As Board Co-chairs, we are excited to introduce you to Kyoung’s Pacific Beat’s second annual report! This is year two, but we’re not new! Since 2011, we have served over 335 artists and over 4,750 audience members with our peace-driven programming. In 2022 alone, we served 71 artists, reached over 900 community members via online and in-person events, and had 2,000 digital views from our digital content. And get this: all of our programming was free! This included events such as live screenings, mutual aid work, facilitation, and even filming!

With support from the Emma Sheafer Charitable Trust, our Board approved a second, salaried staff position within KPB by hiring Ishmael Thaahir as our first, full-time Producing Director. It was a giant step in fostering a workplace culture based in safety, boundaries and consent. We will work towards solidifying this budding foundation as we grow into 2023 and beyond.

We were able to finally film NERO after two years of Zoom workshopping! We rehearsed and filmed for a month-long period at Pregones / Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre in the Bronx during Summer 2022 and it was a dream materialized. We also continued our facilitation of the Mosaic Network & Fund, a New York City arts and funder network, created to uplift and support the thriving of arts and culture organizations of color in New York City.

We made major strides in our Community Co-Lab programming too! We launched a Black and Asian Book Club, covering the memoirs of Patrisse Cullors (When They Call You a Terrorist) and George Takei (They Called Us Enemy) to create a space of dialogue and strengthen Black and Asian solidarity. We collaborated with PeoplesHub to host a preview screening of NERO along with a panel to address the rise of far-right movements by examining the roots of tragedy, Orientalism and White Supremacy. We also held an outdoor screening of NERO at Hillel Plaza in Flatbush, which was our largest outdoor event at KPB yet! We distributed hundreds of pre-packaged food, personal hygiene products, and PPE items to the general public, mainly serving women of color and community elders, and we passed out dozens of warm meals. This event featured guest speakers from Parole Preparation Project, COVID Bailout NYC and somatic artist Angelica Olstad.

In 2023, we’re excited for the continued research and development of OTHER NO MORE, which will be capped off with a first completed draft and reading of this docudrama with support from the NEA. OTHER NO MORE chronicles the story of a 1986 campaign led by elders in our community to advocate for the disaggregation of Asian-Americans and Native Americans from the Other box in the US census, so that our communities could advocate for federal funds to address the HIV/AIDS epidemic. We’re also revamping our Community Co-Lab program, to further align ourselves in collective action through programming and community partnerships that promote communal dialogue and peace messages in public.

We hope you’ll join us this year as we expand our public interrogation of how to create moments of peace amidst ongoing violence through the premiere of NERO and our new projects to be announced later in 2023. We are only getting started!

Jason Tseng
BOARD CO-CHAIR
Kyoung's Pacific Beat's (KPB) was founded in 2011 by playwright and director Kyoung H. Park, who spent 10 years researching contemporary political theater models in Brazil, England, India, South Korea, and New York, melding his graduate education in peace studies and playwriting. Using his movement-building skills, KPB grew from an underground collective of like-minded artists gathering in a midtown apartment to an arts organization providing opportunities for our community, which is primarily queer, Asian-American, Latiné, immigrant and independently working in the arts to examine together: why make theater in times of war?

Since 2011, KPB has devised three full-length plays—disOriented (2011), TALA (2015), PILLOWTALK (2018)—and created over 40 community-based, experimental projects including performances for new media. KPB’s work centers stories of (im)migration, queerness, trauma and the ways these intersect in communities of color; it’s described as “intensely personal” by American Theater Magazine and “very much of this moment” by the New York Times.

Kyoung’s Pacific Beat devises its theatrical work with its Mondragons, a resident ensemble of actors, choreographers, dancers, musicians, visual artists, and theatrical designers who are full-partners and equally invested in the work that the company produces. Alumni Mondragons of Kyoung’s Pacific Beat include performers Basit Shittu (MTV’s Are you the One?), Daniel K. Isaac (Public Theater’s The Chinese Lady), choreographers Raja Feather Kelly (A Strange Loop), Yin Yue (Yin Yue Dance Company), and visual artists Tahir Karmali and Paul Sepuya. Since 2011, KPB has served 447 artists and our work has been seen by 4,778 audience members and over 2,000 online viewers since 2022.

