



Woodie King Jr's  
NEW FEDERAL  
THEATRE

# Leadership Bios

## Producing Director

Woodie King, Jr. founded New Federal Theatre in 1970 and has produced over 400 plays Off-Broadway, Off-Off Broadway, Broadway, nationally & internationally.

Productions at New Federal Theatre have received **Drama Desk Awards**, **Drama Critic Circle Awards**, **Tony** nominations, **Obies**, and **AUDELCO Awards**. King has also directed performances across the country in venues such as Center Stage Baltimore, Pittsburgh Public Theatre, Cleveland Playhouse, and the New York Shakespeare Festival.

King's work earned him numerous nominations and awards over the years including the **NAACP Image Award** for his direction on *Checkmates*, and **AUDELCO Awards** for **Best Director** and **Best Play** for NFT's production of *Robert Johnson: Trick The Devil*; he also received an **Obie Award for Sustained Achievement**.

King was awarded several honorary Doctorates: Wayne State University, College of Wooster, and CUNY, John Jay College of Criminal Justice. King was inducted into Theatre Hall of Fame. In addition to his directing and producing theatre, King has written extensively about the theater industry, contributed to numerous magazines, as well as authoring a number of books.

## Artistic Director

Elizabeth Van Dyke is an award-winning producer, actress, and director who has directed plays all over the country and received honors for her work.

Elizabeth originated the roles of Fannie Mae Dove in *FLYIN' WEST* by Pearl Cleage and Mattie in *NO...N, NO JEWS, & NO DOGS* by the late John Henry Redwood and Annie Talbot in *THE DANCE ON WIDOW'S ROW* BY Samm-Art Williams. She received an **AUDELCO Award for Best Actress** for her portrayal of Zora Neale Hurston.

Elizabeth is the Co-Founder & Producing Artistic Director of Going to the River, a program that develops & presents the work of women playwrights of color. Ms. Van Dyke has received the **Roy Acuff Chair of Excellence in Theatre** at Austin Peay State University, **The Board of Directors Award from AUDELCO**, **The President's Award from the Black Theatre Network**, A Fox Foundation Grant, and a Rockefeller Grant to study the elements of Japanese Theatre.

## Executive Director

Pat White is proud and privileged to be associated with New Federal Theatre.

Her theatre career began with an internship at the age of 17 at the American Place Theatre, working with Wynn Handman and Julia Miles. At the Public Theatre, she

served as an usher and then assistant house manager for the historic Pulitzer Prize-winning *No Place To Be Somebody* by Charles Gordone.

Pat served as the Project Coordinator and Administrator for Frank Silvera Writers' Workshop off and on for 13 years.

In December, 1994 Pat received a call from Woodie King, Jr, a treasured mentor who hired her as Company Manager. Since that time, she has managed NFT's many successful productions. She became Executive Director in 2012.

Her directing credits, among others, include *Toussaint: Angel Warrior of Haiti* that garnered AUDELCO awards for Antonio Fargas and Tony Chase. She was also nominated for a Vivian Robinson AUDELCO Award in the categories of Directing and Sound design.

For New Federal Theatre she has directed *The Sty of the Blind Pig* in NFT's historic 2010 GREAT BLACK PLAYS & PLAYWRIGHTS SERIES; and Tess Onweme's *The Missing Face* as part of New Federal Theatre's AFRICAN PROJECT in the 2000-2001 season.

In 2009, Pat received ***The Vivian Robinson/AUDELCO Pioneer Award*** for Innovation in Direction and Management for the Black Theatre.