## Editorial

Our June 2021 issue (24.1) <u>announced a number of initiatives</u> designed to make *Early Theatre* 'a more equitable publication venue for all scholars'. We are excited to share that, effective January 2023, twelve new members will join our editorial advisory board to help us continue moving towards this goal.

In keeping with our new advisory board terms of reference, this group includes two recent Issues in Review contributing editors - Elizabeth Tavares and Laurie Johnson — who will serve two-year terms. The other ten — Andrew Bozio, Matthieu Chapman, Callan Davies, Ari Frielander, Penelope Geng, Cameron Hunt McNabb, Noémie Ndiaye, Matteo Pangallo, Nicole Sheriko, and Jeffrey Stoyanoff — responded to our <u>call for new board members</u>. We are humbled by the responses to this call from scholars whose work has appeared in this journal, whose research has been enriched by its contents, and, most importantly, who expressed a desire to support us in welcoming and developing more varied voices, perspectives, and types of work within the field of early theatre studies. Our open call specifically solicited scholars at all career stages whose research aligns with subfields including medieval drama, performance studies (including practice as research), disability studies, premodern critical race studies, and gender and sexuality studies; the call also actively solicited nominations from scholars whose experiential knowledge will enhance Early Theatre's commitments to equity, diversity, and inclusion. Please be on the lookout for forthcoming email newsletters introducing board members in more detail.

This expanded advisory board will continue to foster work in archives- and records-based theatre history and on plays and performance in medieval and early drama: areas that have been a core focus for *Early Theatre* since the journal was launched by founding editor Helen Ostovich twenty-five years ago. We are fortunate to have so much expertise in this type of research represented among both long-serving and new board members. Board members will also contribute to upcoming initiatives such as developing a more inclusive style guide, clarifying instructions and providing better support for Issues in Review contributing editors, enhancing journal accessibility, and creating an updated digital initiatives plan. All of this work will be shaped by our commitment to equity, including by

making processes and policies connected to peer review and publication transparent, constructive, and supportive.

As an expression of this goal, we welcome you, our readers, to think about how you might wish to contribute to the future of *Early Theatre*. Consider whether you might send us an article, review a book, or indicate your willingness to read submissions. If you have an idea for an Issues in Review, please let us know. If you are mentoring a junior colleague or are attending a panel where you hear a particularly compelling paper, please consider suggesting us as a good venue for submitting new research. And watch for future calls for new board members. Members of the core editorial team and advisory board are eager to receive your questions, suggestions, and proposals whether sent by email or discussed in person at conferences we attend. Most of all, we look forward to at least twenty-five more years of showcasing insightful, thought-provoking scholarly work on early theatre.

The Editors