

The National Theatre School of Canada welcomes four new members to its board of directors

Montreal, October 30, 2024 – The National Theatre School (NTS) is proud to announce the appointment of four new members to its board of directors. Marie-Christine Morin, Nandini Mulliah, Heather Redfern and Mazen Shakeel bring a range of experience in the management of public and private organizations, theatrical direction, and finance.

These four new members join a strong team committed to supporting the NTS in its vocation of cultural development and the democratization of the performing arts within communities, while ensuring the School's sound governance.

"I'm thrilled to count Marie-Christine Morin, Nandini Mulliah, Heather Redfern and Mazen Shakeel among our board of directors. Their arrival is a testament to the school's ability to attract people of diverse experience and talent, who share a passion for the performing arts and the national cultural scene," said NTS Executive Director Fanny Pagé.

Ms. Mulliah, Ms. Redfern and Mr. Shakeel were appointed in June, while Ms. Morin was appointed at the most recent annual general meeting.

"It is with great pleasure that I welcome these four exceptional individuals to our team," said Maxime Gagné, Chairman of the NTS Board of Directors. "Their strengths will complement our important work in showcasing local artists and culture."

About the new members

Marie-Christine Morin

For nearly 25 years, Marie-Christine Morin has dedicated herself to managing organizations, as well as developing public policies and projects that foster innovation and progress. She joined the Fédération culturelle canadienne-française (FCCF) as Executive Director in April 2018. The FCCF defends and promotes the place of arts and culture in the Canadian francophone space. Previously, Ms. Morin held a number of public policy and program management positions in various federal departments.

Marie-Christine Morin sits on various boards of directors, including those of the Fédération des communautés francophones et acadienne du Canada (FCFA) and the Coalition for the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (CDEC). She is a member of several advisory committees, including one that brings together institutions such as Canadian Heritage, the Canada Council for the Arts, Telefilm Canada, the National Film Board of Canada (NFB), the National Arts Centre (NAC) and the CBC.

Nandini Mulliah

Nandini Mulliah is a seasoned executive with over 18 years' experience in the business world. Recognized as a trusted leader and advisor, she applies a collaborative approach to problem solving and risk management to ensure the growth and development of new businesses.

Assisting various stakeholders in the private and public financial sectors, she focuses on financial planning and analysis to support strategic decisions in complex and dynamic environments.

Ms. Mulliah has also distinguished herself by driving organizational improvements that enable greater accountability, viability, and transparency, making the financial sector a strategic pillar for creating and preserving value, while optimizing the efficiency of human resources, operations and information technology, and laying the foundations for stable long-term growth.

Heather Redfern

Heather Redfern holds a certificate from the National Theatre School in Stage Design. She is Executive Director of the Vancouver East Cultural Centre ("The Cultch"), where she organizes a program of live and digital presentations, as well as an extensive community engagement program. Heather has spent her career working with a wide range of artists and audiences. She is particularly interested in creating new art forms and building creative teams that are willing to step out of their comfort zone. Working locally, nationally, and internationally, she believes in the transformative power of the arts.

Heather Redfern has received numerous accolades for her work, including the City of Edmonton's Business and the Arts Award for Excellence in Arts Management, and the Mallory Gilbert Award for sustained, inspired and creative leadership in Canadian theatre. In June 2019, as part of the Jessie Awards, Heather Redfern and The Cultch received the Vancouver Now Representation and Inclusion Award.

Mazen Shakeel

Mazen Shakeel is a partner and head of professional services for the TELUS Health investment firm in Canada. He has nearly 35 years' experience in the pension and investment consulting industry. His extensive experience as a pension actuary gives him a unique understanding of the investment issues facing plan sponsors.

Mr. Shakeel is an active participant in industry promotion and is a frequent speaker at national and regional industry conferences. He is a past member of the ACPM National Policy Committee, the CIA Pension Practice Board and the Pension Investment Association of Canada, and he has participated in CAPSA's industry task forces. He is currently a member of IFEBP's Canadian Corporate Committee.

About the National Theatre School of Canada

The National Theatre School of Canada (NTS) was established in Montreal in 1960 and is now considered the leading theatre training school in Canada. It provides incomparable training in French and English to actors, directors, playwrights, designers, and production specialists to prepare them to work in professional theatre and delivers a broad range of community programs in order to make theatre more accessible to all Canadians. As a global leader in theatre training, NTS shares its expertise and resources with a broad and diverse community of Canadians to ensure that the performing arts continue to play an important role in society.

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