Currently, KPB provides union-rate wages to its 15 resident artists (our Mondragons) and financially compensates community partnerships with grass-roots organizations embedded in our local community including GAPIMNY (Empowering Queer & Trans APIs), The Blasian March and Asians4Abolition. For fostering Black-Asian solidarity and tackling white supremacy, KPB received an APAP/American Express Innovation Award in 2021 and NYC Office for the Prevention of Hate-Crimes Innovation Award in 2022.

Kyoung’s Pacific Beat envisions a world where all people have agency, liberation and healing. We believe in creating a culture of peace where individuals have the capacity to transform themselves and where communities transform through collective action. We actively engage in a regenerative, peace-making process in which we scale the impact of our work through campaign-based organizing; build systems of accountability centering fairness, equity and disruption; and co-design processes that are adequately resourced to ensure the safety, health, and ongoing education of the artists and communities we work with.
WHO WE ARE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Stephanie Hsu and Jason Tseng, Board Co-Chairs
Ann Marie Lonsdale, Board Vice-Chair
Sooyoung Hwang, Treasurer, Finance Chair
Tiffany Vega, Secretary
PennyMaría Jackson, Community Engagement Chair
Kyoung H. Park, Fundraising Chair

STAFF
Kyoung H. Park, Artistic Director
Ishmael Thaahir, Producing Director
Joe Tolbert, Jr., Community Engagement Strategist
Kaila Saunders, Marketing & Development Associate
Arts FMS, Financial Management
Benvenuti Arts, Development Consultant
Calling Up Justice, Transmedia Production Consultant
Daniel Lim Consulting, DEI Consultant
Gary Eisenkraft, CPA, Accountant

MONDRAGONS
Claudia Acosta, Sade Namei, Yadira De La Riva, Ariel Estrada, David Gelles, Zach Lusk, Andrew Jordan, Ash Mayers, Imran Sheikh, Helen Yee, Marie Yokoyama

WHAT WE DO

MISSION
We work with artists, non-artists, and local communities to transform experiences of oppression into peace messages through public performance.

VISION
We envision a world where all people have agency, liberation and healing.

THEORY OF CHANGE
We believe in creating a culture of peace where individuals have the capacity to transform themselves and where communities transform through collective action.

We actively engage in a regenerative, peace-making process in which we scale the impact of our work through campaign-based organizing; build systems of accountability centering fairness, equity and disruption; and co-design processes that are adequately resourced to ensure the safety, health, and ongoing education of the artists and communities we work with.

Text by Kyoung H. Park
Graphic Design by Kaila Saunders and Ishmael Thaahir
VALUES

BOUNDARY-BREAKING DISCOURSE
We hold public dialogues rooted in anti-oppressive, anti-racist and anti-poverty ethics to build bridges across race and class-based differences while aesthetically blurring the lines between community, political, and devised theater.

AESTHETIC EXPERIMENTATION
We rigorously center artist-led research and experimentation and institute organizational framework to examine how theater and peacemaking can be practiced together.

NONVIOLENT CHANGE
Our work aligns itself with the ebbs and flows of contemporary social movements to challenge cultural taboos and institutional barriers in order to serve and represent BIPOC communities through the performing arts.

PROGRAMS

CREATE NEW DEVISED WORK
We research, develop, and produce experimental new works of theater which we share nationally and internationally through touring and new media.

COMMUNITY CO-LAB
We foster the imagination of a culture of peace and non-violence by partnering with local, community and social-justice organizations, cultural organizations, and academic institutions to create community-based, experimental projects.

