

# Bradford— Arts Centre

**2026 Trustee Recruitment Pack**



Thank you for your interest in becoming a Trustee of Bradford Arts Centre.

It's an exciting time to be joining our Board. In 2025, the company completed a major redevelopment of our arts centre, reopening as Bradford Arts Centre during Bradford's year as UK City of Culture.

As we build on the legacy of this incredible year, we are looking to further strengthen our Board with the appointment of up to three new Trustees. We would be particularly interested to hear from people with **Business Management, Education and/or Community Engagement, Finance** or **Programming** experience.

If you are interested in applying to become a Trustee we'd encourage you to first read the Charity Commission's essential trustee guidance which can be found [here](#). This guidance explains the key duties and responsibilities of all Trustees of charities in England and Wales, and what Trustees need to do to carry out these duties.

Trustees are expected to attend four Board meetings a year (with remote attendance possible for at least two of these), represent Bradford Arts Centre at external events, and attend at least one performance at our venue each season. This role is not paid, but we do cover any expenses that you might incur whilst delivering your responsibilities (including lost income for joining meetings).

We would welcome an application from anyone who feels they have the skills to meet the currently advertised roles, and we would be very interested to receive applications from people with lived experience that is currently under-represented in the arts sector and on our Board.

At the end of this Trustee Pack you will find descriptions of the specific vacancies we have for Board members. No prior experience of being part of a Board is necessary. We will provide any relevant training required and you will find fellow Trustees and Staff here to support and help you as you learn the role.

There has never been a more exciting time to join us so we hope you will consider applying!

We look forward to hearing from you.

*The Board of Trustees*

Dr Sufyan Abid Dogra | Sameena Hussain | Marie O'Reilly | Deepak Sharma |  
Rashmi Sudhir | James Wilson



## About Bradford Arts Centre

Bradford Arts Centre is here for everyone. Whether you're taking time out, exploring your creativity, developing new work, or seeing exceptional South Asian dance and contemporary performance — this is your space.

We want people to feel at home. Tickets for our performances start at £1 and we offer studio space and tailored support for artists at affordable rates, alongside high-quality meeting room hire in a stimulating building.

Originally founded as Kala Sangam in 1993, we moved into Bradford's former General Post Office in 2008. Following a multi-million pound redevelopment, we are proud to have returned to our beautifully restored Grade II listed home under our new name, Bradford Arts Centre.

Situated in one of the most deprived wards in the city, 80% of the population local to our Arts Centre are 'least engaged' with arts and culture. Our audiences and participants are some of the most diverse in the country – in 2024/25, 48% of our audience were non-white British (compared to an average of 15% nationally) with 29% of South Asian heritage. Every year we enrich the lives of thousands of people as audience members for performances in our theatre, visitors to our spaces, and through schools and outreach delivery.

The company is a Registered Charity and Company Limited by Guarantee.

## Our Programming Strands

Focusing primarily on dance, theatre and music, all artistic, education and outreach activity delivered at Bradford Arts Centre aligns with at least one of our programming strands:

### **This Is Bradford**

Putting the organisation at the heart of arts delivery in the city, we offer rehearsal space, development support and performance opportunities to local artists and companies. We also bring work to Bradford which addresses societal issues for the city or is relevant to one of its many communities.

### **South Asia Now**

We programme work by South Asian artists and organisations, or that showcases artforms from South Asia. A priority is placed on presenting work which develops the artform or is created by British people of South Asian heritage.

### **British Diversity**

To ensure we are at the forefront of what it means to live in modern Britain, we support the creation of work which looks at cultural heritage in this context or is actively diversity-focused. This strand also covers work that fuses together different artforms, styles and cultures.



## Trustee vacancies

Bradford Arts Centre is looking to recruit up to three exceptional individuals who are passionate about the arts, Bradford and its communities, to join its Board of Trustees.

We are specifically looking for brilliant people with experience of **Business Management, Education and/or Community Engagement, Finance** and **Programming** to fill current vacancies on our Board.

Brief outlines of the roles and responsibilities for each Trustee position are outlined below. We would welcome a conversation with anyone who felt they could bring something to one of these posts.

### Trustee – Business Management

This Trustee supports the Chair and Senior Management Team through oversight of how our business operates. The Trustee will work with the Chair to ensure the company's Policies and Procedures are best practice, and that our operations – including Governance – work well.

Desirable attributes:

- Experience of Business Plan creation
- Experience of developing and implementing best practice Policies
- Knowledge of up to date Health and Safety practices
- Experience of running a cultural business or venue
- HR or Legal expertise

### Trustee – Education & Outreach

This Trustee oversees Kala Sangam's delivery in schools and community settings, providing support and guidance to the company's Head of Community Engagement and their staff.

Desirable attributes:

- Direct experience of working within, or supporting, schools within the last 5 years – ideally in the Bradford district.
- A clear understanding of the current Primary and/or Secondary Curriculum.
- Experience of successfully engaging diverse, multicultural communities.
- Experience of creating, budgeting and delivering community focused projects.
- Experience of authoring/managing successful funding bids to deliver outreach activity.

## **Trustee – Finance (Treasurer)**

The Treasurer oversees the financial matters of the charity, ensuring budgets are accurate and the financial health of the organisation is accurately represented at Board meetings. They are responsible for oversight of the company's Annual Accounts, prepared by the Head of Finance working with external auditors.

Desirable attributes:

- A formal accounting qualification or significant relevant experience.
- Experience of authoring and maintaining budgets of £1m+.
- Experience of managing the finances for cultural activity.
- Clear understanding of the financial regulations related to the charity sector.

## **Trustee – Programming**

This new Trustee position will support the Programming and Artist Development Manager, having oversight of our annual performance programmes to ensure high quality and that each of our Programming strands is well represented. Alongside our Artistic Trustees, the Trustee will also have an eye on our Artist Development programmes and studio usage, engaging with the company's Artist Advisory Group when needed.

Desirable attributes:

- Experience of programming and contracting artistic performances.
- An up to date and broad range of knowledge about current performance and artform developments – particularly dance.
- Experience supporting artists to secure and manage Project Grants funding.

### **We expect all Trustees to have the following attributes:**

- An understanding of, support for and commitment to Bradford Arts Centre's artistic strategy and values.
- The ability to represent the organisation and its strategic aims at events and external meetings.
- A strong commitment to diversity and equality.

## **How to apply**

If you would like a confidential, informal discussion before applying, please contact Bradford Arts Centre's CEO, Alex Croft ([alex.croft@bdartscentre.co.uk](mailto:alex.croft@bdartscentre.co.uk)), who will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Alex will also be happy to arrange for you to speak to one of Bradford Arts Centre's current Trustees should you wish.

To apply to join our Board of Trustees, please email a copy of your CV and a covering letter stating why you are interested in becoming a Trustee to: [alex.croft@bdartscentre.co.uk](mailto:alex.croft@bdartscentre.co.uk)

**Closing date for applications is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026.**

Applications will be reviewed by Trustees at Bradford Arts Centre's April Board meeting, with selected candidates offered the chance for an initial informal meeting with representatives from the Board in May.

Selected candidates will then be offered the opportunity to observe the company's Summer Board meeting, before formal appointments are then made at the organisations October Board meeting.

**Thank you for your interest in this position.**

### **Images:**

Pg 2 – Jaivant Patel Company - ASTITVA, Pg 4 – Akeim Toussaint Buck- Free, Pg 6 – Ella Tighe – Disco Queen, Pg 10 – MOV Dance Theatre – The Gathering | All photography by Karol Wyszynski

