



Chicago Youth Shakespeare is looking for new people to join our Board of Directors!

Chicago Youth Shakespeare (CYS) brings innovative Shakespeare learning programs and performances to hundreds of Chicago area students each year - creating spaces where youth of all backgrounds and life experiences feel welcome, respected, and heard.

Home to the city of Chicago's only professional youth Shakespeare company, CYS is distinguished by its rigorous artistic training, providing life-changing experiences that launch young artists on the pathway to higher education and employment.

As a member of The CYS Board of Directors, you will support the work of Chicago Youth Shakespeare and provide leadership and strategic governance. Board members participate in meetings, serve on committees, attend performances and events, and promote our programs to new individuals and communities. While day-to-day operations are led by the CYS Artistic Director, the Board/Director relationship is a partnership, and the appropriate involvement of the Board is both critical and expected. **Specific Board Member responsibilities include:**

FUNDRAISING

Chicago Youth Shakespeare Board Members consider CYS a philanthropic priority and make annual gifts that reflect that priority. So that the organization can continue to credibly solicit contributions from foundations, organizations, and individuals, CYS expects to have 100 percent of Board Members make an annual contribution that is commensurate with their capacity to give. Additionally, Board Members participate actively in fundraising to support the organization's capacity to fulfill its mission.

LEADERSHIP, GOVERNANCE, AND OVERSIGHT

- Serving as a trusted advisor to the Director as she develops and implements Chicago Youth Shakespeare's strategic plan
- Reviewing outcomes and metrics created by CYS for evaluating its impact; reading agenda and supporting materials prior to board and committee meetings
- Approving CYS's annual budget and audit reports; weighing in on business decisions
- Contributing to an annual performance evaluation of the Artistic Director

- Assisting the Artistic Director and Board Chair in identifying and recruiting new Board Members
- Serving on committees and taking on special assignments
- Acting as an ambassador for CYS, attending performances and events
- Assisting with the CYS annual fundraising event
- Ensuring CYS's commitment to a diverse Board, staff, and student body

QUALIFICATIONS

This is an extraordinary opportunity for an individual who is passionate about the arts and education, has leadership abilities, and will agree to the Board responsibilities as described.

Ideal candidates will have the following qualifications:

- Professional experience with leadership accomplishments in business, philanthropy, or the nonprofit sector
- Diplomacy and a natural affinity for cultivating relationships and building consensus among diverse individuals
- Personal qualities of integrity and credibility; and a commitment to empowering youth and promoting positive social change through the arts

Serving on the CYS Board of Directors is an un-paid position; CYS provides Board liability insurance.

Interested in applying or learning more? Contact our Artistic Director Manon Spadaro via email at: manon@chicagoyouthshakespeare.org for more information.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

At CYS, we believe that fostering a diverse and inclusive environment is fundamental to learning, to art making, and to building a more just and equitable world. We welcome students, teaching artists, staff, and volunteers of all backgrounds and ideologies into our community.

Chicago Youth Shakespeare is an equal opportunity employer, and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, status as a veteran, and basis of disability or any other federal, state or local protected class. We encourage applicants of all backgrounds to apply.