



NEXUS.
INSTITUTE OF CREATIVE ARTS

Trustee

JOB DESCRIPTION

HIGHER EDUCATION
FOR THE MUSICAL AND ARTIST

NEXUS.
INSTITUTE OF CREATIVE ARTS

THE ROLE

JOB TITLE	Trustee
LOCATION	Coventry, UK
TIME COMMITMENT	Minimum 3-year term. 3 full Board meetings per year plus Sub-committee meetings as required or called. Availability during daytime and/or evening hours as specified in the Job Description
REPORTS TO	Chair of the Board
SALARY	N/A - Voluntary Position

JOB DESCRIPTION

To be a Trustee of an organisation is an exciting and fulfilling role. The most effective Boards are ones which benefit from individuals from a diverse range of backgrounds, experiences, and skill sets. The role of a Trustee is to ensure that Nexus ICA fulfils its duty to its beneficiaries through education and related activities and delivers on our vision, mission and values.

VISION

Nexus Institute of Creative Arts was founded in 1998 by Dave and Kate Silber who, after several years working with Youth for Christ, were called to set up a music and worship school. Now, almost 25 years later, Nexus ICA continues its mission to inspire, train and disciple young people to follow Jesus and serve His purposes through their lives and talents.

Whilst we are a higher education provider, our primary mission is to Raise Sights, Release Gifts and Resource the Church.

Raising Sights

Our heart is to see students gain greater sight and revelation of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus and be part of a Church Community. We desire for our students to understand the identity, authority and status they have in Christ.

Releasing Gifts

Within the context of being a disciple of Christ, we are committed to seeing students 'trained and skilled in music for the Lord'. Beyond their craft, Nexus exists to be a training ground where students can develop their personal gifts and grow into servant-hearted leaders.

Resource the Church

We believe the combination of these two points is a wonderful resource to Christ's church. We are passionate about helping students understand the significance of meeting together, growing, and serving in a local church

community and are humbled by the impact our students have had on the local church in the City of Coventry and beyond.

God has strongly emphasised to us 1 Chronicles 25:7, *“Trained and Skilled in Music for the Lord”*, which serves as biblical summary and foundation for our mandate.

Nexus ICA is motivated by this vision, and we long to see generations of worshippers raised up who embody the characteristics of 1 Chronicles 25; Levitical musicians who carry the heart of David and recognise the significance of the ministry they are set apart for. They will be a group of trained and skilled instrumentalists, singers, songwriters and technicians, with an ability to accompany the speaking of God and make prophetic declarations through their craft. They will be ready and prepared, diligent, humble and able to carry the precious, holy things of God. They will know the heart of their leaders and find safety and order under supervision and through serving a vision. Ultimately, our heart is to raise up the “spirit and truth” worshippers that Jesus describes the Father as seeking.

If this vision inspires you, then being a trustee member could be an incredibly rewarding and fulfilling role for you, and one that is greatly valued by the institute.

VALUES

Nexus ICA is committed to upholding standards of integrity and accountability in line with its values and principles. We commit to the Nolan principles of public life as a standard for operational activity:

- Selflessness
- Integrity
- Objectivity
- Accountability
- Openness
- Honesty
- Leadership

In addition to the Nolan principles, the values of Nexus ICA are as follows:

ADHERENCE TO BIBLICAL STANDARDS

We believe in the transformative capacity of the Bible and promote its principles and ways as a foundation for the life of individuals, communities, and societies.

PERSON-CENTRED EDUCATION

We are building an education system that is person-centred and focuses on developing the whole person, encompassing but also more than academic achievement. We believe that learning is a process not only an outcome, therefore the whole person: body, mind, and spirit, is engaged in that process.

COMMUNITY

We recognise that the building of strong community is imperative to the success of the individual in all areas of life so actively build strategies of collaboration to aid the strengthening of the individual and the whole.

INTEGRITY AND CHARACTER

Integrity and character are prioritised over gift and skill and as such we deliberately and strategically build in opportunities to develop areas of character leading towards greater maturity.

