

JACKSONS LANE

NORTH LONDON'S
CREATIVE SPACE

INFORMATION PACK BECOMING A TRUSTEE





INTRODUCTION

Jacksons Lane is currently looking for new Trustees. If you are someone who is passionate about contemporary circus and the arts in general, and about engaging diverse communities through the arts and creativity, then we want to hear from you.

As a Trustee you would be part of a small group of committed, caring and positive Trustees that help make sure that as an arts centre and a charity we achieve our mission as the flagship arts and cultural venue in Haringey. This involves creating a year-round programme including the best in contemporary circus and family performance, arts participation, cultural education and outreach work for its community and the arts sector.

Jacksons Lane is a registered charity (Charity no. 1119318) and company limited by guarantee. We are governed and led by a Board of Trustees who give their time, energy and expertise to the organisation on a voluntary basis.

OUR TEAM AND OUR WORK

Jacksons Lane is run by a small but dynamic team, led by Executive Director Monique Deletant and Artistic Director Adrian Berry. We are experts in the creation, production, presentation and artist/audience development of contemporary circus theatre.

Alongside this we run a programme of outreach and creative learning work, using the arts and creativity to increase confidence, reduce isolation and improve well-being. Through all our work we have developed very strong partnerships with organisations locally, nationally and internationally.

Currently, we are undergoing a major transformation project of our building and are thinking strategically about the future and the opportunities that the new building will bring. As a Trustee you would bring your ideas, lived experience and voice to shaping our future.



The communities we serve and our creative plans:

- We work with hundreds of circus artists each year by commissioning and producing work, providing mentoring, year-round residencies, rehearsal space and advocacy. This includes supporting emerging artists in the creation of brand new work which often leads to sharings in our theatre and then full-scale productions.
- We work across Haringey with young people and older adults, to co-create artistic experiences and teach new skills. A high proportion of these participants are people who experience racism and those from lower income areas of the borough including Wood Green and Tottenham
- We have good relationships with other arts and learning organisations both locally, nationally and internationally, with strong connections to artists and organisations across Europe and as far as Australia and Canada
- We have a thriving social inclusion programme for older adults, helping them reconnect with their community and reducing social isolation and work with communities across all age groups throughout North London to provide Summer schools and activities.

Our plans for the next few years include:

- Growing the work we do to develop circus artists and increase the number of shows and workshops in the circus sector both at Jacksons Lane and on tour.
- Programming more shows in Jacksons Lane, including building upon our successful series of performances for families
- Working to build our education offer within schools in Haringey
- Restarting and extending the creative activities we do with older, socially isolated adults including building on our annual Christmas Day event.
- Ensuring our arts centre is full of activity from morning to evening with a variety of different classes, courses, events and performances to suit our diverse community.





WHAT DO OUR CURRENT TRUSTEES HAVE TO SAY ABOUT WHAT IT MEANS TO THEM?

For me it's incredibly rewarding to be helping such a great organisation. I'm constantly amazed at its range of activities and the huge number of people it reaches in both the creative and local community. As a Trustee you are involved in strategy, governance and financial security. Hugely challenging, but very rewarding at the same time...and you get to work with nice people!

I've learnt a huge amount from these Board discussions, particularly about the arts.

I have enjoyed helping people in my local community for many years. Everyone needs a bit of help at some point in their lives and Jacksons Lane is there to help a lot of people.

I first applied to become a Trustee of Jacksons Lane because, having lived close to it for years, I really enjoyed the stunning performances I had seen there and wanted to contribute to the theatre thriving. Since becoming a Trustee, I am even more excited and impressed by the enormous range of circus and outreach work delivered not only in the building but in many other locations and, increasingly, also online, and by the sheer energy and creativity that emanates from the amazing people who make it all happen.



ABOUT YOU

Do I have to have been a Trustee before?

No, previous experience as a trustee is not necessary. Our Board is a very supportive group that values the experiences and contributions of every member regardless of whether they have been a Trustee before. As part of the recruitment process you will also have the opportunity to speak to different current members of our board to answer any questions you may have, and to ensure you have everything you need.

