



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, GEORDIE THEATRE (MONTREAL, QC)

Start Date: January 2022

Location: Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Salary: \$55,000 to \$60,000

Contact: Geordie Artistic Director Search Committee, search@geordie.ca

The Organization

Geordie Theatre, now in its 40th season, is Quebec's largest English-language professional theatre for young audiences. It currently produces and presents a four or five play season that includes mainstage and touring productions with an annual audience reach of approximately 50,000. Its flagship activity, the 2Play Tour, is the longest running tour in Canada, touring annually to Eastern Canada for eight months with upwards of 200 performances for young people and their communities. In addition to mainstage programming in Montreal and many audience engagement activities, Geordie Theatre also supports a dynamic training program (Geordie Theatre School) for youth – promoting theatre education as a vessel that inspires imagination and fosters confidence and empowerment for our future leaders. With a \$1 million operating budget and a mighty staff, the driving force of Geordie's programming and work culture supports the mission that *every child* deserves to have access to art. We believe theatre ignites important dialogue between young people, their families, and society, and this idea is a guiding force toward the choices of what Geordie develops, produces, and presents.

Current Artistic and Executive Director Mike Payette has announced he will be departing Geordie to take on a new role at Tarragon Theatre in Toronto, beginning in September 2021. Mike will program Geordie's 21/22 season and be available to the new Artistic Director during the transition in the fall while he is still residing in Montreal. The new Artistic Director will join Geordie Theatre in **January 2022**. Throughout the next several years, Geordie Theatre will be implementing a new strategic plan that emboldens the continued artistic and organizational growth of the company while enriching its community partnerships and impact.

The Position

Working in partnership with the Managing Director, the Artistic Director reports to an engaged Board of Directors and is an inspiring spokesperson who finds continued possibility within the artistic vision of the company. The Artistic Director leads the artistic mission of a balanced, resourced, and active professional arts organization that supports the primary pillars: **Touring/Production, Development/Creation, and Education/Community Engagement**. Working closely with the Managing Director and all heads of departments (Theatre School, Communications, Development, etc.), the Artistic Director will be excited

to build and foster new partnerships locally, nationally, and internationally, launching Geordie into its next chapter.

The Candidate

You are an inspiring and supportive leader with a history of artistic accomplishments and a committed curiosity for investigating stories that speak to young people. You believe in the importance of collaboration from an arts and community perspective. Excited by the value of theatre in a social context, you have a desire to make meaningful connections between art and audience. You understand and believe in the power of young people and their lens, respecting their voices and ideas that give insight to important stories that involve them. You are passionate about a philosophy that actively supports inclusion and access. You are generous in listening and offering in a collaborative work environment and are able to balance knowledge with learning.

Primary Responsibilities

The Artistic and Managing Directors are jointly responsible for the overall health of Geordie Theatre. For the Artistic Director, primary responsibilities include:

- Plan and maintain artistic oversight of a season of artistic programming, which includes the annual 2Play Tour, Mainstage/Festival productions, and any other artistic-related initiatives.
- Commission playwrights/creators and create new plays within a meaningful development process.
- Audition/interview and select all artistic and production staff for all artistic activities.
- Work with the Geordie Theatre School Director to ensure that curriculum development supports season planning and the company's overall artistic and educational missions.
- Be attentive to theatre and Theatre for Young Audience trends locally, nationally, and internationally.
- Engage with key stakeholders in the local, national, and international spheres and investigate artistic partnerships.
- Find opportunities to connect audiences in all artistic aspects of the company.

In partnership with the Managing Director:

- Build and oversee annual operational and project budgets.
- Identify and develop short- and long-term strategies for Geordie's operations.
- With the Board of Directors, actively collaborate on promoting and supporting annual fundraising campaigns.
- Represent Geordie at key fundraising events.
- Compose grant applications and final reports for all levels of funding (municipal, provincial, federal).
- Maintain communications with various stakeholders (donors, funders, sponsors).

Qualifications

You are an accomplished theatre artist (director, creator, playwright, designer, dramaturg, actor, etc.) with a record of solid artistic achievements. You have experience in Theatre for Young Audiences and have an investigative respect for its importance within the theatre ecology. You have experience developing

new work. You have a vested interest in engaging in arts and theatre conversations on a regional and sectoral level. You are a strong communicator.

Compensation

A formal compensation package will be offered, complete with salary and benefits.

Salary range commensurate with experience and eligible for annual review, starting at **\$55,000 to \$60,000**.

Benefits include vacation allowance and group insurance benefits with extended health, dental, and life insurance.

TO APPLY

Please apply by email with your cover letter and resume. Send to the Geordie Artistic Director Search Committee, care of search@geordie.ca by **Friday, April 23, 2021, 5 p.m. (Eastern Time)**.

Geordie encourages applications from all qualified individuals and welcomes applications from members of racialized groups/visible minorities, women, Indigenous persons, persons with disabilities, persons of any sexual orientation, and persons of any gender identity or gender expression. Accommodations are available for applicants with disabilities.