EXCELLENCE

To be truly excellent carries with it a requirement to be hostile to mediocrity, complacency, and inferiority wherever it is found. We actively encourage the pursuit of a higher standard in all areas of life.

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Every skill is a gift from God and should be treated with utmost care and diligence. We are committed to being excellent in our craft, not taking the gift for granted or relegating it to the lowest form of expression but applying time, energy, and skill to making it the best that it can be.

STATUTORY DUTIES

THE STATUTORY DUTIES OF A TRUSTEE ARE:

- To ensure the organisation complies with its governing documents - including any trust deeds, the constitution, or articles of association.
- To ensure that the organisation pursues its objectives as defined in its governing documents.
- To ensure the organisation applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objectives - the charity must not spend money on activities which are not included in its own objectives, no matter how 'charitable' and 'worthwhile' those activities are.
- To contribute actively to the Board of Trustees role in giving firm strategic and spiritual direction to the organisation, setting overall policy, defining goals and setting targets and evaluating performance against agreed targets.
- To safeguard the good name and values of the organisation.
- To ensure the effective and efficient administration of the organisation.
- To ensure the financial stability of the organisation.
- To protect and manage the property of the organisation and to ensure the proper investment of the organisation's funds.
- To appoint the Principal or Senior Leader and monitor his or her performance.
- To promote the organisation and to look for and engage in opportunities to do so.

IN ADDITION, WITH OTHER TRUSTEES, TO HOLD THE CHARITY 'IN TRUST' FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE BENEFICIARIES BY:

- Ensuring that the charity has a clear vision, mission and strategic direction and is focused on achieving these.
- Being responsible for the performance of the charity and for its “corporate” behaviour; ensuring that the charity complies with all legal and regulatory requirements.
- Acting as guardians of the charity’s assets
- Ensuring that the charity’s governance is of the highest possible standard.

As well as the various statutory duties, any trustee should make full use of any specific skills, knowledge or experience to help the board make good decisions.

The above list of duties is indicative only and not exhaustive.

COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS

BOARD MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO:

- Enter into an initial term of minimum three years.
- Aim to carry out 3 - 4 visits on site each year, including assisting with interview panels, oversight and compliance visits, and any other on-site activity for which a Board member is required
- Commit to attending full Board meetings, meetings of Board sub-committees
- Attend significant Nexus events wherever possible (e.g. Shows and Events, fundraising activities, high profile student performances, development activities.)

PERSON SPECIFICATION

A Nexus ICA Trustee is a person who has a strong empathy with our mission to educate the whole person in the context of Christian discipleship and the creative arts. The Board of Trustees are jointly and severally responsible for the overall governance and strategic direction of the charity, its financial health, developing the organisation's aims, objectives, and goals in accordance with the governing document, legal and regulatory guidelines.

All Trustees should also be aware of, and understand, their individual and collective responsibilities, and should not be overly reliant on one or more individual Trustees in any particular aspect of the governance of the charity.

EXPERIENCE

Experience of operating within a board in a charitable, public sector or commercial organisation, or experience of contributing to useful work within the volunteer sector

Demonstrable experience of building and sustaining relationships with key stakeholders and colleagues to achieve organisational objectives

A proven track record of sound judgement and effective decision making

A history of impartiality, fairness and the ability to respect confidences

A track record of commitment to promoting equality and diversity

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & UNDERSTANDING

Commitment to the organisation and a willingness to devote the necessary time and effort

Preparedness to make unpopular recommendations to the board, and a willingness to speak their mind

Willingness to be available to staff for advice and enquiries on an ad hoc basis

Willingness to engage in communication outside of Board Meetings via digital or other designated methods

An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship

An ability to work effectively as a member of a team

An understanding of the respective roles of the Chair, Trustees and Principal

Commitment to raising the profile of Nexus ICA including fundraising and the acquisition of resources

Board members will serve an initial three-year term and may be eligible for reappointment thereafter

Nexus ICA Articles of Association require resignation and re-election on an annual basis

NOTES

The Chair should be made aware of any resignations in a timely manner to ensure an accurate process of recruitment and replacement. Board shall contribute to the recruitment process to ensure the continuation of the Board in strength and number.