



Join the Bow Arts Board of Trustees

Context of the role

Bow Arts create inspirational, supportive environments where artists and communities interact, learn and flourish. Since 1994, Bow Arts has nurtured London's diverse creativity and talent. We've provided artists and creative practitioners with affordable workspace, connecting them with local communities and supporting their professional development. We give communities throughout London greater access to and interaction with the arts, through our schools' programme, workshops, exhibitions and events.

We are an arts and education charity and a social enterprise; our services support the growth of sustainable local creative economies. Over 500 artists, designers and makers are affiliated with Bow Arts through our workspace, affordable housing for creatives, and award-winning schools and young people's learning programme. Both the charitable objectives and mission of Bow Arts are met through the delivery of services by 24 members of staff across four distinct departments: Studios, Learning, Arts & Events and Enterprise & Placemaking, supported operationally by Core Services. Our VAT registered trading company (Bow Arts Trading) was incorporated in 2016 to expand our social enterprise. Across both Trust and Trading activities, Bow Arts has a projected annual turnover of c. £3m.

Recent highlights:

- We purchased our first building in our home of Bow: Three Waters Studios will provide a permanent affordable home to artists, designers and makers
- We launched the East London Art Prize in partnership with the British Council, Dulux, The Line, LLDC, UCL, V&A East and Whitechapel Gallery
- We opened applications for our young artist mentoring programme, pairing young people with a passion for making art with a mentor who is a professional artist, designer or maker
- We recruited our newest cohort of trainees for our Artist Trainee Programme, providing practical experience and developing the skills necessary to deliver quality arts education as a Bow Arts Artist Educator.

Bow Arts is dedicated to promoting equality of opportunity, tackling discrimination, and welcoming and valuing the inclusivity of the communities we serve. We anonymise applicants at our initial shortlisting stage, removing any non-essential information before we start selection to address the possibility of unconscious bias.

The role of Trustees

Bow Arts is dedicated to promoting equality of opportunity and tackling discrimination. We welcome and value the inclusivity of the communities we serve, and we would like to have a diverse Board that is representative of those communities.

As a Bow Arts Trustee, you will help set the strategic direction of Bow Arts, strengthen the management of our financial resources, operations and structure, monitor our performance and help to establish ways to better meet our aims and promote our charitable objects. You will ensure that Bow Arts complies with its governing document, charity and relevant company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations, safeguard the good name and values of Bow Arts, and represent Bow Arts externally.

You will be expected to attend a minimum of four Board meetings per year. Meetings are held quarterly from 6–8pm and dates are published well in advance.

We have space for up to four new Trustees and are looking for particular expertise in the following areas, but would welcome applications from anyone who believes that they can bring value to the Bow Arts Board:

- Visual arts
- Marketing
- Financial Accounting (ideally in a charity setting)
- Housing & Development

Alongside the board meetings, you will have the opportunity to join one of our subcommittee groups according to your interests and experience:

- Core Services Committee: compliance, finance and major projects
- Governance & Compliance Committee: board effectiveness, internal and external controls, sustainability, equality, inclusivity and representation
- Remuneration Committee: review of salaries, terms and conditions and HR policies
- Audit Committee: oversight of the annual external audit

Person Specification

Bow Arts Trustees should have:

- A genuine passion for our work and dedication to Bow Arts and its objectives
- A knowledge and acceptance of the legal duties, obligations and liabilities of trusteeship
- A willingness to devote the necessary time and effort to their duties as a trustee
- Integrity
- Strategic vision
- Good, impartial judgement
- An ability to think creatively
- A willingness to speak their mind
- An ability to work effectively as a member of a team

To find out more about our current Board of Trustees, visit our website: [Our people - Bow Arts](#)

If you would like more information about the role and expectations of Trustees before applying, please email jenpringle@bowarts.com

If you wish to apply, please email the completed application form to recruitment@bowarts.com.

The role is unpaid, but reasonable travel expenses can be reclaimed. Trustees are expected to commit to a minimum of 4 evening Board meetings per year, a Saturday Away Day, plus up to 4 additional evening meetings per sub-committee. Trustee training is also offered.