

**CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
PITTSBURGH PUBLIC THEATER
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA**

Aspen Leadership Group is proud to partner with Pittsburgh Public Theater in the search for a Chief Development Officer.

Reporting to the Managing Director and partnering closely with the Artistic Director, the Chief Development Officer will oversee all fundraising activities for Pittsburgh Public Theater (The Public). The Chief Development Officer will partner with with The Public's Managing Director and Artistic Director as well as the Board of Trustees to develop and achieve ambitious fundraising goals that meet and exceed The Public's current contributed revenue targets while building, leading, and inspiring a talented team of development professionals. The Chief Development Officer will understand the importance of values-based leadership and seek to positively influence organizational culture while contributing to The Public's overall strategic goals. As it approaches its 50th anniversary season and launches a \$15 million campaign in support of capitalization, endowment, and special programming initiatives, The Public seeks a Chief Development Officer who will contribute to a work environment that supports and nourishes the lives and experiences of all of those with whom Pittsburgh Public Theater engages.

Pittsburgh Public Theater provides artistically diverse theatrical experiences of the highest quality. The Public strives to serve, challenge, stimulate, and entertain while operating in a fiscally responsible manner. The Public shares its resources with the community through education and engagement initiatives intended for a wide range of people with the goal of expanding and diversifying the audience while enriching the community.

Pittsburgh Public Theater was chartered in 1974 and opened in September 1975 after a decade in which the city had become known nationally as an unenthusiastic theater town. Once a major stop on the pre-Broadway circuit, there was no longer a suitable venue for road shows after the city lost the beautiful "Old" Nixon Theatre. Even worse, a similar fate was anticipated for the "New" Nixon. The Pittsburgh Playhouse, once the flagship of American community theaters, had also closed, leaving only smaller community theaters, colleges, and universities to keep the art form alive. The broad-based efforts of many private and public individuals throughout the community contributed to the successful launch of Pittsburgh Public Theater. Commitments to ensure full funding of the first season were made before its opening. A strong volunteer organization was developed, community engagement programs were created, and 7,100 subscriptions sold (twice as many subscribers as the Theater Guild had in its heyday) before The Public opened in 1975.

Over the past 49 years, The Public has earned a well-deserved reputation as a producer of new work. In addition to the world premiere of August Wilson's *King Hedley II*, another of his masterworks, *Jitney*, received its professional premiere at Pittsburgh Public Theater. The pre-Broadway run of Andrew Lloyd Webber and Alan Ayckbourn's *By Jeeves* was staged at The Public before moving to New York's Helen Hayes Theatre. Some of the plays which received their world premieres on The Public's stage include Horton Foote's *The Habitation of Dragons*; Jonathon Bolt and Thomas Tierney's *Eleanor*; Michael Cristofer's *Amazing Grace*; Mark Hampton and Barbara J. Zitwer's *Paper Doll*; Rob Zellers and Gene Collier's *The Chief*; Naomi Wallace's *Things of Dry Hours*; Mark Hampton and Michael Sharp's *The Secret Letters of Jackie and Marilyn*; and Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty's brand-new musical, *The Glorious Ones*.

The Pittsburgh Public Theater continues to develop new ways to support artists of the Pittsburgh region. Established during the 2020 COVID crisis as a way to engage and support regional writers, the Pittsburgh Theater Playwrights Collective exists to elevate playwrights with ties to the Pittsburgh region and increase the visibility of Pittsburgh's past legacy and future potential as a home for extraordinary playwrights.

In 2023, Pittsburgh Film and Pittsburgh Public Theater announced an exciting new partnership to attract, develop, and retain talent in the film, theater, and entertainment production industries to support the growing entertainment arts environment of Pittsburgh. A first-of-its-kind initiative partnering theaters and the film industry, CREATE PA: Pittsburgh Film & Theater Works! will attract high quality talent and develop their skills for behind-the-screen and behind-the-stage crew positions, including Grips, Electric, Hair, Wardrobe, Carpentry, Set Decoration, and Accounting. CREATE PA: Pittsburgh Film & Theater Works! will be led by Morgan Overton. Overton, the former Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, & Access Manager of Pittsburgh Mayor Ed Gainey's Office, will fulfill missions critical to the Pittsburgh Public Theater and the Pittsburgh Film Office by coordinating and growing job training partnerships with local unions, community organizations, and media companies. The program will also mentor film and theater students in the region to develop their skills and experience through vibrant internship opportunities.

Pittsburgh Public Theater serves as a *True Public Theater* by creating diverse theatrical experiences in a responsible way that engage and elevate the entire region. In response to the powerful call to action and generous insights offered by the Black, Indigenous, and artists of color from its regional and national communities, especially the artists who have organized to create We See You White American Theatre and Black Theatre United, The Public has taken action in its ongoing commitment to racial justice.

A bachelor's degree or an equivalent combination of education and experience is preferred for this position as is at least five years of leadership and fundraising experience at an organization of similar, or larger, size and scope. Experience in a performing arts environment is preferred. Pittsburgh Public Theater will consider candidates with a broad range of backgrounds. If you are excited about this role and feel that you can contribute to The Public, but your experience does not exactly align with every qualification listed above, we encourage you to apply. All applications must be accompanied by a cover letter and résumé. Cover letters should be responsive to the mission of Pittsburgh Public Theater as well as the responsibilities and qualifications presented in the prospectus.

The salary range for this position is \$100,000 to \$110,000 annually.

Pittsburgh Public Theater is committed to the inclusion of all qualified candidates. If you require reasonable accommodation in completing this application, interviewing, or participating in the selection process, please contact Jeanette Rivera-Watts at jeanetterw@aspenleadershipgroup.com.

To apply for this position, visit: <https://opportunities.aspenleadershipgroup.com/opportunities/1403>.