

BRIEF FOR THE POSITION OF TRUSTEE, NEWLYN ART GALLERY LTD. AUG 2024



Denzil Forrester drawing workshop. *Captured Beauty* exhibition curated by Black Voices Cornwall. 2022

Newlyn Art Gallery Ltd is appointing a number of new Trustees to join its Board. We are seeking people with the experience, knowledge and commitment to support our existing work. We embrace diversity and equal opportunity: we are committed to building a team that represents a variety of backgrounds, perspectives and skills. The more inclusive we are, the better our work will be.

The organisation operates across two venues, in Newlyn and Penzance, West Cornwall, each with well-designed exhibition spaces, a cafe and shop. Newlyn Art Gallery & The Exchange is a registered charity and receives regular funding from Arts Council England (we are a 'National Portfolio Organisation') and Cornwall Council.



Newlyn Art Gallery

GOVERNANCE AND OUR BOARD

The gallery is run by a small team, governed by a Board of volunteer Trustees, providing strategic direction and support to staff. We are now seeking to appoint up to five new members to the Board.

The Board of Trustees meet on a bi-monthly basis, face-to-face or by Zoom, and has a number of sub-groups, including finance and programming committees. In order to ensure effective governance and support for the executive team, we seek to balance the range of skills and experience amongst the Trustees to match the needs of the organisation.

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

We need Trustees who are passionate about the work of the gallery. We also want to increase representation on our Board by:

- Global majority
- Younger people (between 18 and 30)
- People who identify as Cornish
- Disabled people
- People who are LGBTQIA+
- Artists
- Curators
- Press, marketing & communications
- Financial or legal specialists
- People with knowledge of teaching and innovative educational practice in schools
- People with a commitment to supporting our work in response to the Climate Emergency



The Exchange, Penzance, incorporating light installation, 'Lightwave' by artist Peter Freeman

MORE ABOUT US

Newlyn Art Gallery opened in 1895 as a result of the support of philanthropist John Passmore Edwards to exhibit the work of contemporary artists in the far west of Cornwall. Throughout its history, the gallery has continued its tradition of exhibiting contemporary art, including the work of world-renowned artists associated with the Newlyn and St Ives Schools. In 1974 the gallery became an educational charity with Arts Council England funding, and developed a programme of exhibitions by national and international artists.

In its more recent history the gallery underwent an award-winning renovation and expansion, reopening in 2007, in addition to launching The Exchange, a new gallery space in the centre of Penzance. The Exchange has enabled the organisation to present larger, more ambitious projects across the two sites. Together the galleries continue to present contemporary work in all media by regional, national and international artists, but, increasingly with a focus on new approaches that seek to include our community in the shaping and directing of the programmes we deliver.

Our learning and exhibitions activities are indivisible. We have a multidisciplinary programming team that pools their skills to deliver community-centred programmes; an effective structure that sets us apart from many of our peer organisations.

OUR VALUES, VISION AND MISSION

In 2017, the tenth anniversary of the opening of The Exchange, the Board and staff team worked to refresh our values, vision and mission. We reflected on our key recent achievements and agreed that those programmes that resulted in meaningful change in our immediate community resonated most strongly. We agreed that in our future work we would focus on the hyper-local, but drawing on new national partnerships to support that activity.

Vision

We believe that art can inspire and drive change

Values

Change-making

Rooted in place

Part of a global art dialogue

Our Mission

To connect Cornwall with visual arts internationally, for the benefit of the community and development of artists

Since then, major new partnerships with Arts Council Collection, through its National Partners Programme, with the National Portrait Gallery, and funders such as Jerwood Arts and the Paul Hamlyn Foundation have resulted in an increase in turn-over and staff capacity. This has enabled us to test community-centred approaches we'd not had the capacity to explore previously. Our work with communities has been well received locally and has attracted national attention.

The gallery is also a founder member of Plus Tate, a network of leading visual arts organisations across the UK that works to increase public value, to broaden and deepen engagement in the arts.

AN APPROACH, FIT FOR OUR TIMES

Over recent years we have refocused our work with contemporary artists around delivering outcomes that improve the lives of people in our community. Much of this work has been delivered in partnership with exceptional groups and charities such as Wild Young Parents, Black Voices Cornwall, Social Prescribing networks, The Intercom Trust, We Are With You, and YZUP. In this time, we have seen participants' lives change for the better and have many testimonials from people in crisis, who, as a result of our programmes have found the confidence to thrive.



Team installing some of the postcards from 6000 postcard correspondents from around the world. *Extraordinary Postcards for Extraordinary Times*. Newlyn Art Gallery. Sep 2022.



Climate emergency discussion taking place beneath Andre Kong's, *Elephant in the Room*. Storm Warning exhibition. 2024. The Exchange

THE TRUSTEES' ROLE

Whilst we don't expect all Trustees to be expert in all areas of governance, we do need to ensure that collectively the Board is able to provide the Gallery Director and team with access to a range of knowledge, skills, and experience to operate effectively. Collectively members of the Board of Trustees must:

- Commit to the vision and values of Newlyn Art Gallery Ltd
- Be willing to contribute their skill and expertise fully to the Board's collective decision-making
- Act as advocates for Newlyn Art Gallery Ltd
- Play an active role in the gallery's search for funding
- Accept the legal duties and responsibilities of trusteeship
- Be willing to devote the necessary time and effort to the role and in particular be available to attend Zoom Board meetings, support the Gallery Director and attend events as appropriate, and participate in sub-committees or groups as agreed
- Be able to work effectively as part of a team

Newlyn Art Gallery embraces diversity and equal opportunity. We are committed to building a team that represents a variety of backgrounds, perspectives, and skills. The more inclusive we are, the better our work will be. We don't look for culture fit, but culture add. We value all the perspectives our team brings to the table and we want to hear from you. We encourage you to apply even if you do not fit 100% of the requirements.

Being a Trustee is a voluntary role, however your expenses will be covered in order to support your work on behalf of the gallery. The law dictates that Trustees must be 18 or over but young and first-time Trustees are very welcome. New Trustees will be offered training and support, including mentoring if appropriate.

Applications from outside of Cornwall are welcomed. Trustees will be required to attend regular Board Meetings, on Teams or Zoom. We hope to be able to bring all Trustees together in Cornwall at least once a year.

TERM OF OFFICE

Trustees are usually appointed for a three-year term, however, younger Trustees may be offered a one-year appointment if this provides them with greater flexibility to pursue their medium-term educational or career plans. Trustees may be reappointed for a second term, at the discretion of the Chair.

HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested in joining our Board, we'd love to hear from you.

Your application should include a statement of no more than 500 words to explain why you are interested in the position. Alternatively you may prefer to make a short video of yourself, recorded on your phone, providing the same information. Either would be equally welcome. This information should be emailed to Miranda Bird, Chair of the Trustees: miranda.bird@newlynartgallery.co.uk

Application deadline: 17.00, FRI 20 SEP 2024.

We want to make sure we do all we can to make applying for this role a positive experience for you. Therefore if you require adjustments or additional support, please get in touch with James Green, Gallery Director, who will be happy to provide you with what you need.

James.green@newlynartgallery.co.co.uk or call 07729 333 016.



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