

“I can’t breathe.”

These simple, terrible words were devastating when we heard them from Eric Garner in 2014, they are even worse now six years later as the last words uttered by George Floyd. Worse, because nothing has changed. Black Americans are still dying unjustly, not only during brutal arrests but while jogging or doing things most of us take for granted. This has been a shattering week, a week which has made us all breathless. But we must breathe so that we can shout NO MORE. We cannot stand by and watch more people of color be victimized by systemic racism.

Our mission at the Sierra Madre Playhouse is to illuminate the American experience. And sadly, this injustice is part of our experience. There is no more important thing we can do at this moment than acknowledge our own racism. To be silent is to be complicit.

Theater has the power to make us empathize, to make us connect, to appreciate our common humanity. We promise you that we will do everything we can to be a positive force for change as we struggle with our own biases.

So, breathe, shout, act.

In solidarity,



Christian Lebano
Artistic Director



Estelle Campbell
Managing Director



David Gordon
President