

Touchstone Theatre

I was elected to the board of directors and treasurer of Touchstone Theatre (“Touchstone”) in January 2026. Touchstone is a professional, nonprofit, ensemble-based company founded in 1981 and dedicated to creating original work, reimagining classic texts, and advancing community-centered art in the Lehigh Valley and beyond. At its core is an ensemble of theater artists who devise and produce a full season of original plays, adaptations, and movement-based pieces, often developed through collaborative processes emphasizing creation, community, and transformation. The company’s history is rooted in bilingual street and physical theater traditions that evolved into a resident ensemble model committed to locally grounded storytelling with national and international reach.

Touchstone pairs its productions with robust community initiatives—large-scale, participatory projects; neighborhood-based performances; and education programs that engage youth and adults. Signature efforts include the Young Playwrights’ Festival, celebrating student authorship and creative voice, and ongoing arts-in-education residencies across area schools. Extending its civic mission, Touchstone launched Festival UnBound in 2019 to reflect on Bethlehem’s post-Bethlehem Steel identity; this initiative now continues year-round as UnBound Year-Round, offering multidisciplinary events that convene dialogue, empathy, and shared storytelling across the community.

Artist development is central to the organization’s work, with training opportunities for emerging and mid-career theater-makers and an MFA pathway connected to its ensemble practice and Moravian University. Touchstone emphasizes the values of creation, community, and transformation—using theater as a catalyst for civic engagement and cultural vitality in Bethlehem and the Greater Lehigh Valley. I am proud to be associated with Touchstone.