

# Statement of Support and Action

We at Spellbound Theatre believe that children are whole, aware, and intuitive individuals. We, as adults and artists, are the caretakers and current holders of the world they live in. It is our responsibility to tell stories that are engaging and affirming. We feel obligated to promote justice and equity now as a guide for the world they will create.

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Despite having a diverse audience, diverse artist ensemble, and creating work that celebrates diverse human experiences, the lack of diversity in our board and staff shows that we have fallen short of our anti-racist values. We are undertaking a process to dismantle that system and create a more equitable leadership structure, and we are empowering our community of artists and families to hold us accountable.

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As protests ignite around the country, Spellbound stands in solidarity with our Black artists, community members, and leaders who are fighting for justice, and we condemn white supremacist violence, racist law enforcement, and the lack of equitable resources and rights given to Black people in this country.

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We recognize that a statement of support, alone, is not sufficient, and we are committed to the following actions:

1. Providing our community with curated resources for addressing racism, protests, and Black identity with children ages 0-5.
  2. Creating Spellbound At Home resources for families that specifically address the civil rights moment we are in, recognizing that Black and non-Black families will have different needs and perspectives.
  3. Beginning a process of restructuring Spellbound's artistic, administrative, and board leadership to reflect our anti-racist values.
  4. Producing work specifically by Black artists for Black audiences.
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We will approach all these actions with the same artistic values that make us who we are: joy, resilience, discovery, and celebration, and show those values in action to the children and families we serve.

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This statement was put together by the artists, staff, and board of Spellbound.