

## Arts & Business NI Board Matching Programmes

### Board Bank / Young Professionals on Arts Boards

Are you looking to refresh your Board membership?

Whether you've finally exhausted your pool of loyal supporters, are seeking an elusive skillset, or simply want to bring an 'outsider' into your Board dynamic, we can support your Board recruitment by tapping into our business network.



We recruit business volunteers, provide them with a thorough induction to arts governance, and then match them to arts charities seeking their particular skills.

### But you don't just need Board Members

You need good Board members.

You need committed individuals who bring skills, enthusiasm, and a clear understanding of their governance role and responsibility.

We recruit one cohort of Young Professionals each year and our Board Bank is a rolling programme for more experienced professionals. There may be someone already waiting for their governance home, or we can pro-actively search to meet your needs. We offer all our business participants training in arts governance and stay in contact with them throughout their Board term.



Just as we do our best to make sure you get a quality Board member, we have to assure the business person that you're the right organisation to get involved with, so we ask to meet with your organisation's senior manager and Chair to talk in confidence about your company and current governance practice.

***“Moving on Music has found the A&B NI Board Bank an invaluable way of expanding our board with young professionals who bring fresh knowledge, insights and approaches to running our organisation in a professional and compliant manner.”*** Brian Carson, Moving on Music



## The Matching Process

A strong Board and good governance is essential to a resilient and sustainable arts organisation. Investing the time in the 'match' is important.



After you send us your registration form:

- We meet to talk about your company and governance
- We search for a suitable candidate and suggest your organisation to them
- Once they express an interest to commit to your company we'll pass you their CV in confidence
- Then, we'll all meet face to face to see if there's a 'fit'
- If the chemistry's right we declare a 'Match' and it's over to you and the potential new Board member to get the ball rolling and make the relationship work
- During their active Observation period of at least three months they get space to get to know your company – and you get to see if they are right for you
- Then, when you all are happy to proceed, you invite them to officially sign as a Company Director and then their real work begins!

## Who is eligible to take part?

Our Board Matching programmes are available to A&B NI Arts members only and cost £100+VAT payable upon an agreed 'Match'

A&B NI also provide tailored sessions on Fundraising, Governance Roles & Responsibilities, and Strategic Planning; Governance Healthchecks, toolkits, templates and events; and offer year round support and advice.

***“The benefits of having a business person on an arts Board is that they can bring a degree of objectivity to any situation. Obstacles which might seem insurmountable to a small arts organisation are part of the daily work experience of many professionals and so they become manageable!***

***An outside professional helps an organisation look at itself and its procedures in a new way – which is ultimately a good thing. Having ‘an outsider’ was great.***

***Please sir, may we have another?”*** QSS, Belfast

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**Developing  
Governance  
Group**

A&B NI is a Helper Group for the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland and an active member of the Developing Governance Group responsible for the Code of Good Governance and the resource site [www.diycommitteeguide.org](http://www.diycommitteeguide.org)