



Dear Community Member and Friend:

In these challenging times for the arts, I am so proud to be a part of the Oak Park Festival Theatre team that is committed to ensuring that art thrives in our community. And, I invite you to consider becoming part of the volunteer leadership team that helps to make it happen.

As the Midwest's oldest professional theatre performing the classics outdoors, we are celebrating 47 years of theatrical excellence in 2021. We are particularly excited about the success of our "reopening in person" season in which we presented *The Tempest*, Shakespeare's classic story of injustice, grace and redemption. In addition to this outdoor summer play performed in Austin Gardens, we plan to return to an indoor performance this fall, the popular *The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe: A Love Story*, which includes works by Edgar Allen Poe.



Since our previous summer season in 2020 had to be cancelled due to COVID-19 and the impact of the pandemic on our community, we rose to the occasion with several virtual offerings so that we could keep in touch with our audience and support our actors in a minimal way. We were also able to benefit from government and private grant programs that aided in the support of our staff and company.

As we have grown and matured, our mission evolved too:

"Oak Park Festival Theatre explores our shared humanity by telling stories that stand the test of time. By looking to our past and re-imagining the familiar, we hold a mirror up to the times in which we live, bringing us all a little closer."

Central to this mission are three important core values:

ROOTED IN SHAKESPEARE Shakespeare had a genius for telling stories that speak to all of mankind. His work was universal, visceral, and acutely complex. Following his lead, we aim to explore the human condition through stories that stand the test of time, both classic and contemporary.

INCLUSIVE & COLLABORATIVE From the stage to the boardroom, we strive to represent the world around us by telling stories that are inclusive of all, and by doing so enrich our art, our

relationships with each other, our audiences, and our community. By collaborating with partners, we widen the scope and deepen the impact of our mission within our community and endeavor to cultivate a sense of family and inclusion of all.

COMPANY CENTERED Passion, bravery, and a generosity of spirit have been guiding principles of the artists and patrons of Oak Park Festival Theatre since 1975. We aim to create a safe, supportive, and artistically invigorating environment for all.

To achieve the mission and demonstrate our core values, we work to cultivate strong leadership within our Board of Directors. ***We are currently recruiting to fill several seats on the Board.***

We seek to bring energetic and engaged members of the west suburban and greater Chicago community to this critical leadership role as we continue to build the cultural legacy of our theatre. Board members typically bring skills in content areas such as non-profit management, strategic planning, education, finance, law, marketing and communications, arts and culture, and business to their Board roles. The synergy of these leadership skills helps to provide the stewardship that is necessary to guide Oak Park Festival Theatre to its next exciting chapters. As we look to add additional Board members, we want our Board to reflect the richness and diversity of the communities we serve.

Enclosed you will find information and application requirements. Once we receive and review your completed application, we may invite you to a personal interview with several members of our Board of Directors – for you to learn about us and expectations of a Festival Theatre Board member, and for us to learn more about you.

Thank you in advance for your kind consideration of this important opportunity to make a difference.

Sincerely,



Barbara A. Cimaglio
President, Board of Directors
Oak Park Festival Theatre
bcchicago@yahoo.com

**OAK PARK FESTIVAL THEATRE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS (2021)**

Barbara Cimaglio
President

Dana Todd
Vice President

Douglas Kelner
Treasurer

Becca Moran
Secretary

Anne Rooney
Past President

Edward Voci

Peter Bouchard

Lacy Coligan

To read the profiles of our Board of Directors please visit:
<http://oakparkfestival.com/board-2/>

EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Oak Park Festival Theatre is a vibrant, passionate, and growing organization dedicated to building a theatre that celebrates the timeless stories of artistic masterpieces. Our Board of Directors willingly gives their time, support, and guidance to ensure the organization is financially strong and effectively managed with integrity and a strong commitment to the importance of the arts in our community.

The main priorities of our Board of Directors:

1. Stewardship of the organizational Mission
2. Strategic planning and oversight
3. Fundraising and development
4. Financial oversight and stability
5. Community engagement
6. Oversight of executive staff
7. Board recruitment and engagement

Our Board of Directors will:

- Conduct the business affairs of the organization in good faith and with honesty, integrity, due diligence, and reasonable competence.
- Always hold the betterment of the patrons, staff, and artists, as its first priority, including during all participation in discussions and voting matters.
- Participate and actively support in fundraising and development efforts.
- Ensure the ongoing health and viability of the organization by active Board recruitment
- Abide in all respects with Oak Park Festival Theatre's policies and procedures, bylaws, all other rules and regulations of the organization, and applicable law and regulation.
- Ensure that their individual membership and financial accounts and obligations remain in good standing.
- Oversees and guides both the Managing Director and the Artistic Director, while acknowledging and respecting the defined roles and responsibilities of the Board as compared to management.
- Votes on the proposed season selection, yet makes no effort to influence, guide, impact, or persuade artistic decisions in the favor of family members, friends, or any other interest.
- Will declare any conflict of interest, be it real, potential, or apparent, which is not immediately obvious with regard to any matter being discussed in his or her presence during a board meeting. A Board member is expected to recuse him/herself from any matter in which such a conflict, or

the appearance of a conflict, might exist.

- Will protect the organization's information closely and will not release or share confidential information without the permission, preferably in writing, of the person who provided it, maintaining confidentiality of all information which the Board deems confidential.
- Will represent the organization informally and formally to others in such a way as to leave them with a positive impression of the organization and preserve and enhance the good reputation of Oak Park Festival Theatre.

Commitments of Our Board of Directors

- Prepare for, regularly attend, and participate in monthly board meetings as well as the annual Board Retreat planning meeting. Regular Board meetings are held the first Tuesday evening of each month, unless otherwise noted, at the administrative office of Oak Park Festival Theatre.
- Remain current on all email communications and participate in discussions and decisions in a timely manner.
- Attend and support performances, fundraisers and special events. Promote Oak Park Festival Theatre's performance and activities through word of mouth, email communications, and via social media with respective networks of friends and family as appropriate.
- Serve on *at least one* committee: Governance, Human Resources, Finance, and/or Development. We also encourage you to participate in ad hoc task force groups for focused projects and goals.
- Contribute financial support, whether from their own resources or by soliciting the support of others, at a minimum of \$1,000 per year. **Please Note:** New Board members are encouraged to participate but do not have a financial obligation in their first year.
- Identify new opportunities for community engagement and innovative partnerships.

To Apply to be a Board Member

To apply for membership on the Oak Park Festival Theatre Board of Directors, please submit your resume and a brief statement telling us about yourself, your organizational affiliation, your interest in our organization, and professional skills that you can contribute to Festival Theatre.

Please email statement and resume to info@oakparkfestival.com

We sincerely thank you for your time, consideration, and support of Oak Park Festival Theatre.