PEACEMAKING COMMUNITY BUILDING
We support the artistic development of our Mondragons and the leadership development for our staff and community members through our community-led Board of Directors.
Kyoung’s Pacific Beat’s year began at the 2022 Association of Performing Arts Professionals (APAP) Conference’s “Centering New Work by the Global Majority,” a virtual panel where we shared KPB’s history developing new works over the arc of multiple years in collaboration with our Mondragons, a diverse ensemble of resident performers, visual artists, theater designers, choreographers, and musicians, who collaborate in the creation of our productions following our peace-oriented mission and anti-oppression values.

In response to the ongoing anti-Black and anti-Asian violence experienced in our community, KPB’s “Community Co-Lab” received funding from IndieSpace and a 2022 Innovation Award from the NYC Office for the Prevention of Hate-Crimes for its collaborative work with our local partners, GAPIMNY-Empowering Queer & Trans APIs, The Blasian March, Asians4Abolition, and The Exponential Festival. In partnership with our local partners, staff, and Board, KPB co-curated a series of “Whiteness on Fire” public dialogues to address the intersections of white supremacy, American Imperialism and state violence - the central inquiry of our current work-in-progress, NERO.

Spring 2022 was dedicated to community-driven events including a Black & Asian Book Club which examined how incarceration impacts Black and Asian communities through the memoirs of Patrisse Cullors (When They Call You a Terrorist) and George Takei (They Called Us Enemy). Rohan Zhou-Lee, Founder of The Blasian March, and Stephanie Hsu, Board Co-Chair of Kyoung’s Pacific Beat, moderated a virtual launch of our Book Club on Tuesday, May 17th with guest speakers Sneha George and Ishmael Thaahir.

Our Book Club launch was followed by an in-person gathering on Sunday, June 12th, which invited BIPOC healing artists, abolitionist organizers, and our community at large to engage in somatic healing exercises and a free, outdoor screening of Kyoung’s Pacific Beat's NERO at Hillel Plaza in Flatbush Junction, our local BID. Our line-up included new music by Angelica Olstad and guest speakers Minahil Akbar Khan from Parole Preparation Project and Steven Pacheco from COVID Bail-Out NYC. In addition to this program, KPB led a mutual aid drive to provide free pre-packaged food and water for local community members, including 6,500 PPE items provided by NYC Test and Trace Corps and over 500 pre-packaged food and personal hygiene products.

To ensure access to our work, we also shared NERO online to a national audience in partnership with PeoplesHub’s “Dismantling the Far Right," where we discussed our critiques of tragedy as oppressive narrative structures and unpacked the ways Orientalism perpetuates white supremacy in our culture.
The fall of 2022 was dedicated to synthesizing year-long learnings into strategic, actionable steps for Kyoung’s Pacific Beat. As lead facilitators of the Mosaic Network & Fund at the New York Community Trust, we wrapped up a three-year long process to support the thriving of arts and culture organizations of color in collaboration with over 40+ NYC-based private philanthropies and we welcomed Commissioner Laurie Cumbo from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs to our final Learning Exchange session in October. Completing Non-Profit New York's Fall 2022 Learning Community cohort, Kyoung H. Park (Artistic Director) and Ishmael Thaahir (Producing Director) spoke about KPB's recent growth at Non-Profit New York's Annual Conference at the Ford Foundation. And before the end of 2022, KPB was honored to receive over $50,000 in public funds with first-time awards from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) and NYC City Council Member Farah Louis.

At a time I see so many theaters re-opening and “going back to normal,” I consider the ways in which Kyoung’s Pacific Beat has refrained from producing theater the way we did before the pandemic. During the theater shutdown, many of our resident artists and peers were deemed “non-essential” and our audiences shared with us how afraid they were to go out of their homes due to COVID and racialized violence. Labor protests and America’s racial awakening required us to truly consider what equity means – both in terms of racial justice AND economic justice - and how we need to provide better community care to ensure community safety.

