

SOUND & SABLE

THE PEOPLE CONSULTANCY

Executive Search Snapshot

Vice President of Development for Forest Forward



About Forest Forward:

Forest Forward works to bring healthy neighborhood revitalization while preserving the history and character of the neighborhood. Drawing from community voices and the nationally proven Purpose Built Communities model, Forest Forward's work goes beyond the restoration of the Forest Theater. The restoration and expansion will serve as a catalyst to spur equitable development. The revitalized Forest Theater will focus on respecting, uplifting, and cultivating the Black community through collaboration. South Dallas residents will get to utilize the theater as a multi-purpose destination hub that sits at the heart of South Dallas as a hub for creativity, business, and entertainment.

Our sights are set on the future, with a deep reverence for our history. We do our work through a three-pronged lens.

For the children: Cradle-to-College Education Pathway

A multi-year public-private partnership with the Dallas Independent School District has been established to advance educational opportunities by providing student access to the restored Forest Theater and its component features such as the sensory immersion room, black box theater with the ability to convert

for animation and CGI technology, and podcast, broadcast, and recording studio. Through this partnership, MLK Learning Center has been transformed into MLK Arts academy, extending its curricular offerings from Pre-K through the 8th grade.

For the Community: Mixed-Income Housing

Understanding that neighborhoods are impacted by their housing stock, Forest Forward works to establish collaborative relationships to support the development and construction of mixed-income housing. The approach to housing creation will focus on minimal displacement of current residents and preserving affordability.

For the Culture: Forest Theater Restoration and Expansion

The Forest Theater, once known for its marquee and beckoning lights, will be restored, yielding 45,000 square feet dedicated to four critical spaces for this project: Concert Hall; Creative Laboratory (13,000 sq ft of space to house movement and recording studio, flex space, resource center, sensory immersion room, and artist classrooms and labs); Roof deck; Industrial Kitchen; and Black Box theater (12,313 sq ft new construction.)

About the Opportunity:

This is a new position and an exciting opportunity to be at the center of the current and future growth of Forest Forward. The Forest Forward Vice President of Development is responsible for developing and implementing fundraising strategies that take our mission to new heights. They will plan, coordinate, and assure implementation of strategies to develop donors and contributions to support the organization, development, and maintenance of appropriate systems to fund development, including but not limited to volunteer and donor management, research and cultivation, gift processing, and recognition. They also maintain accountability and compliance standards for donors and funding sources. The Vice President of Development enables us to chart bold paths and dream bigger while providing funding relationships and vehicles to make it a reality.

Qualifications:

Education: Bachelor's degree required. Advanced degree in business or related field a plus.

Experience: Seven years of fundraising required with experience leading and completing a successful capital campaign, preferred. CFRE certification and experience working in an arts-related organization, a plus.

Additional Competitive Skills/Culture Fit Competencies: The VP of Development can communicate and cultivate relationships with different audiences and is passionate about community development, education, and racial equity.

Primary responsibilities:

- Partner with Executive Director and Board Chair to execute and further develop our multi-year \$75,215,000 strategic capital fundraising campaign.
- Serve as an external champion, advocate, and chief relationship builder for Forest Forward.
- Provides vital input in short- and long-term strategic and operational planning and positioning within the organization.
- Helps leadership identify and address organizational development issues that challenge and support health and effectiveness.
- Ensures that philanthropy and fund development are carried out according to Forest Forward's values, mission, vision, and plans.

Evaluate the effect of internal and external forces on the organization and its fund development, recommend short- and long-range fund development plans and programs that support its values, mission, and general objectives.

- Lead strategic projects and initiatives as determined by and in partnership with the Executive Director.
- Lead development team/contractors in achieving significant strategic goals and daily operational tasks/duties.
- Oversee marketing, communications, and social media strategies, vendors, relationships, and implementation.

For additional information, contact Jarie Bradley at jarie@soundandsable.com