

ORGANIZATION: Guild Hall
POSITION: Director of Performing Arts
REPORTS TO: Executive Director
LOCATION: East Hampton, NY
WEBSITE: guildhall.org
TO APPLY: Please send resume and cover letter as one PDF to GuildHallDPA@pbrsearch.com with title format "Last Name First Name – Letter Resume".

BACKGROUND

Guild Hall is the cultural heart of the East End, a cross-disciplinary performance, exhibition, and education center with almost a century of history. One of the first multidisciplinary centers in the country, Guild Hall was established in 1931 as a gathering place for community where an appreciation for the arts would serve to encourage greater civic participation. More than 60,000 visitors enjoy the 150+ programs at Guild Hall each year; everyone is invited to experience the endless possibilities of the arts: to open minds, inspire creativity and conversation, and bring joy. The John Drew Theater, a 1931 jewel-box proscenium stage, produces more than 100 programs each year, which include concerts, dance, film, performance, opera, symposia, plays, and readings, both classics as well as new works. The roster of world-class performers who have made recent appearances at the Drew includes Academy, Emmy, Grammy, and Tony Award-winning luminaries.

Guild Hall is entering a period of revitalization, embracing immediacy, fresh thought, new approaches, and explorations into what theater means today. This coincides with a facility-wide \$25M improvement project. The structural and technological enhancements will improve the theater's ability to deliver accessible and state-of-the-art programs for a diverse, twenty-first century audience. Construction will begin Summer 2022, with completion planned for Summer 2023.

POSITION

Guild Hall seeks a Director of Performing Arts to implement a dynamic, interdisciplinary artistic vision that builds on the theater's history while attracting audiences from all walks of life. The successful candidate will have a proven track record of adeptly building a contemporary program that is relevant, coherent, and responsive to a wide range of audiences.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Artistic Leadership

- Make strategic decisions in collaboration with the executive director and others to ensure a curatorial coherence and connection between the performing arts, visual arts, and education programs.
- Develop a dynamic set of themes and through lines that make room for both "bread and butter" and more boundary-pushing programs to serve a diverse range of audiences.
- Build and steward a "family" of artists and collaborators. Create a culture that is welcoming and productive for artists of all experiences, backgrounds, and aesthetic approaches.
- Recommend and advise artists for Guild Hall's theatre residency programs, including the William P. Rayner Artist-in-Residence program.

Organizational Leadership and Strategy

- Motivate and mentor staff; nurture cooperative working relationships in a team of 3 to 12 people (during high season). Lead the team through all stages of developing and bringing programs to the stage.
- Leverage the organization's resources and liaise with the board on strategic and financial planning to pursue the ideal business model for programming.
- Directly oversee the revenue and expenses for a \$1M programming budget. Actively participate in fundraising across all revenue streams.

- Ensure the artistic vision for performing arts programming aligns with Guild Hall’s profile and reputation, while expanding the organization’s appeal and branding in fresh, new ways.

Community and Relationship Development

- Build fruitful relationships with a broad range of collaborators, including but not limited to artists, staff, audiences, donors, board members, partnering institutions, talent agencies, and producers.
- Oversee community rentals of the John Drew Theater as part of our service to other arts organizations and local businesses.
- Attract new audiences and diversify the existing supporter base in a rational, sustainable way.
- Solidify and expand Guild Hall’s accountability and DEAI efforts.
- Cultivate the board so members (existing and prospective) invest and engage fully in the organization’s activities and mission.
- Strengthen Guild Hall’s profile within the local community, as well as nationally and internationally.
- Stay current with developments in theater and performing art communities to ensure Guild Hall remains relevant.

QUALIFICATIONS

The ideal Director of Performing Arts at Guild Hall is a visionary, collaborative, and experienced arts leader with a passion for developing innovative, interdisciplinary programming for the stage. Successful applicants will have:

- A proven track record of successfully developing and implementing a programmatic vision, planning a production season, or otherwise serving in an artistic leadership role;
- Experience working and negotiating with a diverse group of artists;
- An inclusive, collaborative mindset and the ability to inspire others;
- Experience with anti-racist practices in the arts and an understanding of the dynamics of power and privilege in all facets of artistic leadership;
- A passion for Guild Hall’s mission to promote a sense of joy and play around artistic work and practice;
- Bachelor’s degree required; Master’s degree preferred;
- Guild Hall has adopted a COVID-19 vaccination policy to safeguard the health and well-being of its employees. As a condition of employment, employees are required to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19, unless a reasonable accommodation is approved or as otherwise required by law.

COMPENSATION

- A baseline of \$150K annually; compensation will be commensurate with candidate’s experience, fundraising track record, and other qualifications.
- Benefits include employer paid health, disability and life insurance, 22 days paid time off in first year of hire, 403(b) and FSA plans. In addition, the selected candidate will have an expense budget so that they can travel to see new work, meet with potential partners, and fundraise.

Frequently cited statistics show that women and people from underrepresented groups apply to jobs only if they think they meet 100% of the criteria. If you meet many but not all the criteria and feel you may be a good fit for the role, Guild Hall encourages you to apply. Guild Hall is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of age, color, national origin, ethnic origin, citizenship status, disability, race, religion, creed, gender, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, marital status, veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local law in its employment policies. In addition, Guild Hall will provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals with disabilities.