



Devonshire Collective is seeking new Trustees to play a key role in shaping the organisation's future.

This is an exciting time to join Devonshire Collective. We opened our new gallery space in September 2020, and recently appointed a new Director, Edward Ball, to work with the Board on developing and delivering a new strategic vision. This vision sees us working more closely with our local communities whilst expanding our creative profile nationally. To do this we need to ensure that the organisation remains ambitious, resilient, and financially stable.

Devonshire Collective is committed to ensuring equitable working environments and programme activity. We are seeking new Board Members who have specialist or lived experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Equal opportunities
- Governance
- Property and capital development
- Legal
- Environmental sustainability
- Marketing & communications
- HR
- Connections to communities in Eastbourne and/or the surrounding region

We consider diversity a strength and are keen to make our organisation's Board, staffing and programming more representative of the different backgrounds and experiences that make up our communities. We acknowledge the multiple barriers that many communities face, and we work to remove these in our programmes and organisation.

We particularly welcome applications from people who are currently underrepresented in the UK arts sector, including those from Global Ethnic Majority backgrounds, those who identify as D/deaf, disabled or neurodivergent, LGBTQIA+, are early in their careers and those from lower socio-economic backgrounds or living or working in areas of socio-economic deprivation.

Trustees are not paid for their time, however we are able to reimburse trustees for expenses incurred in traveling to attend Board meetings, for any access needs and/or childcare, or care of other dependants, while attending meetings.

Board meetings are currently taking place virtually, on a monthly basis.

Background

Devonshire Collective is a network of creative spaces and activities located on Seaside Road, Eastbourne. Seaside Road sits within the Devonshire Ward – a diverse area with a strong sense of community, but one that is measured in the top 10% most economically deprived areas in the UK. Devonshire Collective was set up as part of a wider regeneration project in the Devonshire Ward and aims to enliven the area by creating opportunities for local people to engage with art, culture and education. In a socio-economically deprived area, many communities face barriers and difficulties accessing cultural activities; Devonshire Collective strives to make art accessible for all.

Devonshire Collective is comprised of three areas of operation:

- **VOLT** is Devonshire Collective's newly refurbished and rebranded gallery and project space, housing our exhibitions and events programme and acting as the public face of Devonshire Collective. VOLT creates a platform for emerging artists in the region, and regularly collaborates with local community groups to stage exhibitions and projects.
- **DC Learn** focuses on community outreach and provides education opportunities to families and young people within the Devonshire ward. DC Learn produces workshops and courses on a variety of art historical subjects, developmental skills and artistic practices, often designed to respond to the exhibitions on display at VOLT.
- **Makerspace** houses artist studios and Eastbourne Studio Pottery. Our artist studios provide vital affordable workspaces for local artists and small creative business people, while Eastbourne Studio Pottery works with local people and community groups to provide affordable and accessible ceramics workshops.

Staff Team

Edward Ball > Director Devonshire Collective

Adam Spain > Volt Exhibitions & Development Manager

Angela Elliott > Finance, Admin & Communications

Gina Leonard > DC Learn Coordinator

Heidi Turner > Site Administrator

Board Members

Lucy Day (Chair) > Director of A Woman's Place Projects. She was recently appointed Interim Director of Phoenix Art Space, Brighton.

Joe Hill > Director and CEO of Towner Eastbourne, Art Fund Museum of the Year 2020

Claire Shoosmith > Socially Engaged Artist Environmental Education Co-director and founder of Eastbourne Studio Pottery.

Noelle Collins > Exhibitions & Offsite Curator at Towner Eastbourne

Hannah Jordan > Operations and Programme Manager at Rye Creative Centre

Marie Burgess > former Headteacher and independent education consultant

Steve Dwyer > former Tax Director at PwC - Global Enterprise Tax Solutions

Chris Connelley > Specialist Advisor, Conservation, Eastbourne & Lewes Councils; Arts Ambassador for Eastbourne Borough Council

For the purposes of this brief, Devonshire Collective and 'the organisation' refer to Devonshire Collective CIC, a registered Community Interest Company. We are a private company limited by guarantee without share capital.

What does a Trustee do?

As a trustee you:

- Give overall governance to Devonshire Collective, setting the direction and overseeing its activities
- Ensure Devonshire Collective is always working towards its objectives outlined in our governing documents
- Advocate for Devonshire Collective's vision, mission and values internally and externally
- Promote and enable equity and diversity

You will do this by being:

- Committed to Devonshire Collective and its purpose

- Prepared to make strong and constructive recommendations, and willing to speak your mind
- Able to contribute to policy and business development and implementation
- Available to staff for advice and enquiries on an ad hoc basis
- Able to give the necessary time to being an effective trustee (i.e. attending monthly Board meetings, participating in sub-committees and attending major events – between 6-12 days commitment per year).

You do not need any prior experience of being a trustee, Devonshire Collective provides a full induction for every new trustee.

Board meetings are currently taking place virtually and we will continue to offer virtual means of joining meetings in the future.

Trustees are appointed for an initial term of 3 years. Currently the maximum term for trustees is 6 years.

Skills and Diversity Priorities

Devonshire Collective recognises, respects and values people's differences. We aim to create a workplace:

- where diversity is valued and conditions support an individual's need
- where we devise and deliver a programme that champions diverse voices
- which supports individuals who may have faced barriers to developing their creative practice
- where we work to transform inequities in our sector and in the communities we serve.

We understand that if Devonshire Collective is to achieve these goals, our staff, trustees and the practitioners we work with need to reflect the diversity of Eastbourne and the region, and to understand the interests and cultures of the individuals and communities who live here.

Support and Access

We are committed to making our opportunities accessible to all and supporting those facing barriers to apply or to become a trustee. If you would like to have an informal conversation about the role and any access requirements – please contact the chair, Lucy Day lucy@lucyday.co.uk. We will also work with each appointed trustee on an access 'rider' document in order to outline and address any access requirements.

Application Process

For an informal conversation about the role please contact the Chair, Lucy Day via email to lucy@lucyday.co.uk ,

Applications should be sent by email to lucy@lucyday.co.uk , to or by post to Lucy Day, Chair, 67-69 Seaside Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, United Kingdom, BN21 3PL. We also accept audio or video files.

Please include the following information:

- A cover letter of no more than 2 sides of A4 or 4 minutes long, outlining why you would like to be a trustee at Devonshire Collective, how your skills and experience meet what we are seeking and what you hope to gain from being involved with Devonshire Collective
- A CV of no more than three sides of A4 Please also complete the Equal Opportunities form. This information will be recorded anonymously and will be held separately from your proposal and play no part in the selection process.

Applications for this role are ongoing.

Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed by our Board Directors and scored against how the applicant meets our required skills & experience (see above).

Appointment Process

Successful applicants will be offered an opportunity to observe a forthcoming Board Meeting and ask questions of the Board and Director.

Following a successful appointment your details will be submitted to Companies House in line with our legal requirements.