

SCAN is looking for people to join our board of trustees (Voluntary role)

Can you help us to champion, connect and cultivate the contemporary art community? [Scottish Contemporary Art Network](#) is looking for people to join our [board](#) of trustees led by our Chair, Fiona Doring.

Trustees play a key role in overseeing our effective governance and financial accountability as a small charity. They also help us to make the changes we need in our own work and strategy. We are looking for people to work collectively with us to advocate for artists and arts organisations in communities across Scotland, and to build a fairer and more sustainable future for the culture sector, as we emerge from the pandemic and deal with the costs crisis.

About SCAN

Scottish Contemporary Art Network (SCAN) is a member led network that connects and champions the contemporary art sector in Scotland.

Our 300 organisational and individual members work at the heart of communities from Shetland to the Scottish Borders and from East Lothian to the Western Isles. Our members are a network of free at the point of access galleries, community organisations, and venues together with the artist-led initiatives, agencies, workspaces, and production facilities that support artists to pursue their livelihoods. These anchor local communities, drive the visitor economy, support artists to produce their work and open their doors and activities to their neighbours and visitors alike.

Our Vision

Our vision is that the role, impact and benefits of contemporary visual arts are widely recognised as central to society and that sector professionals based in Scotland are informed, innovative and supported to achieve their ambitions.

Our Strategic Aims

- Connect and unite the sector, sharing knowledge and developing shared sector goals and ambitions
- Champion and promote the sector; helping them to better evidence and articulate the artistic, social and economic impact of their activity

- Cultivate and support a diverse, highly innovative workforce and stronger infrastructure

You can find out more about our work [here](#), and read our most recent annual accounts [here](#)

What is expected of a Board Member?

The Board meets formally four times a year (currently online – with a mixture of online and in-person meetings planned in the future). You may also be asked to participate in a working group to deliver a specific objective or to participate on a sub-committee. Training and an Annual Strategy Day may involve further time each year.

Board roles and responsibilities include:

- Preparing for and attending Board meetings
- Contributing to the sound governance of SCAN
- Bringing expertise to relevant areas of SCAN's development and work
- Ensuring SCAN is accountable in its use of public funding
- Contributing to projects and activities when appropriate
- Being an advocate for SCAN and our members

SCAN is committed to equality and opposed to all forms of unfair discrimination. We welcome applications from candidates from all backgrounds. If you are interested in this voluntary role but feel there are some barriers to participation (caring responsibilities, financial, accessibility, travel, slow internet/devices etc.) please do get in touch. We would be happy to discuss this with you and see what support is available. If you'd like to find out more about us, the role or barriers to participation we'll arrange a chat with our chair or director, if you contact us on moira@sca-net.org

About the Board

You can find out more about the current SCAN Board [here](#)

The SCAN Board shapes the network's strategy together with our membership, it monitors our progress and ensures we comply with governance rules and standards.

Working with the Director and SCAN team, the board has scrutiny of SCAN's strategy and plans and supports SCAN to advocate for our members across Scotland.

Trustees have responsibilities under charity law, including legal, financial and employment matters, policy, planning and effective management. Day-to-day duties are carried out by

the staff team, but the ultimate responsibility for our effectiveness as a charity lies with the Board.

Trustees are champions for our network, and can act as a public voice for SCAN members and the contemporary art community.

Board balance

Like most charities, we assess the make-up of our Board using a matrix to assess skills, and experience as well as to understand our demographic mix. This helps us recognise strengths, identify gaps and prioritise areas for Board development and recruitment.

We are keen to ensure we widen our perspectives and want to hear from those currently under-represented on public bodies including

- People with diverse lived experience – being Black, Asian, Mixed Heritage and/or Person of Colour, LGBTQIA+, under 40, or living with a disability - we welcome a range of backgrounds to bring real diversity of thought and experience.
- People from across Scotland. Our current board members live and work in places from Shetland to the central belt but many live in cities and we are keen to hear from people in rural or island communities and small towns. Our Board members have caring and professional responsibilities and we encourage ways to support Board members participation, including online meetings to minimise time, expense and carbon emissions.

Board Skills and Experience

The following skills are useful:

- Working collaboratively and constructively
- Analysing information and making decisions

The following experience is particularly useful:

- Supporting others in the workplace or in voluntary positions
- Working with partners and stakeholders in government, local authorities, health, environment or the voluntary sector

The current Board includes SCAN members with experience in disability equalities and participatory practice, artistic practice, leading organisations and production facilities,

exhibition making, governance, management and gallery education. We want to grow our board and are looking for new members with expertise in the following areas.

- Finance and Legal
- Public Affairs, Policy and Government
- Collections and Commercial
- EDI and anti-Racism work

There are currently up to four Board places available, two of whom should be drawn from our membership or be employed by one of our organisational members. We want to welcome people who can bring us fresh perspectives, support us with our development and help build our future.

Board members serve for a period of term of three years and are eligible for re-election for one further three-year period.

What's Involved

The SCAN board meets online 4 times a year (we'll invite successful applicants to attend our next board meeting as an observer on April 20, 2023) In addition board members attend our AGM and annual Summit and are welcome to join us at all our events throughout the year.

Over the next three-year term we expect to invite Board members to meet in person from time to time to help us develop our future plans, take part in an annual strategy away day, and to support us through email, advice and online task-based groups on aspects of our work.

What we offer

Charity law means that we cannot pay board members for their time, but we can meet expenses. We hope that the SCAN board offers the chance to learn from, and share your knowledge with, friendly colleagues. Working on a board gives insight and develops skills that can help career development. A nationwide network like SCAN can help build knowledge across a wide range of policy areas and practical issues. Above all SCAN believes in growth and change, and we hope the role will offers the satisfaction and the opportunity to shape not just our work but influence the future of our sector and of cultural provision in Scotland.

Role Description

Overall responsibilities include:

- Contributing to the sound governance of SCAN
- Bringing expertise to relevant areas of SCAN's development and work
- Ensuring SCAN is accountable in its use of public funding
- Contributing to projects and activities when appropriate
- Being an advocate for SCAN and our members
- Advise on and approve SCAN's strategy, plans and budgets,
- Overseeing our procedures and ensuring sound financial management
- Ensure SCAN has policies and procedures in place which comply with good practice, fair work, charity law, health & safety, employment and equal opportunities

Specific activities include:

- Preparing for and attending Board meetings and the Annual General Meeting
- Providing advice between meetings, as requested or as part of committees/task groups
- Contributing to the recruitment, guidance and appraisal of the Director,
- Approving staffing structure, terms & conditions and levels of pay
- Contributing (as required) to any complaints, grievance or disciplinary procedures
- Contributing to the recruitment of, and support for, new Board members

How to Apply

To apply, send a CV (no more than two pages please) and a short covering letter telling us more about yourself, and why you are interested in this opportunity to info@sca-net.org by Monday March 27, interviews will be held on April 17.

If you'd like to find out more about us, the role or barriers to participation we'll arrange a chat with our chair or director, if you contact us on moira@sca-net.org