Thanks to increased funding, our organization was fortunate to provide union-approved wages to produce NERO, financial remuneration to our community partners, and produce digital and outdoor events reducing the potential harm from COVID. We hope that this support is continued, to ensure our ability to compensate for the labor of our artists as we innovate the theatrical form through hybrid theater in these pandemic times. Artistically and strategically speaking, our goal is to radically re-imagine solutions for systemic oppression through the ongoing devising of our peacemaking theater. Thank you for being a part of this journey with us.

Peace,

Kyoung H. Park
Artistic Director

Our summer was dedicated to the production of NERO as a five-part, hybrid new media series, with support of ASAP/Artist Space At Pregones Initiative in the Bronx. NERO is written/directed/edited by Kyoung H. Park, with original music by Helen Yee, video design by Yoon Choi and Marie Yokoyama, costume design by Andrew Jordan, sound design by Carsen Joenk, and features an ensemble of Black, Asian, Chicxanx, Iranian, and Muslim performers. NERO was filmed August 2022 in collaboration with a crew of primarily 10 filmmakers of color with lead support from the Ford Foundation, Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, and grants from the Brooklyn Arts Council, ART/NY New York City Small Theatres Fund, ART/NY Bel Geddes Design Enhancement Fund, and the Mosaic Network & Fund.
2022 ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

JANUARY
KYOUNG SPEAKS AT “CENTERING NEW WORK BY THE GLOBAL MAJORITY” AT APAP 2022 CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY
KBP HOSTS MOSAIC NETWORK & LEARNING FUND’S LEARNING EXCHANGE #2: CONTEMPLATION AND LAUNCHES WORKING GROUPS

MARCH
KPB RECEIVES INNOVATION AWARD FROM THE NYC OFFICE FOR THE PREVENTION OF HATE CRIMES

APRIL
KBP HOSTS MOSAIC NETWORK & LEARNING FUND’S LEARNING EXCHANGE #3: DECONSTRUCTION

MAY
BLACK AND ASIAN BOOK CLUB LAUNCH
DISMANTLING THE FAR RIGHT & WHITE SUPREMACY: WHAT HASN’T WORKED? @ PEOPLESUB

JUNE
NERO WORKSHOP PRODUCTION LIVE SCREENING & COMMUNITY CARES EVENT
2022 ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

JULY
NERO FILMS AT PREGONES / PUERTO RICAN TRAVELING THEATER

AUGUST
KPB IS GUEST SPEAKER IN EN FOCO'S "PERFORMING ARTS AND IMMERSIVE TECH"

OCTOBER
KBP HOSTS MOSAIC NETWORK & LEARNING FUND'S LEARNING EXCHANGE #6: INVESTMENT FEATURING GUEST SPEAKER COMMISSIONER LAURIE CUMBO

NOVEMBER
NERO POST PRODUCTION CAMPAIGN LAUNCHES
KPB IS AWARDED ITS FIRST NEA AND NYSCA GRANTS

DECEMBER
ISHMAEL THAAHIR IS HIRED AS KPB'S PRODUCING DIRECTOR
KPB SPEAKS AT NONPROFIT NEW YORK'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE
2023 - 2024 SEASON

OTHER NO MORE - READING (DECEMBER 2023)

OTHER NO MORE is a docudrama based on the real-life interviews we’ll conduct with queer elders and leaders in our community, filmed entirely by queer filmmakers of color. The interview process will include a series of videotaped interviews between our subjects, Kyoung Park (playwright/director), and the actors that will perform their stories on stage. We’re beginning the Research & Development phase for this piece, which will culminate with a public reading of the play with support from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

NERO WORLD PREMIERE (SPRING 2024)

Last summer, we had the privilege of gathering our company in person for the first time since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic to film NERO in residency at Pregones/Puerto Rican Traveling Theater. Our resident ensemble – Mondragons – comprised of 10 actors and 5 artistic collaborators working in music, theatrical design, and choreography, worked with 10 filmmakers of color to produce a filmed version of NERO. We’ll host the World Premiere NERO as a day-long celebration, filled with community interventions and mutual aid drives throughout the festivities.

