

Bradford— Arts Centre

2026 Treasurer 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 a Chartered Accountant to act as the Board's **Treasurer**.

If you are interested in joining our Board of Trustees, 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 and qualifications to be Treasurer, and we would be very interested to receive applications from people with lived experience that is currently under-represented in the arts sector or on our Board.

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. At the end of this Trustee Pack you will find a description of the specific roles and responsibilities of the Treasurer.

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

We look forward to hearing from you.

The Board of Trustees

Deepak Sharma (Chair)
Dr Sufyan Abid Dogra
Debbani Ghosh
Rashmi Sudhir
Tanja Tolar
James Wilson



About Us

2026 sees Bradford Arts Centre established in our reopened flagship arts centre, with a nationally growing reputation as a place of critical support for performing artists, particularly dancers and those working in Indian Classical performance artforms, and as a company that can successfully deliver major strategic funded projects.

Over the next 5 years, we want to ‘make everything feel more possible’ by providing an inspiring home for creativity, ideas and outstanding dance and performance that reflects the way we live now, all housed inside Bradford’s newly restored, historic old Post Office in the heart of the city.

Bradford Arts Centre is located in one of the most socio-economically deprived areas in the UK, but we are **dedicated to making the performing arts accessible to everyone**, with tickets available from £1 for most performances, and studio hire rates set to ensure they are affordable for our local communities and artists. Our audiences and participants are some of the most diverse in the country with around half every year identifying as something other than white British compared to an average of just 15% in England.

Our building is one of very few funded arts spaces in the district and is a true cultural hub, home to nine other cultural organisations: NPO Dance United Yorkshire; Bradford Producing Hub; Bradford Cultural Voice Forum; BCB Radio; Our Associate Companies (Rhythmosaic Dance, Mobius Dance, Bradford South Asian Festival and Wrongsemble); and MOV Dance Theatre.

We want to bring people together under our roof to share cultural experiences. At a time when the role of AI is changing the way we live our lives and create art, we plan to remain a people-centred organisation. We are a safe space for performing artists to start, grow and maintain creative careers in uncertain times; a key space for businesses to meet; and a company who knows how to deliver impactful community engagement.

Our Values



Our History

Bradford Arts Centre was founded in 1993 as **Kala Sangam** (from the Sanskrit – Kala meaning ‘Arts’ and Sangam meaning ‘meeting point’) by Dr Shripati Upadhyaya. Working alongside his wife, the company’s first Artistic Director Dr Geetha Upadhyaya, their dream was to establish a unique organisation that delivered high quality South Asian arts through innovative collaborations that were accessible to people of all ages and abilities. Having formed in Leeds, the company moved to Bradford in 1996. Through the support of Arts Council England, in 2007 the organisation purchased a permanent home in the beautiful Grade II listed St Peter’s House.

Since 2017 the company has built on these solid foundations to grow into a truly intercultural hub for performing arts – particularly dance – in Bradford district. Support for performance artists who come from and reflect Bradford’s diverse communities has increased significantly and now sits at the forefront of everything we do. Within this wider offer we have retained, and grown, our specialist support and programming in Indian Classical dance and wider South Asian heritage performance styles.

The company retains a strong connection with its Founders. In March 2026, Bradford Arts Centre held the sold-out UK Launch of **Kala Sangam Global**, with the two companies becoming International Partners, committed to co-programming and support. We are privileged to have Dr Geetha as Bradford Arts Centre’s Honorary Lifetime President.

Responding to the findings of an independent community consultation, in 2025 the company changed its name to Bradford Arts Centre to try and better reflect its current delivery and make the building more accessible and relevant to its local communities. Initial evaluation indicates that this has been a huge success – with record attendances for our Autumn 2026 season, including more visitors of South Asian heritage than ever before.

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.



Treasurer vacancy

Bradford Arts Centre is looking to recruit an exceptional individual who is passionate about the arts, Bradford and its communities, to join its Board of Trustees as **Treasurer**.

A brief outline of the role and responsibilities for the Treasurer position are outlined below. We would welcome a conversation with anyone who feels they could successfully deliver in this position but, in line with the expectations of our funders, the successful candidate will be a qualified Chartered Accountant.

Trustee – 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 and final sign-off of the company's Annual Accounts, prepared by the Head of Finance working with external auditors, and for quarterly oversight of the company's budget and cashflow.

Working with the Head of Finance, they will ensure our financial ways of working and reporting are best practice.

Essential attributes:

- A formal Chartered Accountancy qualification.
- Clear understanding of the financial regulations related to the charity sector.

Desirable attributes:

- Experience of authoring and maintaining budgets of £1m+.
- Experience of overseeing/managing finances for cultural or charitable business.
- Experience working within finance in a venue.

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), 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

Applications will be reviewed by Trustees at their next quarterly Board meeting, with selected candidates then offered the chance for an informal meeting with representatives from the Board and CEO.

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

Thank you for your interest in this position.

Images:

Pg 2 – Jaivant Patel Company – ASTITVA

Pg 4 – Akeim Toussaint Buck- Free

Pg 7 – Ella Tighe – Disco Queen,

Pg 10 – MOV Dance Theatre – The Gathering

All photography by Karol Wyszynski

