UPSTART PROJECTS – BECOME A TRUSTEE

Upstart Projects is looking to extend our board of trustees. Would you like to help us take the arts to more young people through our youth journalism, outreach and careers work?

You’ll join a lively and committed board with a range of experience who care about promoting young people’s opportunities and voice in the arts. We offer you the chance to develop your knowledge of the charity sector and the interaction between young people and the arts world. The board meets three or four times a year in London (travel expenses available), supported by occasional sub-committee sessions on particular issues or invitations to Upstart events. Every two years we run a development workshop for staff and trustees.

**Background**
Upstart Projects was launched in 2014. The organisation grew out of the national Arts Award programme in order to develop opportunities for young creatives looking to develop a career in the arts and media. Find out more at Upstart Projects.

Upstart’s mission is to create opportunities for young people to develop as the arts professionals of the future. We support young people to lead and manage projects, act as ambassadors, find their voice in the arts and train other people. In short, we offer authentic experiences which build skills and can lead into arts and media careers.

Our core project is Voice magazine an online arts and culture mag for young people aged 16+. Voice provides updates on the arts and society, interviews with professionals, careers advice and opportunity listings. Voice employs a team of young journalists and supports a panel of Voice contributors as well as running local projects training young arts reviewers. We have a particular interest in opening doors for young people who would not usually consider writing for a national magazine or indeed a career in the arts.

Alongside Voice, the team runs youth media services for Arts Award and Trinity College London’s arts qualifications.

Upstart also offers training for organisations which want to develop youth voice and representation, using an approach which links an experienced trainer with a young trainer to train professionals and young people together.

**The skills we need**
We have recently developed a new business plan which runs until 2022 and focuses on the organisation’s medium term sustainability and organisation development. To help us implement this, we are particularly looking for trustees who can offer us expertise in fundraising, heritage, marketing and youth participation.

**Fundraising**
In the current climate for the arts, ongoing fundraising is essential to support both core costs and new projects. We should welcome a trustee with an interest and/or experience in raising funds for arts, media or youth-led projects and activities which encourage access to the arts and increase opportunities to enter the creative sector.
**Heritage**
Upstart and Voice both have good links with the heritage sector and we know that many young people are interested in routes into heritage careers. We should welcome a trustee with a heritage background to help us maximise our coverage of opportunities and pathways for young people.

**Marketing**
For Upstart and Voice magazine to survive, we need to raise our profile and promote our services in order to generate income. We should welcome a trustee with experience of communications and marketing to help us position and publicise our offer and make best use of our resources and skills.

**Youth participation and diversity**
We are committed to reaching and supporting a wide range of young people to enjoy and comment on the arts, and we welcome experience of engaging young people from many backgrounds.

We are keen to recruit trustees at different stages in their professional life, including young people aged 18+ who can offer direct experience of the issues and projects which Upstart is tackling and advise on the needs of young creatives. We hope being a trustee offers useful insights into running an organisation for those who want to work in the cultural sector.

It may be that you combine several of the skills we are looking for. Or that you bring other skills that could help a small charity develop a strong business plan. We should love to hear from you.

Through our recruitment process we aim to create a representative and diverse board. We pay travel expenses to board meetings.

If you have any questions, please drop a line to diana@upstartprojects.uk or our Chair of Trustees, Felicity Woolf at felicity@felicitywoolfassociates.co.uk

If we have attracted your interest, do let us know by completing our short register of interest form: https://forms.gle/TkkZQZTvFqiVuRoS8

Please register your interest as soon as possible, and by 30 September 2019 at the latest. We will review and contact applicants regularly until we’ve found the right candidates. Successful candidates, following a conversation with our Director and Chair, will be invited to meet the rest of the board at our next planned meeting due to be in London on the evening of Monday 11 November 2019.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Diana Walton
Director
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