

TERRESTRIAL – Information for Trustees

TERRESTRIAL is currently building its first Board of Trustees. We hope this small group will become our closest advisors and greatest champions.

As a new organisation, we are looking for Trustees who will bolster our Board's collective expertise. This is an exciting opportunity to help foster the charity through its early years. We hope to hear from people with experience of some of the following: organisational strategy, arts programming and commissioning, charity governance, finance and fundraising, and working with community groups (perhaps as an artist, organiser or volunteer).

We are very keen that our board has representatives from a diverse range of backgrounds and sectors. If you have any questions, or would like to find out more, please get in touch.

WHAT WE DO

TERRESTRIAL is a new arts commissioning and producing organisation based in the West of England (comprising the counties of North Somerset, Bath & North East Somerset, South Gloucestershire and Bristol).

We want to provide opportunities for people living in, working in, and visiting the region to create and share extraordinary arts experiences. We're particularly keen to collaborate with people outside city centres, with people facing barriers that make it harder for them to access cultural events, and with people who have been led to feel that the arts are 'not for them'.

We believe that artists are great instigators: they are often brilliant at sniffing out underground stories, asking difficult questions, or getting the party started. We want to support artists to create bold, surprising experiences – from intimate concerts to large-scale outdoor adventures – in direct *co-authorship* with groups of local people. We want to invest in artists' time to take risks and learn from these experiences.

We know that building trust amongst community groups – many of whom face multiple disadvantages or feel that the arts are not for them – takes time. So we will embed artists over lengthy periods, with the emphasis being as much on the *process* of coming together to explore ideas as on the product (eg. creating a show or event). Some of these projects will be presented at an annual festival, which will take place in a different town within the region each year.

In the first years of the charity's life, we will be establishing a model for TERRESTRIAL's work. This will involve testing ideas and relationships, commissioning new projects, training artists and producers, building local infrastructure, fundraising, connecting with

other socially-engaged arts producers around the UK and further afield, and campaigning for support from local councils and businesses.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

Charity Trustees are, by law, volunteers. We will cover expenses to attend board meetings and away days. We are hugely grateful for our Trustees offering their time, and hope to always create a warm and appreciative environment.

Our Board meetings will generally be held four times each year, normally in Bristol, and we expect trustees to attend the majority of them (for some people, this might mean occasionally joining via skype). Meetings will last around three hours, and we'll circulate papers in advance so everyone will know what's on the agenda. Once per year we will arrange an away day, in which we take the whole Board out somewhere further afield for a longer session to explore the future of the charity. Our Trustees serve for three years, at which point they can be re-elected or choose to step down.

The Board of Trustees is legally responsible for the organisation – it makes sure that we stick to our mission, abide by all the appropriate laws, uphold policies (around safeguarding and equal opportunities, for example), report correctly to HMRC and the Charities Commission, and remain financially solvent.

APPLICATION PROCESS

If you have any questions about what's involved in becoming a Trustee, or would like to know more about TERRESTRIAL's work, please feel free to contact Director Tom Spencer for an informal chat. tom@terrestrial.org.uk

To apply to join our Board, please send us a short letter by email outlining how you think your knowledge and experience could help TERRESTRIAL carry out its work. Please reference any relevant professional or voluntary experience (this can be as a CV or within your letter). You are welcome to apply in an alternative format (video, for example) if this is a more comfortable way for you to introduce yourself.

Email applications to: **hello@terrestrial.org.uk**

Deadline for applications: **9th February 2018**

Interviews: **Late February 2018**

Start date: **April 2018**