PILLOWTALK TV PILOT (SPRING 2024)

PILLOWTALK explores the intersections of race, gender, queerness in the marital union of Buck & Sam. They’re an interracial queer couple that challenges our shifting paradigms on manhood, love and family. Their relationship illuminates how both liberation and oppression co-exist in our most intimate spaces. Stay tuned for the filming for the pilot based on our hit play!

REIMAGINED COMMUNITY CO-LAB

Community Co-Lab is the program through which we partner with theaters, academic and arts and culture organizations, and social justice/grass-roots organizations, to co-create community-driven events and projects. Based on recent trainings with Non-Profit New York and the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development, KPB will do an overhaul of its Community Co-Lab program to develop a rubric to systematically determine alignment for future partnerships.
In 2022, Kyoung’s Pacific Beat finances experienced a healthy growth due to long-term, funder commitments for our two lead projects, the production of NERO and our facilitation of the Mosaic Network & Fund, and additional support to grow our organizational capacity. With this unprecedented support for our company’s mission, KPB was able to grow our staff to 2.5 full-time staff members, increase artist pay to union-approved wages, and renew financial commitments to our community partners with public support from NYC Council Member Farah Louis and an Innovation Award from the NYC Office for the Prevention of Hate-Crimes.

We are proud to deepen our investment in the leadership and artistry that guides the creation of KPB’s work. In 2022, 88% of our revenue was directed towards artist pay and over 71% of our income was allocated to programs and services. Our FY22 and FY23 budgets reflect a spike on our expenses, normal for us during a production year, as our pay to our resident company and NERO's professional film crew amounted to more than $150,000 out of our $200,000 production budget - our biggest budget to date!

2022 marked a year of taking risks; last summer, our Board unanimously voted to allocate over $80K of our cash surplus to finance the World Premiere of NERO and changes to our scope of work with the Mosaic Network & Fund led to increased staff and time requirements to ensure the success of both of our lead projects. By November 2022, it became evident that multi-year commitments were coming to an end for our current work and new fundraising strategies were needed to ensure our sustainability in this “post-COVID” period of transition, though COVID’s impact in the theater is ongoing.

While KPB celebrated new highs by the end of 2022, we enter 2023 with deep concerns for the funding cliffs non-profits will experience as philanthropy returns to “business as usual.” Our Board and leadership staff have been dedicating their time to foster new conversations with our current funders and donors in order to raise funds for our next three years, advocating for increased support for the production of peacemaking devised theater, in addition to growth and stabilization of our growing staff, and new ideas on how KPB can be of service to our local communities and field-at-large in order to advance our mission of promoting a culture of peace and non-violence through the performing arts.
# FY21-2023 ACTUALS

(AS OF 4/1/23)

## INCOME

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<tr>
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<th>FY21 ACTUAL</th>
<th>FY22 ACTUAL</th>
<th>FY23 ACTUAL</th>
<th>FY23 PROJECTED</th>
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<td>Box Office/Subscriptions</td>
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## EXPENSES

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<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td>Artistic Personnel &amp; Fees</td>
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In 2022, our work served 71 artists, reached over 911 audience members through our live and Zoom events, and our digital programming had 2,000 asynchronous viewers. Our summer 2022 mutual aid drive provided 6,500 PPE items provided by NYC Test and Trace Corps and over 500 pre-packaged food and personal hygiene products for our local community, including women of color and senior citizens in Flatbush, Brooklyn. All of KPB's programming and mutual aid remains free with support from our funders and donors.

Since 2011, Kyoung's Pacific Beat has served 338 artists and 6,778 audience members. Our cumulative, average expenses and individuals served (2011-2022) are detailed below.

