

## **Perisphere Theater Board Posting**

The Perisphere Theater board of directors is composed of leaders who are dedicated to the company's mission of producing exemplary theater in the greater Washington, D.C., area.

Serving on the Perisphere board of directors is an opportunity for enthusiastic, engaged individuals to help build a young theater company (founded in 2015) that presents artistic excellence and is supported by sound business practices, creative educational outreach, successful fundraising strategies, and solid leadership.

Nonprofit arts organizations need a strong and effective board to fully realize their potential in both artistic ventures and community outreach. Joining the board of a startup company provides a chance for members to participate in launching a new arts "face" in the region and building its reputation.

In addition to the standard roles and responsibilities of a board member, Perisphere Theater's board members will be advocates and ambassadors for the organization and engage in identifying and securing the financial resources and partnerships necessary for the company to advance its mission.

### **Areas of Expertise**

We have a current four-person board and are recruiting for two to three more individuals. We are specifically looking for a diverse group of leaders with expertise in any of the following areas:

- Experience in development, fundraising, grant writing, and executing successful strategies for both the short- and long-term financial health of a nonprofit.
- Expertise in history and/or social issues, whether through academic affiliations, museum professional experience, or personal interest.
- Deep knowledge of drama, current and classic playwrights, literature, dramaturgy, or performing arts.
- Experience in arts administration, the local theater scene, marketing and promotion, or the unique aspects of D.C.'s arts ecosystem.

### **Individual Board Member Responsibilities**

- Board members are expected to attend two to three in-person board meetings per year, as well as respond to necessary action items over email or phone. They will read board materials in advance of board meetings and come prepared to ask questions and participate in discussions.
- Board members will serve a two-year term, and will be eligible for re-appointment for at least one additional term.
- Board members are expected to serve on one or more committees of the board, if committees are formed, and to actively participate in committee work.

- Board members will play an active role in securing the financial resources necessary for Perisphere to achieve its mission. Board members are expected to leverage personal relationships and connections to help the development committee and staff identify and solicit potential funders, as well as directly invest in the company's work by making a personal contribution each year.
- Board members will responsibly represent Perisphere Theater to their respective communities and are expected to advocate for its mission, programs, and services as appropriate.

**Application Process:** To be considered for nomination to the Perisphere Theater board of directors, please submit a letter of interest and biography or resume to the artistic director, Heather Benjamin, at [info@perispheretheater.com](mailto:info@perispheretheater.com).

## **Perisphere Theater Mission and Focus**

The company's focus is two-pronged: to produce well-written, classic plays from all eras, and to produce plays with historical and social themes.

### **Vision Statement**

Perisphere Theater aims to create compelling theater that expands the way DC audiences view the past, the present, and one another.

### **Mission Statement**

Perisphere Theater is dedicated to performing excellent plays with attention to the clarity of each playwright's particular style, allowing each unique voice to resonate through our production choices. We believe that all great plays, classical or modern, tragic or comic, have something to say to people from any time and place. With evocative design, compelling direction, and vivid and passionate performances, we aim to engage our audience's minds as well as touch their hearts. Perisphere embraces both the diversity and the commonality of human experience, finding creative tension and opportunity in exploring these aspects of life through the lenses of different time periods.

### **Values/Principles**

Perisphere Theater has a commitment to:

- Produce moving, thought-provoking productions that raise questions and shed light on human fears and foibles even as they entertain.
- Respect the unique vision and style of the playwright while providing for creative artistic choices in presenting the work.
- Make choices in presentation that arise from the text itself and its historical, social, and emotional context.
- Provide opportunities every season for new as well as returning artists to work with the company.
- Encourage in people of all ages a love of history, and an understanding of its relevance, through the immediacy of theater performance and outreach programs.