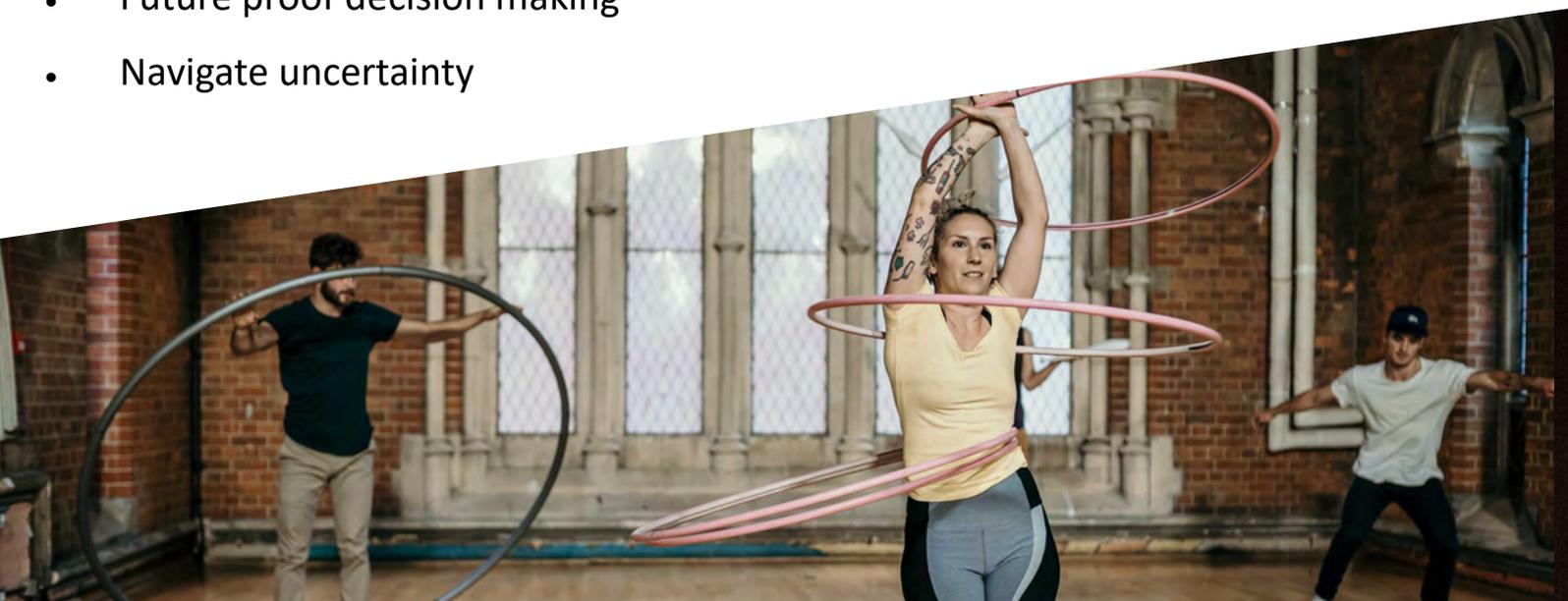
Who we are looking for

We think it's important our trustees reflect the voices, backgrounds and experiences of the range of communities we serve. We recognise that at the moment this is not adequately the case and is something we want to address through this call out.

You should have a passion for the arts and empowering creativity for people of all ages and backgrounds. At present, those with a background in Finance/Company Law, Digital Media and Communications or Performing Arts/Circus Arts would be particularly beneficial to strengthen our existing group, however we welcome applications from all interested candidates.

Having you on our board will help us:

- Bring new and innovative ideas
- Reflect the interests of the communities we serve
- Invest in the future of charity leaders
- Future proof decision making
- Navigate uncertainty



What does a Trustee do and what will I get out of it?

Being a trustee is a real responsibility. It involves overseeing and supporting the work of the organisation to ensure it meets its goals, is financially sustainable and effectively led by the executive team. The UK Government website has a useful section all about what Trustees need to do and be aware of here: <https://bit.ly/3hdSINB>

In addition to the above, for Jacksons Lane being a Trustee means:

- Helping us make sure all the decisions we make are about creating brilliant work and that we continue to be the UK's leading venue and supporter for contemporary circus.
- Thinking big about Jacksons Lane and the planning for our future to make sure we are financially secure and sustainable.
- Contributing ideas to make sure we are aware of current trends and are developing the right projects for our communities
- Being part of recruiting the Executive team so we have the right people with the right skills in place
- Being a champion of the company and helping get the word out about what we do.
- Coming along to shows and events to support the team and share in our successes.
- You'll be asked to attend board meetings, around 4-6 per year. (but this can be a mixture of in person or online via platforms like Teams and Zoom depending on your circumstances)
- You'll also be asked to attend annual 'Away Days' – which is where we spend a full day together thinking creatively about our plans and ambitions.





HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested in joining us as a trustee, please contact Andy (details below) and we will arrange an informal chat with one of our existing trustees.

This would take place on zoom, and last no longer than 1 hour. It will be a relaxed and informal session where you can meet a member of the team, find out a bit more about the board and ask any questions you may have. Following this meeting we would then invite you to send a copy of your CV and a short cover letter

Jacksons Lane has a strong commitment within all our recruitment to increase the diversity of our staff and trustees. We welcome applications from all individuals and will respond to all applicants. This is a rolling recruitment with no fixed deadline.

If you wish to arrange an informal chat with one of our existing trustees, or have any further questions about the process please contact andy@jacksonslane.org.uk.

Access, support and expenses

Being a trustee is a volunteer role, so although you won't get paid, but we will cover all your costs and expenses for taking part. We will also assist with any access requirements you may have in order to complete your role.

As a trustee, you would also be invited to company events, performances taking place at the venue and other exciting opportunities to learn more about the work we do as an organisation.