

STATEMENT ON OUR COMMITMENT TO FREE SPEECH

It is the commitment of the REDWOOD THEATER to encourage free expression of ideas. We respect all viewpoints and do our best to be the <u>vehicle</u> for free speech and expression in our community, and to not judge the various views or perspectives presented. We believe censorship has no place in a free society.

The REDWOOD THEATER is committed to the principle that debate or deliberation should not be suppressed because the ideas put forth are thought by some or even by most members of the community to be offensive or wrong-headed. It is for the individual members of the community, certainly not the theater, to make those judgments for themselves, and to act on those judgments not by seeking to suppress speech, but by openly and vigorously contesting the ideas that they oppose.

Moreover, it is not the proper role of the **REDWOOD THEATER** to attempt to shield individuals from ideas and opinions they find unwelcome, disagreeable, or even deeply offensive.

The REDWOOD THEATER greatly values civility, and all members of the community share in the responsibility for maintaining a climate of mutual respect. Concerns about civility and mutual respect can never be used as a justification for closing off discussion of ideas, however offensive or disagreeable those ideas may be to some members of our community.

We at the **REDWOOD THEATER** believe free speech is an essential pillar of our democracy that is guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.

<u>America is stronger when all voices are respected & heard!</u>