Board recruitment 2024: Seeking young directors



64 Million Artists is seeking two young people (18-26) to join our Board of Directors. This is a voluntary role designed to help shape our vision and strategy. You will be joining a dynamic, caring group of board members with a range of experience and expertise. All expenses, including travel and access expenses, will be paid.

The board of directors meets quarterly (online) and about once a year they meet in person for an away day. Meetings are friendly and informal and the board prides itself on modelling inclusivity and equitable engagement. Board members typically join for 3-6 years and support the company's staff team in pursuit of its mission. They do this in a range of ways, 121 meetings, reviewing policies and strategy documents, connecting the organisation to wider networks and attending board meetings. The time commitment varies but equates to about 4 days a year.

Potential board members

We are keen to maintain and build on our board's diversity, so there is no single route you will need to have taken to apply for this role. You will have a commitment to our values of care, belonging, courage and curiosity; and be someone that enjoys contributing as part of a team. These skills may have been built in a range of professional roles but also through personal experiences like caring, volunteering or leisure activities.

We are actively encouraging applications from people from the Global majority (People of Colour) and d/Deaf and Disabled applicants as these are growing areas of our network. We are particularly keen to recruit board members with insight into finances, fundraising or campaigning but we are also open to recruiting people with other skills and experience they can contribute to the organisation. The main criteria are enthusiasm and a willingness to contribute.

If this sounds like you, read on and details of how to apply are at the end of this document.





About Us

At 64 Million Artists we believe that everyone is creative and that when we are creative we can make positive change in our lives and in the world around us. For the past 10 years we have worked across the UK and Ireland, championing creativity in a huge range of settings. How we work is as important to us as what we do, and we are constantly trying to embed our values in the way we work and collaborate with partners.

Values

Our values are embedded in the way we work and impact how we approach everything we do.

Curiosity: We stay curious about everything we do - allowing us to take risks, fail and learn. Trying new things, exploring and expressing ourselves runs through all we do: how we work as individuals, as a team and our interactions with everyone we meet.

Care: As a team, we know good working relationships need nurturing, and caring for the people around us often means difficult conversations, holding boundaries and being bold. We work to create and sustain meaningful connections with one another and focus on making a positive difference in every interaction we have.

Belonging: We actively search for and acknowledge barriers to access. Everyone should feel a sense of belonging and community, and it's a massive part of what drives our team. Whoever you are, wherever you are, you are welcome.

Courage: We understand that to achieve our ambitions we need to be bold and to take risks. Sometimes this means embracing discomfort and trying new and difficult things, embracing failure rather than waiting for perfection and learning from our mistakes.

Our work

Public Programmes:

We run free, UK-wide online programmes like The January Challenge and The Weekly Challenge to kickstart creativity and wellbeing. Over 120,000 participants took part in The January Challenge (TJC) 2024, either as individuals, or in school groups, youth and community groups, hospital settings, workplaces and families. We also coordinate and run free packs and resources to inspire anyone who wants to run their own creative activities, share their work and be part of a supportive community. In the past two years we have worked closely with Creativity Champions around the UK, supporting people to help creativity flourish in their towns, workplaces and communities.

Leadership Programmes:

We facilitate culture change through creativity. A key aspect of this work is our bespoke support for many leading universities across the UK and Ireland offering tailored leadership programmes for researchers at different points in their academic careers. We also run leadership work across communities, workplaces and educational establishments. Our aim is to embed creativity in new settings and leave a legacy by empowering leaders to then go on to train and develop others. We have also run public webinars for facilitators and community leaders wishing to develop their knowledge and skills working with groups, as well as co-creation and community leadership programmes.

Partnership Programmes:

With our partners, we co-create programmes for positive change by activating everyone's creativity. Many of these are based in local communities. We've worked with Leicester Ageing Together on social isolation and creative aging, YoungMinds on mental health, and London's Culture Mile to inspire creativity in the heart of the City of London. We've also worked with local authorities in Gateshead, Stroud, Cumbria, Crewe, several London Boroughs, and Hull during their City of Culture year in 2017.

Policy & Research:

We collaborate with academic partners such as King's College London and UCL, and development agencies such as Arts Council England and Arts Council Wales to undertake research into key issues around everyday creativity. We have contributed to national policy in the area and are included in a range of broader research publications from organisations such as Baring Foundation, Culture Health and Wellbeing Alliance and the Centre for Cultural Value. This is an area of our work we are keen to grow and develop.

Our team

Our work is delivered by a team of 11 staff based across England. We pride ourselves on our innovative and wellbeing focused approach to work. We work a four day week (for a full time salary) and all staff are given the month of August off in addition to their annual leave allowance. We also aim to embed creativity in the way we work ourselves, meetings are framed by creative challenges, staff are encouraged to take time to stretch their creative muscles and given personalised training budgets to build their skills. They work a hybrid model, coming together (in London) once a week.

The team are supported by a diverse pool of freelance coaches and facilitators. They work across the country delivering activity with partners. We work closely with our Research Partner - TIALT - to evaluate the impact of our work. We also have a contracted accountancy service - Beehive, which provides cashflow, finance, payroll and book-keeping support, and an HR adviser who supports our employment policy and contracting.



Finance

Over the past three years, the organisation has grown significantly. Turnover has doubled to c.£750,000 annually and with it, the team has grown. We are keen to continue to maintain our balance of earned income (c.80%) being supplemented by grants from Trusts and Foundations (c.20%).

Board

We are a not for profit organisation, a company limited by guarantee and have a board of Directors who act as critical friends, champions and cheerleaders. They meet regularly and help guide the strategic direction of the organisation, individual board members also support the staff team with particular areas of expertise - for example in inclusion or communications - or where they have particular knowledge of a business or professional sector.

To meet the current board members, click here.

Further information

If you would like to learn more about joining the board of this organisation and becoming part of the movement to grow everyday creativity across the UK, please contact Damian Hebron, our Interim Executive Director to arrange an initial conversation.

You can contact Damian by emailing damian@64millionartists.com.

The deadline for expressing interest is 23rd June 2024.