

Board Member opportunity for 2024-25

Background

Arts by the Sea is Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole's annual flagship cultural festival, bringing exciting and unique performances, installations and participatory experiences to residents and visitors alike. With a key focus on talent development, community engagement and sustainability, the festival's Mission is to:

Provide inspirational and inclusive experiences, rooted in its location and reflecting its communities through a celebration of art, culture, people and place.

The festival is delivered by BCP Council and funded by BCP Council and Arts Council England.

Your role on the Board

Arts by the Sea aims to improve the lives of local people by providing access to creative and cultural activity. Within the team and in the work it presents, Arts by the Sea promotes an inclusive and diverse environment where people from different perspectives and backgrounds are encouraged and valued. In your role as an Arts by the Sea Board Member, you will have a direct impact on the work the festival delivers and, on the lives, and opportunities available to local people.

As a Board Member you will provide strategic governance and oversight for the festival, supporting and challenging the Executive team. This is a chance for you to shape the future direction of the festival and have a tangible influence over the cultural offer of the region. You will be involved in visioning and forward planning, monitoring the festival's progress, contributing to new partnerships and projects, and advocating for the festival at local and regional levels.

Commitment

Board Members are expected to prepare for and attend a minimum of 3 out of 4 Board meetings per year. Time commitment is estimated at a minimum of 6 hours per quarter. There will be additional mandatory training in equalities and sustainability. Meetings will take place either in person or via Teams and a mutually convenient time will be found for all attendees. Membership of the Board will last for a minimum of three years.

Board Member roles

Each Board Member will be aligned to one of Arts Council England's four Investment Principles and is expected to become a champion in that area:

- Ambition & Quality
- Dynamism
- Inclusivity & Relevance
- Environmental Responsibility

The Chair will have overall responsibility for championing Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. A Vice Chair will be appointed from the Board Members.

Skills and attributes required:

The festival is looking for Board Members with a diverse range of skills and experience in such areas as:

- Experience working in the cultural sector and dealing with funders.
- Commercial experience and links to the local economy or business networks.
- Experience working with our local communities, particularly in under-served areas.
- Experience working with young people and in education.
- Passion for environmental sustainability and a commitment to advocating for change.

Board members are expected to:

- Make a commitment to support the work and values of the Arts by the Sea festival.
- Demonstrate good independent judgement.
- Work as a member of a team and be willing to state personal convictions.
- Be willing to accept a majority decision and be tolerant of other people views.
- Show a commitment to Nolan's seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership.

Applications to the Board from artists, freelancers and local creatives are welcomed. The festival will pay particular attention to diversity and inclusion within the recruitment process for the Board and aims to make the process and membership of the Board as accessible as possible.

Expenses

All Board positions including the role of Chair are voluntary and unpaid. The festival can cover reasonable expenses to allow Board Members to attend meetings. The festival is also able to pay Freelancers a reasonable rate for their time.

How to Apply

If you are interested in becoming a Board Member, please send an email to Leigh Hayler (leigh.hayler@bcpcouncil.gov.uk) by **10:00 on Monday 18th November 2024** enclosing:

1. Your CV and a covering letter of no more than 2 pages (or a 3-minute video) detailing what interests you most about this role and what you could bring to it.
2. A completed Skills and Experience form.

If you would like to discuss the role further, please contact Andrea Francis, Festival Director at andrea.francis@bcpcouncil.gov.uk

The recruitment timetable is:

1. Closing date for applications: 10:00, Monday 18th November 2024
2. Shortlisting: December 2024
3. Interviews: January 2025
4. Appointment: February 2025
5. Induction: March 2025