

We are looking for new trustees to join the board of Edinburgh Printmakers

We are currently looking for up to four new trustees to join our board at what is a very exciting but demanding time for the organisation. We welcome applications from practicing printmakers and one of the new trustees should have experience as a Chartered Accountant.

The work of a board member is unpaid but presents an extraordinary opportunity for suitably skilled or experienced individuals to make a real difference to one of Scotland's premier arts organisations whilst developing new expertise as a member of a talented board.

The Opportunity

Edinburgh Printmakers is at an exciting point in its development after a successful move in spring 2019 to its new home at Castle Mills, a beautifully restored heritage building in Fountainbridge which was formerly home to North British Rubber Company, once part of a thriving industrial community in Edinburgh. In addition to superb premises, we benefit from an enviable location, national and international reputation, the expertise of members and staff and the support of the community.

At Castle Mills we have significantly expanded our offer, with new studios and galleries, a dynamic programme of exhibitions, events and courses, accommodation for visiting artists, an archive, a shop selling original prints and handmade products, hire spaces for meetings, events or learning activities, a café, courtyard and community garden.

Established in 1967, Edinburgh Printmakers was the first open access print studio in Britain and is now one of the largest in the world. We play a leading role in connecting studios, workshops and creative spaces nationally and internationally, enabling high-quality printmaking and innovation in print practice.

Our vision is to create an international centre with world-class facilities and exceptional models of support for artists. Our mission focuses on artistic excellence in print and visual arts practice, providing an inspiring place for audiences and artists at all stages in their careers to learn and grow.

We receive core funding from Creative Scotland as part of its network of Regularly Funded Organisations and annual funding from the City of Edinburgh Council. We fundraise actively, and as a charity with a trading arm all our profits are reinvested in achieving our mission.

After a period of closure due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Edinburgh Printmakers is now working towards reopening its studios and galleries and recommencing its programme of courses and events.

Role and Responsibilities

As trustees and members of the board of directors of Edinburgh Printmakers, we have individual and shared responsibility to safeguard the charity's assets and ensure that the organisation fulfils its charitable purposes. This is a statutory responsibility.

The board provides strategic support for the success of the organisation and develops and implements appropriate controls to monitor progress and performance, whilst meeting the appropriate interests of members and other stakeholders including funders.

As a board director and trustee, you will prepare for regular meetings with the support of board papers. You will attend board meetings held 6-8 times per year and contribute at an annual strategy session.

There are also a number of sub-committees and ad hoc workgroups; examples are the Finance and Risk Committee and a Members Engagement Group. Board members should expect to contribute to one or more.

Meeting timing is generally late afternoon/early evening to accommodate daytime work commitments, but some flexibility is possible.

As a board director and trustee, your focus is governance with the responsibility for operational activities delegated to the CEO and organisation. The role is one of challenge and support. The organisation is currently in an intense period of activity, but in a regular year, board members might expect to contribute a total of around 12-16 days per year. The initial term of appointment as a trustee is three years. Board meetings will be held remotely online or at Edinburgh Printmakers.

Where necessary, Edinburgh Printmakers supports board members with appropriate training and development.

Trustee Characteristics

Essential criteria:

- Demonstrates passion for securing a successful and sustainable Edinburgh Printmakers with the enthusiasm to support the organisation and the robustness to challenge
- Demonstrates an understanding of governance, knowledge of the role and responsibilities of a trustee and a willingness to learn more
- Employs a creative and collaborative approach to teamwork
- Develops respectful and effective relationships with fellow board members, staff and stakeholders
- Analyses and makes reasoned conclusions and sound decisions

Additional criteria where applicants should offer evidence demonstrating one or more of the following:

- Experience as a Chartered Accountant
- Expertise in arts education, particularly in the context of the delivery of impacts to communities
- Established artistic practice
- Skills in marketing – ideally audience development and/or digital marketing
- Current or previous board experience with another arts organisation
- Skills in successful business development
- Customer relationship management experience

How to make an application

We aim to take an inclusive approach to recruitment and to attract a diverse pool of talent and experience. We welcome applications from all candidates.

Applicants are invited to submit a CV together with a covering letter or short form video outlining why you would like to join the board and providing evidence of how you meet the selection criteria. If you would like to talk to one of the current board members about the role before making an application, please get in touch as soon as possible.

Completed applications should be sent by e-mail to: marketing@edinburghprintmakers.co.uk with the title “New trustees” in the subject line.

The closing date for applications is noon on Monday 17th May 2021.

The board intend to invite qualified applicants to an online interview during late May and to reach a decision no later than mid-June.



Edinburgh Printmakers is a charity registered in Scotland, Registered Company No. 044723, Scottish Charity Reg No. SC009015, Vat Reg No. 271639642, Registered Office 23 Union Street, Edinburgh EH1 3LR, Scotland.