

# **Community Weaver (Baltimore)**

# **About Inheritance Theater Project**

Inheritance Theater Project (ITP) builds relationships across divides through collaborative playmaking. Led by a team of national artists partnering with local artists and community leaders, ITP invites participants to enter a process that uses theater and inherited texts as a new way into community conversation. The project culminates in an original piece of theater by and for the residents of that city, and it is the act of creating this work that builds strong, more interconnected communities.

From September 2025–May 2026, ITP will be in Baltimore, their 19th city, partnering with local organizations including Third Space at Shaarei Tfiloh and Baltimore Center Stage. Over the course of the year, neighbors from different backgrounds will be invited into honest dialogue, questioning, and creative imagining of what's possible for Baltimore—helping forge new connections that can continue to serve the city long after the curtain falls.

#### **About the Role**

Are you someone who hopes to build bridges in Baltimore—bringing neighbors into deeper relationships, sparking civic dialogue, and helping your community imagine new ways of being together?

Do you believe in the power of art, storytelling, and dialogue to heal divides and inspire change?

We're looking for Community Weavers to join ITP's project in Baltimore. This project will be shaped by you and a team of 3 other Baltimore leaders: you are the heart of this work. Your perspective will help ensure the process reflects Baltimore's people, history, and hopes for the future.

### What You'll Do

## Serve as a visionary guide

ITP projects are emergent—we don't begin with fixed plans. Instead, we follow the lead of the community. As part of a 4-person cohort of artists and organizers, you'll help steer this process, bring Baltimore voices into every conversation, and elevate the stories and questions that matter most. We'll ask you: "What are you hearing?" "What is it stirring in you?" "Who needs to be in the room?"

# Bridge the national and local

You'll help orient the national team to Baltimore—sharing what we need to know, where we should go, and who we need to meet to understand your city more deeply. You'll hold us accountable to local truth and representation.



#### Invite the community in

You'll help identify and connect the project with local groups, faith communities, artists, activists, and/or residents. You'll send outreach emails and meet with partners to invite them into the project. You'll think of how to make the spaces accessible and welcoming as we plan events and support community participation during the gatherings.

## Practice small-scale bridge building

You'll be paired with another Baltimore leader from a different community to engage in a co-learning process—reading an inherited text together that will become the foundation for the play. The goal of the exercise is for you two to be in deep relationship with each other. They will also be a Community Weaver and part of the Visionary Cohort.

# Imagine what comes next

You'll help envision how the relationships and conversations built through this project can continue beyond the final performance.

# Who We're Looking For

You might be an organizer, faith leader, educator, civic leader, facilitator, or cultural worker.

We're looking for people who:

- Are community organizers, outreach specialists, builders, catalyzers, gatherers, or healers
- Are already building—or hoping to build—coalitions in Baltimore
- Believe in art, theater, and storytelling as tools for connection and transformation
- Want to create space for civic discourse and hard conversations
- Are excited to connect with others who share this vision and build a support network
- Are comfortable facilitating community dialogue

**You do not need to be an artist.** What matters most is your commitment to community and your belief in the work.

#### What You'll Be Part Of

- A Baltimore Visionary Cohort: a 4 person team of 2 community leaders and 2 community-based theater builders co-leading the direction of the project
- An Inheritance Theater Project team: the local team is backed by a Program Manager, Artistic Director, Executive Director, Communications Director, and Scholar in Residence who provide resources, logistical support, methodology, and guidance
- A national ITP network of artists, educators, and civic bridge builders
- A creative process rooted in Baltimore, guided by Baltimoreans, with ITP offering structure, resources, and support
- A participatory performance (on stage or behind the scenes) shaped and performed by community members

## **Time & Commitment**

This is a paid, part-time role from approximately September 2025 to May 2026. Community events will primarily happen during ITP's intensive in-town visits. We'll ask you to join as much as you're able—we'll work with your schedule.



### You'll be asked to participate in:

- 1-2 virtual planning meetings a week
- Additional partner meetings you will be invited to attend as able
- 1-on-1 "havruta" meet ups with your Community Weaver partner (post December)
- ~7 in-person 4-7 day intensives for community events (1 community event day)
- Rehearsal period 3-4 weeks before the show (as much as you are able and desire)

## **Tentative Key Dates:**

- Sept 26–28: Friendraising visit #1
- Oct 23–29: Friendraising visit #2
- **Dec 11–14**: Visionary Cohort retreat
- January (TBD): Brave Spaces
- March/April (TBD): Brave Spaces
- May (TBD): Rehearsals & final performance
- Post-May (TBD): Community planning for what comes next

## What to Expect by Season:

- Fall (Sept-Oct): We'll get to know each other and Baltimore. We'll lean on you to learn more about the community and for outreach support.
- Winter (Dec): A retreat to build trust, align intentions, and train in ITP's methodology. After the retreat, you and the other Community Weaver will meet one-on-one when you can. The Visionary Cohort will take over guiding the project from here on.
- **Spring (Jan–May)**: Deep engagement in the creative process—workshops, text study, rehearsals, performances.