

## Dance Professionals Fund

*'As Chair, I'm pleased to introduce this trustee recruitment pack. We are looking for individuals with the skills, insight, and commitment to support our strategic direction and strengthen our governance. Trustee contributions will play a vital role in our next chapter'. Kate Coyne, Chair*

Formed in 1936, the Dance Professionals Fund (formerly the Royal Ballet Benevolent Fund) is a registered CIO, providing financial and wellbeing support to dancers, dance teachers and choreographers. Our dedicated services bring together a range of effective ways of supporting dance professionals. These include financial grants, signposting to support services, rehabilitation provision following injury, career upskilling support and access to professional counselling.



Some of the Trustees of the DPF

The charity reformed as a CIO in September 2025 and remains in a robust financial position. Expansion of our grants and services is currently underway. Trustees play a crucial role in overseeing and supporting the Dance Professionals Fund's strategy. We currently have an excellent Chair, Vice Chair and Board, with some trustees now due to retire from the Board by January 2027.

### **Our Vision**

All dance professionals can lead a fulfilling life in dance, safe from hardship.

### **Mission Statement**

Our mission is to care and nurture dance professionals in times of change, creating a resilient dance community. We act as a safety net for those experiencing adversity and a springboard for dance professionals who want to develop or reinvigorate their careers.

### **Our charity's remit is to empower dance professionals by:**

- Listening and supporting everyone with compassion and respect
- Helping them to explore how to overcome challenging situations
- Working holistically to address both financial and wellbeing issues
- Distributing funds in time of need, such as serious illness, loss of work
- Mental and physical health therapy in partnership with specialist charities
- Providing them with tools to succeed in their professional dance careers
- Empowering them at times of personal change, such as new parenthood

We have a small but committed staff team who deliver on the aims of the charity.

## Who we are looking for

We are looking for trustees across a range of expertise, in any of the following areas:

- Experience and/or specialism in commercial dance or street dance
- A background as a recreational dance teacher and/or owner of a dance school
- Background/experience in a senior finance role or advising on a charity Board
- Experience of benevolent funds and how they operate either as staff or trustee
- Background in a senior legal role, either as staff or advising on a charity Board
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills, comprehensive networking experience

Please note this list is not exclusive. We welcome applications from those who are passionate about helping the Dance Professionals Fund achieve its objectives. Induction and training will be provided. At Dance Professionals Fund we embrace diversity. Our work on this is at all levels, and we feel passionate that our trustee Board should be truly representative of the people it serves.

**We're therefore encouraging applicants from all backgrounds and especially those from Global Majority groups. We are keen to add more voices with lived disability experience to the Board too – helping us evolve our aims with all disabilities in mind.**

## Location

The Dance Professionals Fund is based at The Dance Space, Circus Square, Brighton. Trustee meetings and Committee meetings are held in central London, or online.

## Salary

All Trustee roles are voluntary. Board meetings are four times a year. We will cover the travel costs of attending in person meetings, and other costs such as childcare when required.

## Timeframe

Applications details, how to apply/deadline announced:	20 May 2026
Deadline for applications to be received by 5pm:	24 June 2026
Interviews to be held with Chair, Trustees of DPF:	w/c 13 July 2026
Confirmation of invitation to become a Board member:	31 July 2026
Induction days/training prior to role on Board (online):	Oct-Dec 2026
Trustees are elected to the Board/first Board meeting:	January 2027

For more on becoming a DPF Trustee, see also the Trustee Role Description.

**If you would like an informal chat before applying or have any accessibility needs to help with your application, do email us at [recruitment@dancefund.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@dancefund.org.uk) to let us know.**

For more about DPF: [www.dancefund.org.uk](http://www.dancefund.org.uk)

Read more about the experience of our trustees here in these blogs:

<https://www.dancefund.org.uk/2025/11/the-treasures-of-being-a-trustee/>

<https://www.dancefund.org.uk/2023/10/trustees-week-many-voices-working-together-with-purpose/>

<https://www.dancefund.org.uk/2022/11/trustees-week-becoming-a-dpf-trustee-through-changing-times/>

## Trustee – Role Description

Our Trustees play a vital role in making sure that the charity achieves its core purpose. They have responsibility to ensure that the charity works to a clear strategy in line with our vision. They delegate the management and administration of the charity and support and challenge the leadership and staff team to achieve the charity's mission.

Board members have a collective responsibility. This means that Trustees always act as a group and not as individuals.

### **Duties:**

- Support and provide advice on the purpose, vision, goals and activities.
- Approve operational strategies and policies including any policy changes.
- Ensure the effective and efficient administration of the organisation.
- Ensure that key risks are being identified, monitored and controlled effectively.
- Oversee the charity's financial plans and budgets and monitor developments.
- Review and approve the charity's annual report and financial statements.
- Provide support and challenge to the charity's Executive Director in their role.
- Contribute to regular reviews of the charity's governance performance.
- Attend Board meetings, adequately prepared to contribute to discussions.
- Use independent judgment, acting legally and in good faith to promote and protect the charity's interests, not their own and/or any third-party interests.
- Contribute to the broader promotion of Dance Professional Fund's objects, aims and reputation when representing the charity externally.
- Uphold the charity's commitment to EDI across all areas of operation internally and externally.

### **Personal skills and qualities**

- Willingness and ability to understand and accept their responsibilities and liabilities as Trustees and to act in the best interests of the organisation.
- Ability to think creatively and strategically, exercise good, independent judgement and work effectively as a Board member.
- Effective communication skills and willingness to participate actively in discussion.
- A strong personal commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.
- Enthusiasm for our vision and mission.
- Willingness to lead according to our values of providing unbiased support.

### ***Terms of appointment***

#### **Terms of office**

- Trustees are appointed for a three-year term of office, renewal for two further terms to a maximum of nine years.
- This is a voluntary position, but reasonable expenses are reimbursed.

#### **Time commitment**

- Attending four Board meetings annually. Currently Board meetings are held in person in central London.

## **Committee membership**

- Ad hoc and occasional support through working groups and / or support to the executive team by way of serving on one of the Sub Committees (normally meeting two to three times per annum).