

Call for Board Directors

Mountain Standard Time Performative Art

Deadline: Thursday, June 17, 2020

About Mountain Standard Time

Mountain Standard Time (M:ST) is a non-profit arts organization dedicated to the creation, research, and presentation of contemporary performative art practices. Foregrounding the body, we create artistic and cultural contexts where nuanced dialogues, ethical reflexivity, and social change are animated through risky and experimental programming.

M:ST was established in 2001 as a collaborative endeavor between several local arts organizations. To this day we connect local and global artistic communities through our unique partnerships. As a spaceless and flexible organization, run out of our office at CommunityWise Resource Centre, our activities include artistic research and production residencies, online and print publications, workshops, lectures, panel discussions, advocacy, and our festival.

We are seeking new Board Directors

The Board is the governing body of the organization. M:ST's Directors determine the mission and vision, hire Executive Directors, steward our finances, ensure ethical integrity, and more. We're seeking Directors who can commit to a two-year volunteer term, with the possibility of renewal. We encourage anyone who is asking the same questions we are (listed below) to submit a letter of intent. Please explain in your expression of interest how you approach these questions from lived experience and informal or formal training.

We would be honoured to receive the guidance of Elders to help us slowdown, be grateful, and tell stories. We also enthusiastically encourage Black artists and activists to join, we need your voice and want to more fulsomely support our partnership with the Calgary Black Empowerment Fund.

While M:ST's operations are primarily located in Mohkinstsis|Calgary we also encourage national expressions of interest. Board Members based elsewhere will be asked to attend 1-2 meetings in person per year, travel and accommodation expenses paid.

About our Board Culture

M:ST Board Directors are very intentional about our time together. Our meetings are conversational and we start and end each one with a prayer. The prayer is an extension of our land acknowledgment and an opportunity for us to get centered, reflect on the land, and remind

us of our responsibilities as Treaty people. We recommend that all prospective board members review our [vision+values](#) and [recent projects](#).

We meet once a month via the web conferencing app Zoom. Meetings are on weekday evenings and last in between 1.5 to 2 hours. There may be additional meetings when Directors have the capacity to take on a project. Our board does not have committees so each Director volunteers to lead initiatives based on their passions and skills. We also rotate the responsibility of chairing the meetings.

How do you know if you'll be a good fit?

If you're asking yourself these questions and are interested in contributing to the following projects, M:ST could be the place for you!

We're asking these questions:

- How can M:ST honor the signing of Treaty 7?
- How can artist-run centres implement mutual aid practices?
- How can artists and arts intuitions become places that co-create material and structural social change with those marginalized by the arts?
- What meaningful connections can artist-run centres make between local, national, and global artistic contexts?
- What does a healthy artist community look like? How do we resource the wellbeing of individuals who work with us?
- How to incorporate movement, embodiment, and performance into all our work both internally and externally? How do these practices intrinsically contribute to personal and collective health?
- What does it mean to live under capitalism and make active choices to slow down, honour ourselves and our abilities?

We're working on these projects:

- Long-term transformation of M:ST's programming, funding, and administrative models.
- Mutual Aid Working Group in partnership with the Calgary Black Empowerment Fund.
- M:ST 10 International Residency Exchange + Gathering.
- Experimenting with and enacting non-hierarchical governance structures, clear boundaries, and consent based relationships between coworkers, board members, artists, and our publics.

How to join the board:

Step 1 - Ask questions

If you're not sure that board work is right for you, text, call, send a voice memo, or e-mail our Artistic Director, Desiree Nault at (403) 837-6678 or desiree@mountainstandardtime.org and she will try to answer your questions or connect you to a Board Director.

Step 2 - Apply

Send us an introduction to yourself along with an explanation of why you would like to join and what skills you would bring to a director position (aka an expression of interest) by Thursday, June 17, 2021 to board@mountainstandardtime.org. Please describe your relevant lived experience and informal or formal training.

The expression of interest can be sent in the form of:

- a 5 minute video (link or video),
- a 5 minute voice recording (link or video),
- one page written (pdf or doc)

Your statement of intent will be reviewed by current Directors to help us prepare for the AGM.

Step 3 - Attend the AGM

Prospective Directors will be voted on to the board at our AGM on Thursday June 24, 2021 at 7:00 pm (MST). The meeting will be held on Zoom and we will email you a link and meeting materials prior to the meeting. Before the vote, each Director will be asked to introduce themselves and share their motivations for joining the Board. Each voting member can vote for themselves and others.

In order to be a voting member you will need to pay our \$1 membership fee. You can pay via visa or mastercard on our [website](#), or use visa debit on our [Canada Helps page](#), but they require a minimum donation of \$3. If you don't have access to online payment, we can make an alternative arrangement.

You will become a Board Member if you receive a majority vote at the AGM. Immediately following the AGM, we will hold our first introductory board meeting.

Accessibility

If there are any barriers to this recruitment process that you need removed, please contact Board President, Toni Cormier at board@mountainstandardtime.org. We will work with you to determine how to meet your needs throughout recruitment and your potential term as a board member.

We enthusiastically invite folks who are Indigenous, Black, and/or People of Colour, people who have disabilities, people of minority sexual orientations and gender identities, persons from poor and working class backgrounds, and others with the skills and knowledge to engage equity seeking communities. M:ST has a zero-tolerance policy for bigotry. Including but not limited to;

anti-Indigeneity, anti-Blackness, xenophobia, transphobia, queerphobia, ableism, anti-semitism, etc.

M:ST acknowledges that we stand on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot and the people of the Treaty 7 region, which includes the Siksika, the Piikani, the Kainai, the Tsuut'ina and the Stoney Nakoda First Nations. The City of Calgary is home to the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III. Amidst the ongoing social, cultural, and environmental effects of colonialism, we are committed to dialogue and collaboration with Indigenous artists and communities as part of our mandate to foster performative art practices in Southern Alberta.