

Invitation to join us as a Trustee

The Blahs are looking for new trustees at a key point in the company's transition to join us for a two-year tenure from April 2019 to help us think through our next steps and longer-term strategy.

We are specifically seeking people who have any of the following attributes: interested and excited by change management and reinvention; current experience within the arts sector working at a strategic level; financial management or HR expertise; contacts within the business sector to support the company in expanding its networks.

We are also seeking to increase the diversity of the Board, and particularly welcome applications from people from historically under-represented groups.

The Blahs: As we are now...

We are a theatre company making inspiring work for children and young people, telling stories that are complex, morally layered and have contemporary relevance. Our work is compelling, challenging and opens up new connections to develop greater understanding between humans in the world.

The current social, economic and education context requires us to be adaptable and imaginative in reaching audiences; while our history lies in presenting participatory work in schools, our new touring model will include community venues and theatres while exploring new ways of engaging with schools and the formal education sector and new modes of participatory practice.

Since leaving the Arts Council National Portfolio April 2018, we have successfully developed a new project based model. This is supported by mixed funding including ACE lottery funds and Trusts and Foundations, underpinned by financial reserves. We have a minimal core infrastructure that maintains the company as a charity and company limited by guarantee.

We have an exciting portfolio of activity including the touring of our critical success, The Vultures' Song and a new upcoming site-specific project with The Discovery Centre in partnership with Leeds Galleries and Museum.

Key responsibilities of a Trustee

- Bringing your knowledge, experience and perspective to our discussion on the strategic future for The Blahs.
- Ensuring good people and finance management, and meeting all company and charity obligations.
- Advocating for the company in different forums and celebrating its successes.
- Supporting fundraising initiatives where appropriate, especially in the area of individual giving.
- Keeping up to date and being prepared for meetings – an agenda and papers will be sent 14 days in advance.
- Responding in a timely way to requests for information/decisions outwith meetings.
- Attending a minimum of 4 meetings a year in Leeds, the AGM and an away-day, usually in summer. These dates will be agreed in advance.
- Seeing the work of the company at least once a year and providing feedback to contribute to the company's artistic development.

Recruitment process

- **Expression of interest: no more than one side of A4 plus CV or biog emailed to deborah@blahs.co.uk. Deadline Monday 18th March 2019 at midday.**
- **An informal interview with the Artistic Director and Chair of Board and/or another Board member at a mutually agreed time**
- **Attendance at the next Board meeting as an observer**
- **All applicants will be subject to safeguarding checks**

Informal conversations can be arranged with the Artistic Director, Deborah Pakkar-Hull through the email above and copies of the Company's current Annual Report and Accounts are available on request. Further information about the Blahs can be found at www.blahs.co.uk or @theatreblahs on Facebook and Twitter

New Board members will be fully supported with a comprehensive induction process.