



Young Playwrights' Theater

Brigitte Winter

Executive Director

Karen Zacarias

Founding Artistic Director

YPT Advisory Council

Nilo Cruz

Sarah Ruhl

Anna Deavere Smith

Paula Vogel

Charles Randolph Wright

Board of Directors

Paul Feeko, Chair

K. Michele Walters, Vice-Chair

Katy Dunn, Secretary

Lemar White, Treasurer

Deven L. Comen

Walt Derengowski

Kandace Foreman

Michone T. Johnson

Stephanie Lio

Cecilia Majors

Lisa Rawls

Trey Scott

Lara Trujillo Webb

6925 Willow Street NW

Suite LL-230

Washington, DC 20012

202-387-9173 (p)

202-387-9176 (f)

info@yptdc.org

www.yptdc.org

Job Statement

Young Playwrights' Theater Board of Directors

ABOUT YPT

Mission and Touchstone

Founded in 1995 by professional playwright Karen Zacarias, Young Playwrights' Theater (YPT) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization located in Washington, DC that inspires young people to realize the power of their own voices.

YPT believes that creative expression and theater are valuable tools for the education, enrichment, and self-actualization of young people. Through our programs and productions, we fulfill young people's' creative visions by hiring professional artists to guide and perform original youth-generated work for their peers and for the public.

YPT believes that it is important that youth, especially those whose voices are often minimized, have access to high-quality arts education that centers their experiences and is culturally competent and affirming for all young people involved. In order to do this work, YPT acknowledges oppression and reduces its harm through our internal and external structures and practices.

YPT believes that young people are inherently brilliant, and we exist to share that brilliance with the world.

Overview

Young Playwrights' Theater recognizes that art is inherently powerful and therefore strives to help students wield the power of their own stories—ranging from explicitly political to purely imaginative—in ways that positively transform them, their audience, and their community. Thus, YPT supports students' self determination by creating space for them to tell powerful stories that can mix plays, poetry, movement, song, and other types of performance.

YPT sees our programs and productions as the separate but mutually supporting cores of the organization's work. Our innovative and culturally competent programs feed professional, dynamic productions which in turn drive responsive fundraising and powerful communications. All our work is driven by our values of acknowledging oppression and reducing its harm, anti-oppressive communication, responsive flexibility, respecting autonomy, commitment to craft, creative collaboration, and commitment to health and safety.

Annually, YPT serves approximately 1,000 students throughout Greater Washington with free in-school, after-school and summer arts education workshops, and approximately 1,000 audience members through professional productions of student-written work. Since 1995, YPT has impacted the lives of more than 70,000 students and community members with our programs and performances. YPT's fiscal year runs July 1 to June 30. We currently have a staff of nine and thirteen board members.

For more information, please visit YPT at www.yptdc.org, follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @yptdc, or contact YPT's Executive Director, Brigitte Winter, at bwinter@yptdc.org.

Student playwrights. Professional actors. Bold new voices.



Young Playwrights' Theater

Brigitte Winter

Executive Director

Karen Zacarias

Founding Artistic Director

YPT Advisory Council

Nilo Cruz

Sarah Ruhl

Anna Deavere Smith

Paula Vogel

Charles Randolph Wright

Board of Directors

Paul Feeko, Chair

K. Michele Walters, Vice-Chair

Katy Dunn, Secretary

Lemar White, Treasurer

Deven L. Comen

Walt Derengowski

Kandace Foreman

Michone T. Johnson

Stephanie Lio

Cecilia Majors

Lisa Rawls

Trey Scott

Lara Trujillo Webb

6925 Willow Street NW

Suite LL-230

Washington, DC 20012

202-387-9173 (p)

202-387-9176 (f)

info@yptdc.org

www.yptdc.org

ABOUT THE YPT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Member Position Description

The Board supports the work of YPT and provides mission-based leadership, development assistance, and strategic governance. While day-to-day operations are led by YPT's Executive Director (ED) and YPT's staff leadership team, the appropriate involvement of the Board is both critical and expected. Specific Board Member responsibilities include the following.

