Overview

Trustees of the Barbican Centre Trust

The Barbican Centre Trust is the charitable arm of the Barbican, a not-for-profit arts centre that aims to create space for people and ideas to connect through its adventurous and innovative international arts programme, community engagement and creative learning activity. We invite fresh perspectives, provoke conversations and reflect and respond to today's world.

The Trust aims to support the Barbican Centre in offering the widest possible access to culture, giving everyone the opportunity to encounter and enjoy creativity, and to find their creative voice. The vital funds it raises helps keep the Barbican's programme accessible to everyone, and to invest in the artists it works with. Each year the Barbican needs to raise more than 60% of its income through ticket sales, commercial activities and fundraising, with the Trust playing an ever more important role in achieving this.

The Barbican Centre Trust works to cultivate and grow a community of major supporters, corporate sponsors and grant makers, who enable the Barbican to continue investing in its arts and learning programme. Trustees lead the way in making introductions and strengthening connections with individuals, corporates and trusts who can help achieve ambitious fundraising targets. Using their networks and expertise, Trustees help unlock transformative opportunities, securing crucial income for the Barbican's programmes.

The Barbican Centre Trust and its Trustees have separate responsibilities to the Barbican Centre Board. The Barbican Centre Board and its sub-committees are responsible for the oversight of the Barbican Centre as a department of the City of London Corporation. Links between the two bodies are assured as the Chair of the Barbican Centre Trust sits ex officio on the Barbican Centre Board, and the Chairman of the Board sits on the Trust.

Role purpose

Trustees will play a proactive role in supporting the Trust's ambitions to grow their fundraising targets and act as ambassadors, advocates and champions for the Barbican. They will work with other Trustees to maintain the Charity's mission and vision, and contribute to the effective governance of the charity.

It is essential that Trustees share the Centre's commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion, and we would particularly like to hear from candidates whose professional and personal experience will bring new perspectives, understanding and capacity to the Board.

Key responsibilities

Fundraising and ambassadorial:

- Act as an advocate and champion for the Barbican, promoting awareness of the Centre and its fundraising activities, including within your networks
- Attend and engage with the Barbican's work, across the breadth of its artistic, learning and community work
- Attend regular events and development activities, working closely with the Development team and senior staff to foster excellent relationships with potential and existing donors in attendance
- Proactively support annual fundraising targets, including leading by example by supporting the Trust financially
- Examine and develop ways in which the Barbican can significantly increase income to the Trust
- Provide advice and leadership on planning, identifying and soliciting significant gifts, working with the Development team and Directors to make introductions and close key gifts with individuals, corporates and trusts
- Act as a sounding board for the Barbican's development planning and projects, advising on fundraising policy, campaigns and how philanthropy can maximise the Barbican's potential

Governance:

- Attend regular Trust meetings and take responsibility for all aspects of the charity, including governance, financial reporting and risk
- Contribute to the Barbican Centre Trust's future strategic direction through active participation in discussions about strategy, policy and planning
- Uphold the Barbican Centre Trust's principles of good governance and its charitable mission, fulfilling duties in line with the organisation's Articles of Association
- Champion equality, diversity and inclusion within the Trust, and proactively support it within the Barbican
- Contribute to the development of robust policies, risk management, charitable accounting practices and internal controls to ensure the Trust maintains its organisational resilience

Person specification

We are looking for Trustees who have expertise, networks and influence in at least one of our key income streams:

- 1. **Individual Giving** helping to develop the Barbican's pipeline of major gifts and Patrons by introducing, cultivating and closing key gifts with high net-worth individuals
- 2. **Grants and Trusts** helping to develop the Barbican's grants pipeline by introducing, cultivating and closing key gifts with grant-making trusts and foundations (in particular networking with the individuals/families often behind them)
- 3. **Corporate** helping to develop the Barbican's sponsorship and corporate membership pipeline by introducing, cultivating and closing key gifts with corporates

In addition, we are looking for Trustees with the following attributes:

- Passion for the performing arts and a conviction that the arts have the power to transform lives and communities, including an interest in the power of creative learning to connect with young people
- Some knowledge and experience of high-level fundraising, and the willingness to broker conversations with personal and professional contacts to support the Barbican Centre Trust, including with one or more of these key groups: high net-worth individuals, grant-making trusts and foundations, and corporates
- Willingness to support the Trust financially
- The highest standards of integrity; willing and able to represent the mission and vision of the Barbican Centre Trust and uphold its reputation along with demonstrable commitment to diversity and inclusivity
- Track record of successful senior leadership in a collaborative style, ideally with experience at Board level
- An ability to work effectively as a member of a team
- A charismatic style, with strong networking capabilities
- Sound judgement and the capacity for strategic thinking

Time commitment

- Individuals will need to demonstrate the willingness and commitment to meet the needs of this role, which is likely to require a commitment of 1 day a month
- The Trust is in the process of reviewing its term of office, and it is likely that Trustees will serve an initial term for three years, with the option for one more consecutive term of three years
- There are currently six Barbican Centre Trust board meetings. The frequency of Trust board meetings is under review
- Trustees are invited to attend Barbican events: press nights, fundraising events, and other meetings and/or events as appropriate.
- Meetings are held at the Barbican Centre
- The role of Trustee is a voluntary position and not accompanied by any financial remuneration