

Recruitment for Bright Shadow Trustee Board

About Bright Shadow

Bright Shadow is a organisation limited by guarantee with non-profit making articles of association. Bright Shadow sprung into life in 2009 as the idea of two Applied Performance graduates Katy Hirst and Rhiannon Lane as a way of continuing their Masters degree work and research of using performance with people living with dementia as well as working with the wider community. In 2011 Bright Shadow was registered with Companies House and in early 2014 the Directors took the decision to phase out their work with the wider community to focus on their work with people living with dementia and their carers.

The organisation currently delivers multi-sensory and participatory themed performance workshops in care settings alongside training for care staff in how to use creativity and performance activities with people living with dementia in order to reduce feelings of loneliness, boredom and helplessness. Their work has been predominantly conducted in the South East to date, but with enquiries coming in from all over the UK the Directors are now re-building the business model to allow them to be able to respond effectively to the needs of the market. They are also in the process of becoming a charity. This is an exciting time in the organisation's development and we are looking for Trustees who can help push the organisation forward through this next phase.

Bright Shadow's mission is to enable people with dementia and those affected by it to live well and to thrive.

We do this through using creativity and performance to celebrate the present moment and create means and opportunities for people with dementia to express themselves, to interact with others and to take part in meaningful activities. We also deliver creative projects to raise awareness of dementia, to advocate for those whom it affects and to enable people with dementia to actively enjoy their communities.

The Role of Trustees

We are a small but growing organisation with energy, passion and opportunities on our horizon. We are looking for Trustees, especially those with legal and financial expertise, to walk with us on this next crucial stage of our journey. Trustees are responsible for the governance and strategic management as well as acting as active and enthusiastic advocates for Bright Shadow. We need enthusiastic people that are willing to support us in finding creative approaches to addressing the challenges of dementia in our communities.

The Trustees acting individually and collectively have an overall stewardship responsibility for the well-being of Bright Shadow, providing strategic direction, ensuring that it works effectively towards its vision and mission, harnessing its resources to maximum effect and upholding its core ethos and values and fulfilling a duty of care, in accordance with its governing documents, relevant legislation and regulatory requirements.

The successful candidates will possess strong legal or financial expertise, track record in the charitable or commercial sector, with the ability to develop vision, working with others in strategic decision-making.

As well as this professional experience, prospective candidates will need to:

- Have time to dedicate to this demanding role;
- Have empathy with the charitable objectives of the organisation;
- Have the ability, commitment and drive to take the organisation forward;
- Understanding of the demands and climate of the health and social care sector for older people living with dementia.

Currently there are four trustees. They will meet 4 times a year (once a quarter) either in London or Kent. Initial commitment is for a one-year term with optional continuation at the end of that initial year.

Preferred Skills

Skill	The type of person we're looking for:
General	People who understand and are passionate about how the arts, particularly performance, can impact on an individual's sense of wellbeing and the role of the arts in enabling community to be strengthened/grown. People who have a passion to see the care of people with dementia in the UK radically improved, moving beyond meeting an individual's physical needs to a holistic and relationship centred approach. We also need connectors who are willing to help us grow our professional network and advocate for Bright Shadow amongst their own networks.
Legal	Understanding of employment law and organisation law, especially around not for profit organisations and social enterprises.
Finance	Sound understanding of non-profit and social enterprise accounting/finance responsibilities. Experience setting budgets and forecasting within a small or medium organisation.

How to Apply

Please send an up to date CV and supporting statement, detailing how you meet the criteria for this role using the person specification "Trustee for Bright Shadow" to katy@Brightshadow.org.uk. If you would like an informal discussion, please contact Katy Hirst on 07823 697697.

Bright Shadow is committed to offering equal opportunities to all, irrespective of age, gender, race, disability, marital status, religion, sexual orientation, transgender and working patterns.