

Trustee Recruitment Brief

July 2023



Will Kendrick: Digital Art Residency: Touching Not Touching (2017)





The Warehouse - 14a Osney Lane - Oxford OX1 1NJ

We currently have a number of Trustee positions open and are looking for the following skills and beyond, to add to the existing Board members and ensure that OVADA can continue to grow:

Fundraising	Community Art Engagement
Financial	Strategic Arts Planning
Legal	Marketing

Our Trustees have an enthusiasm for locally-embedded, socially-engaged contemporary art and the drive to work with the Director, active Board of Trustees and a small team of dedicated staff to deliver this at OVADA.

The role of a Trustee includes the following;

- Defining the vision and values of the organisation and writing OVADA's mission statement, along with the Director
- Developing, writing and reviewing a strategic business plan, along with the Director
- Overseeing and monitoring the financial health of OVADA
- Analysing the current resources of the organisation responsibly and planning for the future
- Analysing information about the organisation and challenging it constructively
- Ensuring OVADA is a caring and competent employer
- Ensuring that staff are effective in their roles, function well as a team and are meeting their responsibilities for Health and Safety
- Advocating for OVADA
- Supporting and initiating fundraising
- Working towards making OVADA financially sustainable
- Appointing the Director and working closely with them







Megalith: Mechanimal 2022

The Board is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the equality and non-discrimination policy. This policy reinforces our ongoing commitment to provide equality and fairness across our employment, building users and visitors. OVADA opposes any form of (unfair or unlawful) discrimination on the grounds of race, disability, mental health, gender identity, gender expression, sex, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, nationality, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, marriage or civil partnership, age, political belief, employment status and/or socioeconomic background.

We particularly welcome applicants from diverse backgrounds which are currently under-represented on the Board.





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You will be working with an engaged and active Board of Trustees and a small team of dedicated staff.

Potential Trustees must be able to dedicate time to this unpaid voluntary role. There are 4-5 main meetings a year, plus additional meetings on specific topics, e.g. fundraising, and an annual away day.

What we are looking for in new Trustees:

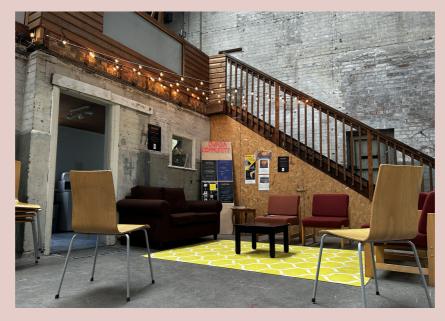
- Trustees should have specific and identifiable skills that they can use for their role
- To be advocates and ambassadors for OVADA and use their contact base for the benefit of OVADA
- To demonstrate a high level of commitment to OVADA as an organisation
- Be proactive and bring ideas to the table
- Enjoy working in a team

To apply please fill out this <u>form</u> by11.59pm Sunday 1 October 2023

We look forward to reading your applications, if you have any questions in the meantime, please contact Jan Crombie by <u>email</u>.







OVADA interior

Mission and Values

OVADA is an artist-led arts centre in Oxford, with a warehouse gallery, studios and an education space. Kindness and respect underpins everything we do, and we are here for;

Creativity: a space to experience the arts and share skills, supporting the delivery of innovative events, exhibitions, workshops and courses that are welcoming for all. Our warehouse is available for hire to realise creative projects.

Collaboration: and offer dynamic development opportunities, such as open calls, in-house studio spaces and residencies that encourage experimental, cross disciplinary and collaborative approaches.





Community: and strive to reflect our community through supporting socially engaging, inclusive work. We nurture and connect artists and creative communities through our Associates offer and network.

Our venue is unique to Oxford, and we aim to offer a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

We offer a cultural programme through a range of multi-disciplinary events that encompass visual arts, music, residencies, performance, film and theatre to appeal to a broad audience. OVADA is a hidden gem in the heart of Oxford and find we are welcoming new and existing visitors with each public event.

We are a part of the Cultural Partners in Oxford with whom we regularly work with collaboratively to deliver projects.



Eve Presents: Palindrome (2022)





Our History

OVADA is an artist-led arts centre in Oxford focused on creativity, collaboration and community.

OVADA (Oxfordshire Visual Arts Development Agency) was formed in 2004 as a response to Oxford's bid to be European City of Culture which brought together the City and County Councils, the Universities and the Arts Council. The aim was to develop the visual arts infrastructure, provide new opportunities for artists and develop a county-wide art festival that built on the success of Artweeks.

Originally based in Gloucester Green and East Oxford, OVADA moved into its current home in 2011. An ex-industrial warehouse in Osney Lane, central Oxford, it has a spectacular performance and exhibitions main space together with 5 artist's studios and an office and education workshop.

From the start, OVADA has been inclusive and interdisciplinary, including time-based media, installation, sound, music, performance, craft and photography as well as fine art. It has encouraged artists from the city and beyond, who take an innovative and exploratory approach to making art, through its studio and Associates schemes and by showing their work which has built new audiences for their art. Highlights of the programme have included *Protest*, which included work by Jimmy Cauty; *Dawn Rose Red*, a community celebration exploring gender and identity; *China*, work by contemporary Chinese diaspora artists, and the making of a lockdown quilt by our Associates. Nationally recognised artists such as Brian Catling, Jimmy Cauty, Hannah Brown, Tom Woolner and Ai Wei Wei have shown here.

For some years a highly-acclaimed art school operated from the warehouse, giving opportunities to artists from the local community who, for cultural or economic reasons, had not had traditional art training or who wanted to revitalise their practice in mid-career.





In 2021 Mita Vaghela was appointed Director and has led the organisation as it emerged from lockdown and forges a new community-focused identity and broadens audiences.



Dash Arts: Dido's Bar (2022)

