



Board of Trustees

Recruitment Pack

October 2024



This is an exciting time to join Fuel's Board of Trustees as we deliver our 20th anniversary programme and build our ambitions for the next 20 years. The Board are integral to Fuel's success, acting in the company's best interests, ensuring due diligence and making key governance decisions.

We are excited to be recruiting two to three new Board Members with skills and experience they can bring to support and challenge us to be the best we can be.

Our Board is made up of dedicated individuals who bring a diverse range of perspectives, from different industries and professions, and we welcome applications from a broad range of candidates. At this point, we are particularly looking for candidates who can bring skills in HR, management and leadership; fundraising, partnership building and commercial expertise; and marketing and communications.

At Fuel, close collaboration with artists is at the heart of our work and artist representation on our Board is essential. We are therefore also looking to hear from artists who are passionate about our work and Fuel's role in the industry and who are interested in an advocacy and governance opportunity. You do not need any previous Board experience; we will provide full governance training and a clear induction.

Thank you so much for your interest, and we would love to hear from you.

Kate McGrath
Artistic Director & CEO



About Fuel

Fuel leads the field in independent producing in the UK's live performance sector, working with brilliant artists to explore urgent questions, to shine light on how we relate to each other and the world around us, and to tell untold stories by under-represented voices. From theatres to car parks, from schools to public spaces, Fuel produces high quality new theatre that reaches diverse audiences across the UK and internationally. Fuel collaborates with outstanding theatre makers with fresh perspectives and approaches who produce shows, performances or experiences which have direct and playful relationships with their audiences.

Fuel is celebrated for its pioneering producing model that develops innovative ideas through attentive collaboration, a spirit of curiosity, and an emphasis on trust. Fuel has developed a reputation for spirited and surprising new theatre, deep relationships with a wide range of artists, and passionate commitment to inclusion and care for young and diverse audiences.

Fuel was founded in 2004 and is led by Kate McGrath. Since its story began, Fuel has produced shows, festivals, films, installations, podcasts, apps and books. In doing so, Fuel has supported the artistic development of over 120 lead artists or companies and reached more than 1.5 million people, live and digitally, hosted over a hundred internships and been recognised with awards for its work. Fuel is currently working with artists and companies including Will Adamsdale, Khalid Abdalla, Jay Bernard, Common Wealth, Inua Ellams, Alan Lane, Hannah Lavery, Racheal Ofori, Toby Olié, Joelle Taylor, Keisha Thompson, Suspect Culture, Uninvited Guests and Melanie Wilson.



Our Values

The discovery of the new relies on curiosity. It is at the heart of how we work as a team, keeping us open to surprises, risks and learning, and we celebrate it in the artists and colleagues we collaborate with.

CURIOSITY

Producing is creating something new in collaboration with others. In producing we seek to embolden, support and celebrate the creativity of everyone we work with and for.

CREATIVITY

Trust is the foundation on which people take risks and collaborate productively. We work hard to build trust by delivering on our promises, and we invite our audiences to trust us as we invite them to be part of a magical moment of live collaboration.

TRUST



Our Values

Only through taking risks, and learning from our successes and our mistakes, can we create genuinely insightful and affecting work. We believe listening and learning can enable everyone we work with to achieve their potential.

LEARNING

Performance is representation and we believe the people who make it and experience it should be representative of the diversity of the world we live in. We seek to break down barriers and enable everyone to participate freely in cultural life.

REPRESENTATION

We are working towards a zero waste, zero carbon future and are committed to massive reduction in the carbon cost of our work. We believe it is possible and essential to create art without further harming the earth for future generations.

SUSTAINABILITY

Our Current Programme

Our programme this year encompasses brand new commissions and collaborations with artists, partners and communities across the UK and beyond, as well as bringing back some of Fuel's most popular projects of recent years to celebrate our 20th anniversary.

Fuel's 20th anniversary season includes world premieres of *Nowhere* by Khalid Abdalla and *There's a Bear on My Chair* by Toby Olié. We are also remounting two of our most successful performances for new audiences: *Common Wealth's Peaceophobia* and *Uninvited Guests' Love Letters Straight From Your Heart*.

Digital work includes *Dreaming Species*, an online listening experience by Melanie Wilson and *Fuelling Change*, a podcast series by Fuel's Artistic Director and CEO Kate McGrath.

We are developing new work with artists including Michael Henry, Joelle Taylor, Inua Ellams, Jay Bernard, Suspect Culture, Lucian Msamati, Racheal Ofori, Oona Doherty, Will Adamsdale, Rachel Bagshaw and Natalie Ibu, and will deliver a puppetry training programme for Global Majority artists with Fred Davis.

Fuel is proud to work in collaboration with a brilliant cohort of artists and a range of partner organisations to create this programme across the UK and beyond.

Protest. Photo: Oluwatosin Daniju.



Governance at Fuel

Fuel is governed by a Board of Trustees who offer guidance and expertise to the CEO and wider team, acting as a critical friend when needed. The Board are passionate advocates for Fuel's work and the role it plays in the sector and are expected to attend performances and events regularly to support the team with relationship building with key stakeholders.

Our current trustees are Nadine Benjamin, Sean Egan (Co-Chair), Lilli Geissendorfer (Co-Chair), Joe Hallgarten, Akiyawerikumo Henry, Sue Hoyle, Wendy Martin, Kate McGrath, Jenny Sealey and Shail Thaker. Please visit [here](#) for more information about them.

All Trustees are responsible for all decisions made by the Board during their term of office.

Please note, being a Board member is voluntary and thus an unpaid position.

Trustees can be based in any location as long as they are eligible to be a charity trustee in the UK.

For more information about being a charity trustee, visit [here](#).

Meetings

Meetings are held four times a year (usually in June, September, December and March), generally on a Wednesday from 10am till 12pm, in person at Somerset House in London. It is also possible to attend via Zoom. Agendas are circulated one week ahead of a Board meeting.

Desired Skills and Experience

We are looking for Board members who are:

- committed to advancing Fuel's vision and mission, and upholding Fuel's values;
- willing and able to commit time and energy to support the organisation to be well managed and meet legal and funding commitments;
- prepared to uphold their legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship.

We welcome applications from a broad range of candidates. At this point, we are particularly looking for candidates who can bring skills in HR, management and leadership; fundraising, partnership building and commercial expertise; and marketing and communications.

We welcome expressions of interest from all suitably qualified persons, regardless of race, sex, disability, sexual orientation, religion/belief or age. We actively welcome interest from those currently under-represented in the arts sector.

Expression of Interest

To register your interest in this opportunity please complete an [Expression of Interest form](#) and [Equal Opportunities form](#) by 10am, Monday 18th November 2024.

We want you to complete your expression of interest in a way that is comfortable for you. We will accept video and audio files that answer the questions listed in the expression of interest form. Please ensure your video or audio file is no longer than 5 minutes.

If you would like to have an informal conversation about this opportunity, please contact Kate McGrath, Artistic Director & CEO on kate@fueltheatre.com.

Next Steps

- We will contact everyone who applies to confirm we have received your Expression of Interest.
- We will arrange an informal conversation with one of the Co-Chairs of the Board and Artistic Director & CEO for anyone we think is a good fit. These will be held on the 25th, 26th or 28th of November 2024, either in-person or via Zoom.
- We may ask you for referees to be suggested by you.
- Any new Board Members must be proposed to the Board and would be formally appointed at a board meeting in December with a view to joining in 2025.

If you are interested in being a member of our Board, we would love to hear from you!