**Organizational Demographics**
- Board of Directors: 85% BIPOC Board (7)
- Full-time Staff: 100% BIPOC (2)
- Part-time Staff: 61% BIPOC (6)
- Mondragons: 80% BIPOC (15)

**Audience Demographics**
- (Queer) Asian Pacific Islander: 34%
- (Queer) BIPOC: 33%
- White: 22%
- Art Funders: 11%
DONORS LIST AND FUNDERS

FOUNDATION SUPPORT
ART/NY Small Theaters Fund
ART/NY Edith Lutyens & Norman Bel Geddes Design Enhancement Fund
ART/NY Microgrants
Brooklyn Arts Council – Brooklyn Arts Fund
Doris Duke Charitable Foundation
Emma A. Sheafer Charitable Trust
Ford Foundation
Indie Theater Fund
Mosaic Fund and Network at the New York Community Trust

PUBLIC SUPPORT
District Council Member Farah Louis
National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)
NYC Department of Youth and Community Development
NYC Office for Prevention of Hate Crimes
New York State Council on the Arts

COMMUNITY PARTNERS
Asians4Abolition
Flatbush Junction
GAPIMNY
The Blasian March
The Exponential Festival

MATCHING GIFTS
JP Morgan Chase's Good Works Program

INDIVIDUAL DONORS
BENEFACTORS
Sooyoung Hwang
Ann Marie Lonsdale

CHAMPIONS
Ariel Estada
PennyMaria Jackson

WAVEMAKERS
Scout James
Arnaldo López
Laurence Pagnoni
Pamela Roach
Tiffany Vega Gibson
Clara Yoon

TROUBLEMAKERS
Randi Berry
Courtney DeStefano
Fiordellisi Williams Family Foundation
Daniel Lim
Fred Lonsdale
Shira Milikowsky
Jacob Padrón

ADVOCATES
Max Dana
Snehal Desai
Kemi Ilesanmi
Adriana Rossetto
Megan Runyan
Fernando Saucedo
Martha Sickles

AGENTS
Women of Color in the Arts (WOCA)
Amanda Crater
Jon Froehlich

MOVERS
Suzanna Cameron
Nandita Shenoy

*List current as of March 2023. If you would like to make a correction or address an omission, please contact Kaila Saunders at kaila@kyoungspacificbeat.org.
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Page 2: Ariel Estrada, Kyoung's Pacific Beat’s NERO. Photo Credit: Andrew Jordan

Page 3: From left to right: Ishmael Thaahir, Valeria Moraga, Kyoung Park, Arewa Basit, Marie Yokoyama, Chuan-Chi Chan, Helen Yee, Andrew Jordan. Photo Credit: Courtesy of Victory Gardens

Page 5: First photo: David Gelles, Yadira De La Riva, Kyoung's Pacific Beat's NERO. Second photo, from left to right: Imran Sheikh, Zack Lusk, Sade Namei, Claudia Acosta, Kyoung’s Pacific Beat’s NERO. Third photo, from left to right: Yadira De La Riva, Imran Sheikh, David Gelles, Ishmael Thaahir, Sade Namei, Zack Lusk, Ash Mayers, Claudia Acosta, Kaila Saunders, Ariel Estrada, Kyoung’s Pacific Beat’s NERO. Photo Credits: Andrew Jordan

Page 6: Kyoung Park, Photo Credit: Tahir Karmali

Page 7: From left to right (top row): Alvaro Alvarez, Sanae Ohno, Ash Mayers, Ariel Estrada, David Gelles, Katek Dhiman, Kyoung Park, Ishmael Thaahir, Imran Sheikh, Zach Lusk, Yadira De La Riva, Sabrina De La Torre, Carsen Joenk. From left to right (bottom row): Lee Monahan, Marie Yokoyama, Lindsay Darcy, Jose Gorritti, Kaila Saunders, Sarah Samonte, Claudia Acosta, Sade Namei, Jessica Applebaum, Yoon Choi, Kyoung's Pacific Beat’s NERO. Photo Credits: Andrew Jordan

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