



Didsbury Arts Festival - Board Vacancy

The DAF Board has a number of vacancies to fill by October 2021. We are interested in hearing from anyone who would like to apply for the role of Board member. The Board is currently under-represented in a number of areas; we therefore encourage applicants from diverse and minority communities. We are keen to hear from people with skills and experience of leading or working with community arts and youth organisations, schools, or with a fundraising background.

This document provides more information about the Board, the role of Board members and the role of the Festival Director.

The **closing date for applications is 24 September 2021**. Applications should be submitted by email to the Chair, maria.stripling@zen.co.uk stating your area of expertise, background and experience and areas of interest. Meetings with candidates will take place in the first week of October.

About Didsbury Arts Festival (DAF)

DAF is a community company limited by guarantee, managed by a Board and is a registered charity.

Since 2009, DAF has delivered a community arts festival in Didsbury, first annually, and more recently every two years. Our last festival was in 2019. The next festival will take place in late June 2022 having been deferred from June 2021 due to the COVID19 pandemic.

DAF operates with the help of volunteers, local groups, businesses, venues and supporters. It is managed day to day by the Board, all of whom are volunteers, and who meet regularly (minimum 6 times a year).

DAF in Numbers

The main objective of DAF is to promote the arts in Didsbury and the surrounding community, through education and by providing a platform for the arts by means of a community arts festival.

A copy of the 'DAF Festival 2019 in numbers' report, which summarises the outcomes of the last festival and priorities for future planning, is available on the website and on request, by emailing info@didsburyartsfestival.org. Or visit www.didsburyartsfestival.org

The DAF Board

- The composition of the Board of DAF is as follows:
- Maximum of 12 members, to include the Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- Board rotation is 3 years.
- Outgoing Trustees may be re-elected.

General attributes of a Board member

1. actively contributes to the Board in order to help DAF achieve its objectives
2. is willing to devote at least approx. 3 hours per month, on average, to meetings

3. takes the lead on certain initiatives or acts as Board support for an area of the festival programme
4. introduces donors/funding routes, or contributes in such a way as to set an example for others to give their time and/or financial support
5. shows enthusiasm for, and commitment to, the development of local community arts and opportunities for local artists, outreach, or similar
6. has a track record or shows interest in participating in and supporting community initiatives
7. has a personal network in Didsbury and/or Manchester on which to call for support
8. is committed to collaborative working and has an understanding of what that might imply
9. has the ability to work as a member of a team and a willingness to state personal convictions and, equally, to accept a majority decision and be tolerant of the views of other people
10. understands and accepts the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of being a Board member
11. shows a preparedness to offer personal and professional skills and experience to support the work of the festival director and festival team, when required
12. is an enthusiastic ambassador for the work of DAF

DAF Board Member duties

The duties of the Board member is as follows:

- To ensure that DAF complies with its governing document, charity law, and any other relevant legislation or regulations
- To ensure that DAF pursues its objects as defined in its governing document
- To ensure DAF uses its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objects
- To safeguard the good name and values of DAF
- To ensure the effective and efficient administration of DAF
- To ensure the financial stability and sustainability of DAF
- To protect and manage the property of the charity and to ensure the proper investment of the charity's funds
- To appoint the Festival Director, and provide firm strategic direction, guidance and support to them

Other duties

In addition to the above duties, each Board member is expected to use their skills, knowledge and experience to help the Board reach sound decisions on key matters. This may involve:

- Scrutinising Board papers

- Leading Board discussions on key topics
- Bringing to bear their own business, financial, legal or other professional experience to help the Board resolve key issues, and keep up to date and comply with Charity or other key developments
- Providing guidance on new initiatives, or sourcing that from others via their personal networks

Benefits of being a Board Member

Board members are governed by Charity Law. This forbids any financial reward for services as a Board Member (Trustee) of the charity. However, there are several benefits of being a Board Member of DAF, some of which are as follows:

- Board Members may find that making a contribution to the development and governance of the organisation is a rewarding experience in itself
- Meeting local, national and international artists, local organisers, businesses, schools, and other sponsors and stakeholders involved with the programme
- Meeting members of the DAF audience, and local community networks
- Attending DAF performances, exhibitions, events and film screenings
- Gaining a better understanding and insight into the challenges facing community arts organisations and how to overcome those

Festival Director and Festival Delivery Team

The Festival Director is responsible for the planning and delivery of the festival programme and all artistic and programming decision making. They are also expected to oversee and coordinate the day to day operations and activities of the DAF Festival Team and wider festival team of volunteers.

The role of festival Director is a paid role and that of the Festival Manager and Festival Volunteer Coordinator also receive some remuneration.