



# Young Professionals on Arts Boards

**Arts  
& Business**  
Northern Ireland



## Young Professionals on Arts Boards

An extension of the hugely successful A&B NI Board Bank, this programme places the best up-and-coming talent NI business has to offer on the boards of leading local arts charities.



As one of the core services within our suite of Arts Governance Programmes, this initiative provides training and support to ensure young professionals in the early stages of their careers (aged 21-35 years) will truly benefit from this practical, hands-on strategic leadership experience.

### Key features of the programme:

- **A one-to-one diagnostic session** with the Arts & Business NI Learning & Performance Manager. This session helps the business adviser understand more about the programme and enables A&B NI to draw out career, professional and personal motivations. This meeting is important as it helps us manage expectations and capture SMART data that will enable us to make a successful match.
- **3 Good Governance training sessions** to provide an introduction to the arts sector and insight into strategies for successful governance, clearly outlining the legal and moral requirements placed upon a non-executive board. Specifically developed for this initiative, this training allows for peer-to-peer learning, and develops confidence to ensure participants engage fully in Board business.
- **Facilitated opportunities to join the board** of an arts or cultural organisation
- A **Board Buddy** to help with induction & orientation within the arts organisation.
- **Ongoing support, advice and guidance** on governance, board development and changes in Charity Law etc. for the duration of their Board term.
- Access to **A&B NI's cultural network and events**

Limited number of placements available. Deadline for 2019 applications is Friday 28 June 2019

*“Joining the Board of Outburst Arts has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my professional career. The Young Professionals training programme provided me with an excellent grounding for the diverse range of responsibilities, opportunities and challenges that I have experienced as part of my governance role”.*

**Judith McGimpsey, Policy & Parliamentary Officer, Bar Council  
& Outburst Queer Arts Festival**





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“The initial Arts & Business NI training gave me a new insight as to how corporate governance should be undertaken. As a result, my leadership skills were developed, and it gave me an opportunity to bring my professional skill set to an arts charity.”

**Gareth McGonigle, KPMG & Moving on Music**



## How much does it cost to take part in the programme?

The Young Professionals on Arts Boards programme is supported by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland and costs £450 + VAT per participant (Arts & Business NI Member rate) or £500+ VAT per participant (non-Member rate), payable on acceptance onto the programme.

## Arts & Business Northern Ireland

Arts & Business Northern Ireland sparks new partnerships between commerce and culture.

We connect companies and individuals to cultural organisations, and we provide the expertise and insight for them to prosper together.

At the heart of our work is the knowledge that the arts deliver unique, creative solutions that help business to achieve success.

## Contact

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*"Arts & Business NI provided me with invaluable training on being a Board Member before matching me with Wheelworks, preparing me for the role ahead. They listened to my objectives for the programme, before matching me to a charity they believed would challenge me and provide me with the experience I wanted. Two years on and I am still a proud member of the Wheelworks Board!"*

*Coming from a corporate environment, I had very little experience of leading an arts organisation. At first, I was intimidated by how different the environment was to my workplace, however I quickly learned that a Board's strength rests in the range of skills and experiences of its members. I now feel like a valued member of the Board and am able to practically apply the skills that I have developed in my job to a very different environment. Equally, through my time as a Board member, I have developed my leadership and communication skills which can be translated to my work.*

*Overall, I have found my time as a Board Member of an arts organisation hugely rewarding. I have been challenged at times, but have continued to develop my leadership skills, which can be applied to my day job.*

*I would therefore strongly recommend any young professional to step outside their comfort zone and become a Board Member of an arts organisation. This is sure to give you a more rounded experience than that received in the workplace and equip you with new skills and experiences."*

**Keith McMaw, Manager, PwC NI  
& Wheelworks**

