

# A NOTE

FROM ARIELLE TEPPER

## When I joined the Board of The Public Theater, I knew I had found a home.

As a producer, I spent years supporting innovative creators and exploring ways to help their work flourish. I discovered over and over again how important a sense of home is—not just for artists, but for everyone. The feeling that you aren't just invited, but that you are *wanted*, necessary even; the special feeling that a place is a part of you and you are a part of it is both the key to unlocking great art and the key to building real, lasting community.

When I joined the Board in 2011, I never imagined I would spend a decade of my life as a driving force for the organization. But to my delight, **I discovered a place with a mission so close to my own that it felt like there wasn't even a single breath between us.** When I stepped up to become Board Chair in 2013, I knew The Public would help me forge my own path in the role. Every day, I woke up with a clear mission: to make everyone I met a part of The Public, as an artist, a donor, or an audience member; and to help The Public truly become a place where all are welcome, maybe even inspired.

I am so proud to look back on everything that the incredible people of The Public and I have done together, even through a global pandemic! It fills me with joy to know with absolute certainty that The Public's brightest days are still ahead—that when we opened our studios for new work development across the street this past year, when we realize our dream of rebuilding The Delacorte to make it sustainable and accessible for generations to come, and when we ultimately bring our flagship building at 425 Lafayette into the 21st century, The Public will be able to spread its mission further than ever before. **Everyone will know that no matter where they come from, they are invited. They are needed. They are home.**

I am so grateful to everyone who has walked beside me over the last nine years. To my fellow Trustees, the artists and staff of The Public, and all the supporters and audience members who make our mission come alive—*thank you*. Thank you for being such an important part of my life; thank you for helping make The Public a place that belongs to everyone and where everyone belongs. I can't wait to stand alongside you for everything that comes next.



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THE PUBLIC THEATER BOARD CHAIR