

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

We at the Fisher Center support, produce and present the work of visionary, courageous, and unconventional artists—art that challenges and inspires—working to more prominently center marginalized peoples both onstage and off. The well-being of and care for our community, particularly those most vulnerable to systemic inequity, will be embraced as a central tenet of our organization.

We dedicate ourselves to pursuing an anti-racist future across our practices and programming. This is a continuous examination of our culture and processes, beginning with articulating the values we hold and why we hold them.

We recognize that we occupy the ancestral homelands of the Munsee and Muhheaconneok people and uphold ourselves to the values expressed in Bard's Land Acknowledgement.

We acknowledge the systemic biases deeply embedded in our work, American culture, and society at large. At present, the Fisher Center is a predominantly white institution (PWI). Our staff, leadership, and artists are primarily white. We have often centered histories and voices representative of a primarily white, European, cismale perspective.

With this in mind, the Fisher Center is currently undergoing an organization-wide evolution towards an anti-racist, anti-hatred, anti-oppressive institution. We commit to creating an inclusive, equitable, and respectful environment for all who work, study, create, and engage in and with our programs.

**VALUES**

We, the staff of the Fisher Center, commit to living our values as expressed below and expect equal commitment from all who participate in our work. We hold ourselves and our community accountable by following the guidance of our Community Commitment.

## **EXPLORATION AND LEARNING**

- We are a center for artistic research. We support artists whose practices center inquiry, experimentation, new ideas, complexity, thorough investigation of the past, and deep thought. We support artists whose work extends what is possible in the arts. We invest in ideas and artistic journeys without always knowing what the outcome will be. We delight in the unpredictable and share that delight with our audiences, within and far beyond the Fisher Center. We use our knowledge of the artists and projects we support to provide a rich context in which students and audiences can experience them.

## **TRANSPARENCY AND INTENTIONALITY**

- We invite constructive feedback and are prepared to listen, respond, and change.
- We strive to create a welcoming, approachable, and hospitable community for all who participate in our mission. The integrity of our work and our culture is paramount. All are welcome and have the right to examine and question our operations, history, and future goals.

## **COMMUNITY & CONTRIBUTION**

- We work for and amongst many communities, including the students, faculty, and staff of Bard College, audiences and artists in our region and well beyond, as well as people traditionally excluded from the performing arts.
- We are mindful and intentional about our relationship with each of these communities. Our relationship serves to; contribute value and meaning wherever we can; be conscientious colleagues and partners; and create an environment where conversation, insight, and introspection are exchanged.