



## **Mission**

Rising Youth Theatre's mission is *"To create youth-driven, multi-generational theatre that is riveting and relevant, sparking conversation, collaboration, connection in support of young people as leaders."*

## **Organizational Overview**

Rising Youth Theatre is a youth leadership organization that uses theatre and story to position young people in advocacy spaces. The company works with young people and professional adult artists to create socially relevant, original plays that have a positive impact on our community. Our work starts in the community - hearing stories, participating in dialogue, doing research, and engaging young people around a topic. Our plays are created through a multi-generational collaborative process, where artists of all ages work in a shared learning, creative youth development model. The company performs in non-traditional theatre spaces, including the Light Rail, public parks, and more, ensuring that all audiences feel invited to engage with the art and accompanying dialogue.

## **The Light Rail Plays**

Rising Youth Theatre, in partnership with Valley Metro and the Tempe Transportation Center, will bring *The Light Rail Plays* to Tempe for the second time in 2019-2020. This site-specific theatre experience pairs youth and adults together to create original plays that will be performed on and around the Light Rail, using the Tempe Transportation Center as a home base. The company will work in partnership with Valley Metro for the seventh year in a row, and Tempe Transportation Center for the second year in a row to build this project, creating a theatre experience that engages a wide variety of audiences, primarily in the city of Tempe. All performances are free for the public, and engage a diverse cross section of the Tempe community.

There is no cost for youth to participate – in fact as part of our commitment to youth leadership, and our investment in young people, all artists – youth and adult – are paid a stipend for their work with us on a theatre production. The project engages professional artists, Tempe youth, and the wider Tempe community in an important moment of connection across different life experiences.

