



# PUSH DIVERSITY COUNCIL

## STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

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As members of the Push Comedy Theater's community of performers, students, audience members, and supporters; we, the Push Diversity Council believe that:

- Past and present discrimination against certain groups based on inherent traits (e.g., ethnicity, gender, sexual identity, age) has resulted in their underrepresentation in our theater community. Our mission is to change this.
- The Push Comedy Theater should be acknowledged for its work and commitment in presenting a more diverse cast of performers, shows and instructors as we strive to be the most inclusive theater in Hampton Roads. In this spirit, both the Diversity Council and the Push have developed a scholarship program to attract a more diverse group of talented individuals to our theater.
- All members and performers have the responsibility to exemplify the spirit of "I've Got Your Back" in each and every endeavor.
- We must recognize that not everyone understands issues pertaining to diversity which they believe do not affect them directly. As such, a large part of our Council's mission is to help broaden the horizons of our community in a manner that will benefit performers and audiences alike.
- A special effort should be made to respect and ensure that all performers find Push to be a welcoming place and encouraged to join our community.
- We applaud that a special effort is being made to ensure the positive impact on diversity when making deciding on casting, show selection, team captains, marketing, and other important decisions.
- We encourage the continuation of these efforts to recognize our community's diverse nature, while adding to the quality and variety of performers and groups for shows that are produced by the Push.