



Recruitment of Volunteer Trustees/Directors

As we head into a period of organisational development and resilience building, Dogstar Theatre is looking to appoint two new trustees/directors to its board. This is a crucial moment for Dogstar, with challenges and opportunities ahead which will require strong support and input from the board.

We are looking specifically for candidates with knowledge and experience of the creation and delivery of successful communications and/or fundraising strategies, ideally within an arts context in Scotland. We would also welcome those who can bring new introductions, broker new partnerships, and breathe new life into existing ones. And of course, we would welcome applications from candidates who care deeply about the arts and who support and value the work of Dogstar throughout the Highlands and Islands.

About Dogstar

Dogstar has been commissioning, producing and touring new plays from its base in the Inverness area for over 20 years. The company has toured to a huge variety of venues throughout Scotland and abroad. We have co-produced with companies in Denmark and Sweden and have presented our work at festivals, theatres and universities in Poland, Ukraine, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands, Belgium, Ireland, USA, England, Wales, France and Australia.

The majority of these new plays have been written by playwrights from the Highlands and Islands of Scotland. There has been a gradual development of professional theatre production in the region over the last 40 years, which has accelerated in recent years due to the creation of degree courses in theatre and performance at the University of the Highlands and Islands. There is now a growing body of emerging playwrights and other professional theatre workers to be found across our region, and we are keen to continue to support their creative lives and development through our work.

Dogstar has delivered a series of successful projects over the last two years: SPARK – The Highland New Play Festival in January 2024, produced in partnership with Eden Court Theatre and Playwrights' Studio Scotland; a London run and performances in Sweden and France during 2024 of the company's flagship production, *The Tailor of Inverness*; a popular tour of the North Highlands & Islands of George Gunn's eco-tragicomedy *The Fallen Angels of the Moine*; an on-going programme of theatre-making and playwriting workshops for schools and adult groups in the North Highlands & Islands; and an acclaimed, sold-out mid-scale tour with Matthew Zajac's adaptation of James Robertson's best-selling novel *The Testament of Gideon Mack*. We work hard at Dogstar!

About the Trustee/Director role

The Board of Trustees/Directors is responsible, with the Artistic Director and Executive Producer, for setting Dogstar's strategy and overseeing its delivery. The Board ensures that the charity is resilient and sustainable; that it has a clear vision and mission; that its governance is of the highest standard and that it complies with all legal and regulatory requirements. In the immediate future, this will include a full review of the memorandum and articles of association.

The Board is currently made up of five trustees.

Trustees are expected to be team players, engaged and committed and adding value to the organisation. Our new trustees will all be people of high integrity and able to be supportive but constructively challenging. Dogstar is a small company/charity at a critical moment in its story and trustees are expected to show a willingness to support the executive team; to attend events and act as ambassadors and advocates for Dogstar.

As a charity trustee, you are trusted to look after the charity's assets and are responsible for making sure that the charity fulfils its charitable purpose.

The duties include:

- Ensuring the charity complies with its governing document.
- Ensuring that the charity pursues its objectives as defined in its governing document.
- Ensuring the charity applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objectives.
- Contributing actively to the Board of Trustees' role in giving firm strategic direction to the charity, setting overall policy, defining goals and setting targets and evaluating performance against agreed targets.
- Safeguarding the good name and values of the charity.
- Ensuring the effective and efficient administration of the charity.
- Ensuring the financial stability of the charity.
- Protecting and managing the property of the charity and to ensure the proper investment of the charity's funds.
- Appointing the executive team and monitoring their performance.
- Providing support for the core staff team, currently comprised of the Artistic Director, Executive Producer and Assistant Producer.

The Board meets formally four times a year, plus an additional strategy away day, and candidates should be enthusiastic about making time to attend other meetings as required, as well as performances and other events.

These are unremunerated positions.

How to apply

Applicants should send a CV and short covering letter addressed to Rachel Dominy, Executive Producer at rachel.dominy@dogstartheatre.co.uk. Please add *Trustee recruitment* to the subject line.

We will also accept spoken applications submitted on video or on sound files.

Deadline 09.00 Monday 31 August with meetings with potential candidates to take place during the first two weeks of September.

Dogstar Theatre does not allow discrimination on the grounds of gender, race, disability, ethnic or socio-economic background, age, family circumstances, marital status or civil partnership, religion, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity or other irrelevant difference and is committed to working with diversity in a positive way. Dogstar welcomes and encourages applications from groups of people who are under-represented. The principles of fair and open competition will apply and appointments will be made on merit.

Please also complete this EDI monitoring form when you submit your applications. This information is anonymous.
[Dogstar Equality Monitoring Form](#)

Thank you for your interest: we look forward to receiving your application.



Artistic Director Matthew Zajac **Associate Artist** Jack MacGregor
Executive Producer Rachel Dominy **Assistant Producer** Bryony Barclay

Board: Angela Cran, Nick Fearne, Duncan MacInnes, Keira Smith, Brian Spence

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Registered Company No. SC298278 Scottish Charity No. SC032678

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