
When we collaborate, create, plan and program, Ruff operates with these five values in mind...

Creative Audacity

How do we continuously step into the creative unknown?

Using shakespeare, we reinterpret, rewrite, and renew the stories for a Contemporary Audience. We continuously challenge ourselves in order to challenge what is artistically possible.

Anti-Racism & Decolonized Practice

How can we use art to combat white supremacy?

The current world, and the wider theatre community, functions within a system of white supremacy. By not actively working in an anti-racist way, we continue to perpetuate harm. Deconstructing structures (both physical and mental) in our on-going day-to-day life and practice is a step towards anti-oppression and justice. Black and Indigenous Lives not only matter, but are vital and valued contributors to the cultural landscape.

We believe that the best work happens when a multitude of lived experiences come together and are given value & space in creating a piece of theatre. Our decision-making is guided by a feminist and decolonized practice. We create space for people and their stories so often left out of the 'classical' canon- BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and womxn, while seeking to de-centre the white lens of theatre.

Decisions and collaborations need to exist with a plethora of voices and perspectives. This extends to all parts of our company, from our hiring practices to our board of directors. We strive for radical inclusion and commit to the constant interrogation of our own practices.

Accessibility

Who are we inviting in? Who are we leaving out?

We are committed to making our work accessible by ensuring that we question, remove, and reimagine systems that do not welcome and engage our diverse community. Examining questions around ability, language, culture, education-level, and class is a constant and evolving pursuit. We celebrate various accessibility needs, and let our art and work expand with them.

Education & Mentorship

What is possible for the future of theatre?

Education is a pillar of the company, which, along with mentorship, are integrated into our artistic and organizational practice. We believe in creating conditions where individuals can take risks, learn, feel supported, and thrive. Everyone has knowledge that can be shared and we embrace questions and curiosity. Art begins at education, and if we are limiting the potential of education, we are limiting the potential of the art.

Respect

How do we honour each other, our space, and those yet to come?

Our work only matters if everyone on the team feels respected: their time is valued, and their voices/concerns are heard.

We respect and acknowledge the land we work on and honour the traditional stewards of the land. When in the park, we work mindfully to minimize any negative effects on our environment & community, and celebrate the creative opportunity of working outdoors.