndieSpace are typically BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) artists that have limited resources to promote their artistic agenda. IndieSpace aims to strengthen the indie theatre community by disrupting ongoing displacement, democratizing power, and demanding social or financial equity for artists.

IndieSpace hosts a number of community-building and fundraising events throughout the year so it can raise awareness and funds for its artists and programs. More than 2,000 individual artists and more than 600 indie companies and venues make up the IndieSpace community of artists.

The organization often engages under-resourced artists to perform at these events. These artists typically do not come with their own artist agreements or access to counsel. IndieSpace saw how essential it was to create a template agreement that would benefit the artists and protect the organization by spelling out, in clear language, the terms of the agreement. Nicholas Bazzarone, Andrew C. Compton, and Charles Fraser of Linklaters LLP assisted IndieSpace with drafting, reviewing, and finalizing the artist performance template according to the organization’s specifications. This template agreement has allowed IndieSpace to sign agreements with 18 artists over the past 11 months, since the project was completed.

Randi Berry, Executive Director of IndieSpace, said, “We were so pleased to get to work with the Linklaters team in order to develop an artist-friendly and supportive contract for the creators that we work with at our events. It was a pleasure working with the team who listened so closely to the values of our organization and incorporated them into an agreement that protected all parties. This assistance saved my organization and the artists we work with valuable time and resources so that we can continue to focus on the good work that we’re doing in the community. We feel deeply grateful for everyone at Linklaters and at Lawyers Alliance for this connection.”

About Lawyers Alliance: Lawyers Alliance for New York is the leading provider of business and transactional legal services for nonprofit organizations and social enterprises that are improving the quality of life in New York City neighborhoods. By connecting lawyers, nonprofits, and communities, Lawyers Alliance for New York helps organizations to provide housing, stimulate economic opportunity, improve urban health and education, promote community arts, and operate and advocate for vital programs that benefit low-income New Yorkers of all ages. During the past year, staff attorneys at Lawyers Alliance worked with more than 2,200 volunteer attorneys to represent 700 nonprofit clients. Inquiries: Please contact Marketing and Communications Director Emily Crossan at 212-219-1800 ext. 233 or ecrossan@lawyersalliance.org.