

emBODY PROJECT THEATRE

COMMUNITY CONDUCT & CARE

embodyprojecttheatre.com · embodyprojecttheatre@gmail.com

Applies to: All emBODY Project Theatre audiences, artists, students, staff, volunteers, and collaborators · Last updated: June 2026

emBODY Project Theatre is a research-driven theatre company grounded in the emBODY Performance Method, which treats the body as a site of knowledge, history, and power. How we are with each other in our spaces is part of the work, not a separate matter, not a legal formality, but an expression of the same ethics that structure our rehearsal rooms, our Lab practices, and our artistic research. These guidelines apply to everyone who participates in emBODY spaces: artists, audiences, staff, volunteers, students, and collaborators alike. This policy works alongside our Equity, Access, and Anti-Oppression Policy, our Accessibility and Accommodations guidelines, our Consent Guidelines and Edge Space Guidelines, and our Research, Documentation, and Media Policy.

1. SCOPE

These guidelines apply to everyone participating in emBODY Project Theatre activities, including audience members and community participants, Ensemble members, Lab artists, and collaborators, Studio and training participants, staff and board members, volunteers, and guest artists, facilitators, and partners. Our goal is to support spaces that are as safe, accountable, and creatively alive as we can make them, while holding the understanding that no space is perfect or permanently free from harm.

2. CORE EXPECTATIONS

Dignity and Respect

We treat everyone in our spaces with respect, regardless of race, gender, sexuality, disability, body size, age, class, religion, or any other aspect of identity or lived experience. Dehumanizing language, discriminatory jokes, and demeaning behavior have no place here.

Consent and Boundaries

Physical and emotional participation in our work is grounded in clear, ongoing consent. We ask before initiating physical contact, we respect changes in someone's comfort level without pressure or negotiation, and we do not push others to share personal stories, trauma, or identity details. "No," "not today," and "I need to adjust" are complete answers.

Power and Positionality

We recognize that power moves through our spaces in multiple forms: through formal roles such as director, facilitator, and student, and through identity axes such as race, gender, and class. Those in positions of formal or informal authority are expected to be especially attentive to how their words and actions land. We encourage everyone to bring awareness to how their own identities and histories shape dynamics in the room.

Learning and Accountability

We are a research-based company. Mistakes, misunderstandings, and genuine differences will arise. We ask participants to remain open to listening, reflecting, and adjusting; to resist defensiveness when impact is named, even when intent was different; and to stay in relationship with feedback about behavior that may cause harm, regardless of whether it was intentional.

Care for Self and Others

Taking a break, stepping out, or adjusting your level of participation is not failure: it is part of working responsibly with your own body and nervous system. We encourage everyone to let facilitators or staff know if something in the room feels unsafe or overwhelming, and to support a culture where others can do the same without shame.

3. BEHAVIORS THAT ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE

The following behaviors are not acceptable in emBODY Project Theatre spaces, whether in person or online: harassment, stalking, or targeted intimidation; physical or sexual violence, threats, or coercion; unwanted or non-consensual physical contact; discrimination, slurs, or demeaning remarks based on any aspect of identity including racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, biphobia, ableism, fatphobia, classism, xenophobia, antisemitism, Islamophobia, or other forms of hate; persistent boundary violations after a request to stop; retaliation against someone who raises a concern or reports harm; and sharing confidential or sensitive information from a process without consent, particularly when it involves others' stories or identities.

We reserve the right to ask someone to leave an event or process if their behavior is causing harm or significantly disrupting the safety and integrity of the space.

4. HOW THIS APPLIES IN DIFFERENT SPACES

Public Events and Performances

At performances, showings, and community events, we ask that audience members treat artists, staff, and fellow attendees with respect, follow any guidelines communicated for the specific event (such as photography, recording, or participation boundaries), and refrain from disruptive, hateful, or harassing behavior. If a guest's conduct negatively impacts others, staff may ask them to adjust their behavior, relocate, or leave the event.

Rehearsals, Labs, and Ensemble Processes

In rehearsal and Lab spaces, we ask participants to engage in consent-forward physical and emotional work, use the structures provided for check-ins and boundary setting, raise concerns with facilitators when something feels harmful or unsafe, and respect the confidentiality of the room, particularly when others share personal or vulnerable material. Facilitators and leaders are responsible for setting expectations clearly, responding to concerns in good faith, and adjusting exercises or processes when safety, access, or equity requires it.

Studio Classes and Training

In training spaces, participants are expected to support a learning environment where questions are welcome and differences are respected. No one should use power, experience level, or identity to belittle or silence others. Instructors model the consent, access, and equity practices that are central to what we teach.

Spaces Involving Minors

Where a process includes participants under 18, adults working with them are expected to follow emBODY's safeguarding expectations around boundaries, communication, and supervision, consistent with the engagement agreements those adults have signed. Any concern involving a minor's safety is treated with particular urgency.

5. RESEARCH, DOCUMENTATION, AND CARE

Some emBODY spaces include documentation as part of our practice-as-research model: notes, surveys, interviews, photos, and video. Our Research, Documentation, and Media Policy explains this in detail. Within that framework, participation in formal research activities is voluntary, individuals have options around being photographed or recorded where possible, and documentation is used in ways that are respectful and aligned with our values. Questions about documentation in any specific space are always welcome.

6. WHEN HARM OCCURS

Even with clear values and guidelines, harm can occur. We encourage people to speak up when something in our spaces feels harmful, discriminatory, or unsafe. If you experience or witness harm, you may speak with a facilitator or staff member in the moment if it feels safe, reach out after the fact by email or in writing, or ask for support in sharing your experience in a form that works for you.

If your concern involves emBODY's Artistic Director or another member of leadership, or you would simply feel more comfortable speaking with someone else, you may instead contact our Producer/Production Manager directly.

Reports are kept as confidential as possible and shared only with those who need to know in order to respond. We do not retaliate against anyone who raises a concern in good faith, and doing so has no bearing on a participant's standing, casting, or engagement with emBODY. We aim to acknowledge a report within a few business days.

When concerns are raised, we may listen and document what happened, check in with the people directly affected if they wish, follow up with the individuals or teams involved, consult with outside advisors or facilitators when appropriate, and take steps that may include clarifying expectations, facilitating conversations, adjusting structures, or limiting someone's participation in our spaces.

We are not a crisis or emergency service and may not be able to respond immediately in all situations. If you are in immediate danger, please contact local emergency services.

Corinne M. Mason, Artistic Director

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7. ONGOING PRACTICE

Community conduct and care are living practices, not fixed achievements. We expect to revisit and revise these guidelines as we learn from our work, our communities, and the people who move through our spaces. If you have feedback about this policy or ideas for how we can better align our practices with our values, you are welcome to reach out at any time.

Authorized Signature

Date: June 2026