



Manchester
International
Festival

**MANCHESTER INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Manchester International Festival (MIF) is looking for new Trustees to join our Board as we prepare to run The Factory, the landmark new arts space being built in the heart of the city.

MIF launched as an artist-focused Festival of original, new work and special events staged

every two years at venues and spaces across the city. Our future home is The Factory, where we'll present ambitious and adventurous year-round creative programmes.

The Factory will be driven by the same interests and ambitions that defines MIF, where we encourage artists to create work in new ways, to collaborate across disciplines and blur the boundaries between art and popular culture.

Our programme will be international – but The Factory will also be deeply, proudly local. We'll work with the people of Manchester in countless creative ways, inviting individuals and communities to meet, exchange ideas and take part in remarkable new projects. We'll be offering training in many of the skills required for a career in the arts, helping to build new generations of technicians, producers and other creative talent.

The Factory is designed by world-renowned architects OMA and backed by Manchester City Council, HM Government and Arts Council England.

We are looking to recruit new Trustees to continue to strengthen and diversify MIF's Board. The Board have ultimate responsibility for the strategic direction, development and governance of MIF and The Factory as well as the operational management of the venue. We welcome candidates from a wide representation of backgrounds and ages. In this recruitment cycle we are particularly interested in hearing from Black, Asian and Ethnically Diverse candidates.

The role of a charity trustee is to do what you and your co-trustees decide will best enable the charity to carry out its charitable purposes.

Key Responsibilities

The role of a charity trustee is to do what you and your co-trustees decide will best enable the charity to carry out its charitable purposes. We would expect you to;

- use reasonable care and skill, making use of your skills and experience and taking appropriate advice when necessary
- dedicate enough time, thought and energy to your role, for example by preparing for, attending and actively participating in all trustees' meetings
- make balanced and adequately informed decisions with your co-trustees, thinking about the long term as well as the short term
- hold people (including staff, volunteers and fellow trustees) to account for how they carry out their role or use the charity's resources (this can mean asking probing or challenging questions about information at trustee meetings, or being prepared to say 'I do not understand what this means')
- avoid putting yourself in a position where your duty to your charity conflicts with your personal interests or loyalty to any other person or body
- not receive any benefit from the charity unless it is properly authorised and is clearly in the charity's interests; this also includes anyone who is financially connected to you, such as a partner, dependent child or business partner

Further detail from the government and charity commission on the role of a trustee can be found [here](#).

More information about MIF and The Factory can be found [here](#).

Mostly you need to be interested in the organisation and be willing to give your time to help run it.

What we're looking for from our Board members is;

- Understanding and passion for MIF's vision and mission.
- Enthusiasm and interest in arts and culture
- Willingness to ask questions and challenge assumptions and ways of thinking to help MIF continue to improve its practice
- Willingness and ability to apply knowledge and skills to MIF's development and delivery
- An understanding of and commitment to diversity and representation - in all its forms

Time Commitment

Being a Trustee takes commitment. We ask our Board members to attend four half-day board meetings a year. There are occasional voluntary sub-groups meetings and also a board away day in September.

In addition, there are also four main sub-committees which meet four times a year in line with the Board Meeting, however trustees are not expected to attend these additional sub-committee meetings.

- HR Committee
- Finance and Audit Committee
- Commercial Committee
- Ethics Committee

Meetings take place at MIF's main office in Manchester City Centre. MIF will however always continue to support hybrid meetings.

It would also be of value for Board Members are to attend MIF / The Factory events where possible.

Expenses

This is a voluntary role however we are committed to supporting our Board members with any reasonable out of pocket expenses. This might include any necessary travel,

subsistence and accommodation for meetings or events, childcare or other dependent expenses whilst attending meetings, specific telephone and broadband charges, and other board related expenses as agreed in advance will be reimbursed.

Following a recent review of the Board, and to support our development and growth to The Factory we are looking for Trustees that bring substantial experience and knowledge in one or more of the following areas;

- **Arts Leadership**
- **Digital Content / Broadcasting**
- **Marketing / Sponsorship / Branding**

In addition, we are always open to receive applications from;

- **Practicing artists**
- **Those who represent and bring knowledge of a community currently underserved by the festival.**

For an informal conversation about the positions and to submit an Expression of Interest in the role, please send a CV and covering letter to our executive search advisor at **Peridot Partners, Lucy Mavericks** - lucy@peridotpartners.co.uk

The current members of MIF's Board are:

Tom Bloxham MBE (Chair)	Ibrahim Mahama
Dr Maria Balshaw CBE	Shaminder Nahal
Richard Bell	Gary Neville
Sir Howard Bernstein	Richard Paver
Alan Bishop	Cllr Luthfur Rahman OBE
Jeremy Deller	Kully Thiarai
Jamil Khalil	Ngozi 'Goz' Ugochukwu
Grace Ladoja MBE	Jo Whitfield CBE
Amy Lawrence	Cathryn Wright

MIF Board Members Retiring February 2022 are:

Jeremy Deller	Jeanette Winterson
Amy Lawrence	

Kully Thiarai