

YORKSHIRE DANCE

Board of Trustees and Trustee Specifications

The Board's role is to:

- provide entrepreneurial leadership of the Company within a framework of prudent and effective controls which enable risk to be assessed and managed;
- set the Company's strategic aims, ensure that the necessary financial and human resources are in place for the Company to meet its objectives, and review management performance; and
- set the Company's values and standards and ensure that its obligations to its stakeholders and others are understood and met.

Trustee Duties and responsibilities

- Constructively contribute to the overall strategic direction, policy, objectives and targets of Yorkshire Dance;
- Take an active role in the preparation and approval of the business plan;
- Observe Yorkshire Dance's articles of association, charity and company law and other regulatory requirements;
- Participate in Yorkshire Dance Board's various committees;
- Act as the employer of Yorkshire Dance's employees;
- Comply with Yorkshire Dance's equality policies;
- Ensure that Yorkshire Dance operations are evaluated effectively;
- Safeguard Yorkshire Dance's financial stability, including approval of the annual accounts and the annual budget and advise on major resource issues.

Qualities and Experience Needed

- An interest in the arts and in dance;
- Extensive experience from the public sector, the world of business and/or the arts; **we are currently looking for one Trustee with legal expertise and one Trustee with fundraising/development expertise;**
- A desire to work in the best interests of Yorkshire Dance, without regard to personal interest or benefit;
- Objectivity, fairness, integrity, wisdom, discretion and good judgment;
- Strategic vision, creative thinking, independent judgement and ability to focus on practical issues;
- Effective advocacy and communication skills;
- A willingness to play an active role in fundraising;
- An understanding of good governance in business, the public or not-for profit sector and the duties and responsibilities of Trustees (more details can be found on the Charity Commission website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-essential-trustee-what-you-need-to-know-cc3>)

Time Commitment

- Time commitment is usually the equivalent of one full day per month, although more may be required from time to time. This includes four Board meetings per year, an annual general meeting, other sub-committees up to four times per year and two half-day Board retreats. In addition, time will be needed to study meeting papers, and attend a variety of Yorkshire Dance events.
- Trustees should be prepared to serve for two three-year terms;
- Board and committee meetings are held in Leeds in the evenings usually from 5.30pm to around 8.00pm.
- The Board has two half-day annual retreats usually on a Friday afternoon to consider the strategic direction of Yorkshire Dance and address key issues for Yorkshire Dance.

Eligibility

The law places certain restrictions on becoming a charity trustee. For example, you cannot be under the age of 18, previously been removed from trusteeship of a charity by a Court or the Charity Commission, disqualified under the Company Director's Disqualification Act 1986, or been convicted of an offence involving deception or dishonesty (unless the conviction is spent). If you are in any doubt about your eligibility, visit the Charity Commission website at www.charitycommission.gov.uk

Although selection as a Trustee is not a public appointment, the seven principles of public life as defined by the Nolan Commission (selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership) are applicable to this role.

Application

Application is by CV and covering letter. Please send to

Shirley Parks
Chair
Yorkshire Dance
3 St Peter's Buildings
St Peter's Square
Leeds
LS9 8AH
E: admin@yorkshiredance.com

If you would like to have an informal discussion about applying before submitting your application you can contact Wieke Eringa, CEO by email: wiekeeringa@yorkshiredance.com

Closing date: 12 noon, Friday 20 September 2019

Interviews: by arrangement in Leeds

A Brief History of Yorkshire Dance

[Yorkshire Dance](#) was launched in 1982 and found a permanent home in 1985 with the purchase of a derelict four-storey factory in Leeds City Centre. In 1991 Yorkshire Dance was recognised by the Arts Council as one of the first five national dance agencies. This national status and associated funding enabled Yorkshire Dance to develop the areas of production and promotion alongside a full and varied programme of centre-based classes and courses for people of all ages and levels of experience. A strategic review (2010) enabled Yorkshire Dance to re-focus its mission on championing the development of dance in Yorkshire through (1) artist development, (2) regional infrastructure development and (3) delivering quality dance experiences with the least engaged. Our aim is to raise standards, increase knowledge and understanding and foster creativity and innovation.

Yorkshire Dance is a hub for artists to share practice, create, research, take-risks and test work with new and existing audiences. Continued artist development support includes a residency programme and targeted workforce development. In 2018 we launched our series of [Encounters](#) festivals. Our aim was to bring some of the most interesting local, regional and international artists in contact with local people who might not normally see contemporary performance. By doing so we wanted to have a chance to connect, reflect and share thoughts about some of the most challenging issues of our time. Our ongoing programme of work includes a programme of strategic dance development interventions for the Yorkshire region notably through 4 regional hubs and the flagship regional youth dance showcase [Fresh](#).

In recent years our Participation programme has focused on developing expertise in work with older people, in programmes like [Dance On](#), with people with learning and/or physical disabilities and young people in areas of deprivation. Partnerships with two major universities are enabling us to research and demonstrate impact.

Yorkshire Dance is a lead partner and player in hosting high profile and strategic dance events in the region. These have included Big Dance in 2012 which saw over 70,000 people participating in and watching 54 'days of dance' from Bridlington to Doncaster and [Into the Light](#), a celebration of 50 years since the start of the decriminalisation of homosexuality in the UK, part of Hull UK City of Culture 2017, and a participatory commission [MESH](#), as part of the Great Exhibition of the North in summer 2018. Other programming highlights include three [Juncture festivals](#) (2012, 2014, 2016) curated by Charlotte Vincent, Wendy Houstoun and Gillie Kleiman, and the NESTA/ AHRC/ACE digital research project [respond_](#) (2014).

Yorkshire Dance is an active partner of the [Leeds Dance Partnership](#), a new strategic step-change initiative supported by Arts Council England and actively contributes to the Leeds City of Dance.

Yorkshire Dance benefits from regular core funding from Arts Council England, as a National Portfolio Organisation, and from Leeds City Council. It is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. We actively promote an equality policy and strive to work with a diversity of artists, users, suppliers and employees. Our most recent Annual Review is available [here](#).

YORKSHIRE DANCE STAFFING STRUCTURE: 2019-20

