

## **Statement against Sexual Harassment and Abuse**

Park Square Theatre is working to change the culture of complicit silence around sexual abuse that was the theatre industry norm for generations. That silence has allowed those in positions of power to harass and abuse artists, technicians and staff who are dependent on them for work. We also recognize that our art form itself – with its depictions of human behaviors including romantic intimacy, and physical, emotional and sexual violence - creates situations where abuse can occur. Therefore, it is our responsibility to promote policies and procedures that protect those who work at Park Square Theatre.

We are determined to make our practice and our spaces safe from harassment and abuse for all of us who create and contribute to the art of theatre. Together as a staff, we are working on the following measures to create a healthier climate in our own organization.

- Continue to develop and improve our code of conduct, antiharassment policies and practices.
- Discuss our behavior expectations and policies at job orientations, first rehearsals, and start of technical rehearsal for all productions.
- Promote a culture where those who experience or observe harassment feel safe reporting it to company leadership.
- Hire trained intimacy directors when a play's content calls for it.
- Participate in ongoing conversations about sexual abuse prevention within the greater Twin Cities and national theatre community.

We will not tolerate harassment and abuse at Park Square Theatre.