

NCEM TRUSTEE RECRUITMENT INFORMATION 2024

We are looking to recruit several new trustees to the NCEM board: individuals who are passionate about music and the arts, and who understand the role of culture and creativity in building and sustaining communities and people. We are particularly keen to talk to people who could bring the following expertise to the Board: in finance, heritage buildings, strategic planning and European opportunities. However, we are keen to hear from a wide range of people, so encourage all individuals who would like to be involved in NCEM's future direction to apply.

About the NCEM

The NCEM is the flagship for early music in England, based since 2000 in the refurbished medieval church of St Margaret's, York. We are a significant venue for music and creative learning, promoting high quality concerts across a wide range of music genres. Specifically, we work to promote public understanding and enjoyment of early music through historically informed performances, three annual early music festivals, and digital technology. The annual York Early Music Festival is the UK's most significant festival of early music and will be celebrating its 50th edition in 2026.

Embedded throughout all our work is a commitment to supporting early career musicians through our current development programmes which include the New Generation Baroque Ensemble scheme, the biennial York International Young Artists Competition, and the annual NCEM Young Composers Award.

Our Learning and Participation programmes continue to evolve, with current projects such as I Can Play!, providing music-making opportunities for D/deaf children, and Futures in Jazz, offering aspiring young jazz musicians opportunities to work with the leading jazz musicians that perform at the NCEM.

We explore opportunities to widen our audience. We bring early music performances to communities across York in Baroque Around the Books, and as the industry partner in a new Collaborative Doctoral Award with the University of York, we will work with academics to research modes of interaction between audiences and performers.

All of this is made possible through the support of a range of trusts, foundations and individual donors, a thriving commercial operation, and National Portfolio funding from Arts Council England. And the hard work and dedication of our small but highly skilled team. The executive team comprises Delma Tomlin (Founding Director working p/t) and Cherry Fricker (Executive Director) who are supported by a permanent staff of 5, plus a team of freelance professionals.

Vision, Mission and Values

Our Vision is to involve as wide a range of people as possible in the pleasure, enrichment and inspiration that music and music-making can offer. Be the leading national advocate for the celebration, performance and study of early music.

Our Mission is to:

- Promote NCEM York as a national and international exemplar of the highest possible standards of creative practice, artistic performance and public engagement;
- Engage with a culturally diverse artistic base in order to run a season of varied and inspiring performances across a wide range of musical genres;
- Offer flagship festivals celebrating early music in particular;
- Strive constantly to widen our audience base through innovative engagement activities and creative evolution of our digital channels;
- Enhance the wellbeing of individuals and communities through music;
- Share understanding and enjoyment of all forms of music, and early music in particular, through exemplary learning and participation activities that tackle historic and systemic inequities in creative ways;
- Inspire young people to study, perform and enjoy music;
- Support career access and progression at all levels and in all spheres of music-making and artistic management, with a special focus on performers specialising in early music;
- Continue to build a network of local, regional, national and international partners who share our values, offering them support, inspiration and leadership;
- Ensure that St Margaret's continues to be a source of joy for future generations.

All our work is guided through our **core values** which are: welcoming, excellence, integrity, authenticity, quality and ambition.

Who are we looking for?

As the terms of office of several long-standing trustees is soon ending, we are looking to recruit several new trustees to the NCEM board. We are particularly keen to talk to people who could bring the following skills to the Board: finance, heritage buildings, strategic planning and European opportunities. However, we are keen to hear from a wide range of people, so encourage all individuals who would like to be involved in NCEM's future direction to apply.

We believe that the right board consists of members that reflect the diversity of the communities that we work with (not just the sections of society that have been traditionally associated with early music) and therefore encourage applicants from a range of different backgrounds, ages, experiences and perspectives. We will make reasonable adjustments to meet your needs during the application and interview process.

What does being an NCEM trustee involve?

We are a collaborative Board who enjoy working with each other and with the executive team to support the charity in achieving its strategic goals. We encourage our trustees to regularly attend our events, and to build supportive working relationships with members of the organisation, our audiences and partner organisations and ensembles.

Trustees are appointed for a four-year term, up to a maximum of eight years. The Board meets four times a year, with meetings normally held once in London and three times in York. Trustees are not remunerated, but we can cover reasonable travel expenses. We will provide additional support to first-time trustees.

We encourage you to contact the NCEM Executive Director if you have any questions on the role, your suitability, or the NCEM before applying. Please contact cherry.fricker@ncem.co.uk

How to apply

If you would like to be involved in the NCEM and could bring valuable knowledge and expertise, please email your CV and a covering letter explaining why the role appeals to you and what you could bring to NCEM. Please address your letter to our Chair, Paul Murphy and email it to support@ncem.co.uk by the deadline of Friday 22nd November 2024.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to interview (in person or online) in early December with a panel of trustees and the Executive Director. You will be offered the opportunity to arrange a conversation with the NCEM's Founding Director Delma Tomlin ahead of your interview. The interview will be a conversation whereby we can explore your suitability to the role and give you the opportunity for you to explore if you wish to contribute to our future. We will not ask you to prepare a presentation or undertake a task in addition to the interview.