Development & Fundraising

So that YPT can credibly solicit contributions from foundations, organizations, and individuals, YPT expects 100% of Board Members to make an annual contribution that is commensurate with their capacity and personally meaningful. YPT's current minimum annual give/get is \$2,500.

Board members also actively fundraise to support the program's operations by:

- Reaching out to their networks to leverage donations, in-kind resources, and volunteers
- Acting as ambassadors for YPT and sharing YPT's story with potential donors
- Attending YPT's performances and fundraising events and helping to support strong event outcomes
- Hosting their own small event and/or supporting other board members in their event efforts

In addition to members meeting YPT's giving goals, YPT also seeks board members who support YPT in developing in-kind resources and new networks. While these members still support YPT with customized individual giving, they also connect YPT with tangible, quantifiable services that directly support our work. Examples include:

- A leader of a technology companies that provides software and hardware support
- A computer programmer and UI expert who supports YPT's website and streaming needs
- A photographer who captures YPT's productions, programs, and events
- A public relations strategist who supports the creation of an annual media plan
- An ASL interpreter or translator who assists in making YPT's program and production videos and in-person service accessible
- An event planner or caterer who serves as YPT's official event vendor

Leadership, governance and oversight

Board members are expected to meet all legal and fiduciary responsibilities of the organization, including:

- Serving as trusted advisors to the ED as she develops and implements YPT's strategic plan
- Measuring YPT's performance and effectiveness using agreed upon outcomes and metrics
- Reviewing the agenda and supporting materials prior to board and committee meetings
- Approving YPT's annual budget, financial reports, and material business decisions
- Contributing to an annual evaluation of the ED and an annual self-evaluation of the Board
- Assisting the ED and Board Chair in identifying and recruiting potential board members
- Serving on committees or task forces, taking on special assignments, and ensuring that board resolutions are carried out
- Ensuring YPT's commitment to a diverse board and staff that reflect the communities that YPT serves



Young Playwrights' Theater

Brigitte Winter

Executive Director

Karen Zacarias

Founding Artistic Director

YPT Advisory Council

Nilo Cruz

Sarah Ruhl

Anna Deavere Smith

Paula Vogel

Charles Randolph Wright

Board of Directors

Paul Feeko, Chair

K. Michele Walters, Vice-Chair

Katy Dunn, Secretary

Lemar White, Treasurer

Deven L. Comen

Walt Derengowski

Kandace Foreman

Michone T. Johnson

Stephanie Lio

Cecilia Majors

Lisa Rawls

Trey Scott

Lara Trujillo Webb

6925 Willow Street NW

Suite LL-230

Washington, DC 20012

202-387-9173 (p)

202-387-9176 (f)

info@yptdc.org

www.yptdc.org

Board terms/participation

Directors are elected for a three-year term by the affirmative vote of a majority of the existing members of the Board of Directors. Directors whose terms have expired are eligible to succeed themselves once; in total, Directors may serve two consecutive terms.

Board meetings are held five times each fiscal year, and committee meetings are scheduled as necessary between board meetings. Each Board Member serves on at least one of the following standing Committees: Governance, Development, and Finance.

Qualifications

YPT seeks board members who understand and value racial equity and anti-oppression as organizational operating principles and share our passion for affirming the brilliance of young people and advancing access to arts education that centers the experience of youth, especially those whose voices are often minimized.

This is an extraordinary opportunity for individuals who are passionate about YPT's mission and who have relevant skills and leadership experience. Ideal Board Members will have a background in business, government, philanthropy, education, theater arts, or the nonprofit sector that allows them to attract donors, partners, program resources and other qualified and committed Board Members.

Ideal candidates will have the following qualifications:

- A commitment to racial equity and anti-oppression and fluency and significant experience with anti-oppression frameworks, principles, and vocabulary
- Flexibility, availability, and interest in placing YPT within their top three philanthropic priorities
- Expertise in donor cultivation, fundraising, finance, publicity and marketing, strategic planning, and/or event planning
- Passion for theater arts, creative writing, education, and/or youth development
- Strong diplomatic skills and a natural affinity for cultivating relationships and facilitating and building consensus among diverse individuals
- Personal qualities of integrity and follow-through and a passion for elevating the voices of young people