

FRIENDS OF THE BROADWAY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Statement on Special Interests

It is normal for a person elected to the board to have a particular area or interest. It is often because of this special interest that one becomes interested in being a board member. It is important to remember, however, that once elected to the board one needs to take care to represent all interests and constituencies of the Theatre and community. There are three very important reasons why it is necessary for board members to be objective:

1. It is impossible for all special interest groups to be represented on the board at any given point in time because of the board's relatively limited size. The board, however, is responsible to the community for the programs, productions and services and, therefore, all interests must be considered in board decision making.
2. The programs, productions and services belong to the whole community. A broad perspective, therefore, is required in order to represent the entire community and make the best decisions.
3. Special interests often come from subjective experiences and vice versa. Optimal board functioning requires all members to have the ability and commitment to make an objective assessment of information and objective decisions based on that information.

Board members need to take a broad rather than a narrow view of their responsibilities and discipline themselves to approach all board decisions objectively.