



**UNIT 304
THE CUSTARD FACTORY
GIBB ST, DIGBETH
BIRMINGHAM B9 4AA**

Flatpack Trustee Recruitment

Closing date 26 May 2022

"The most imaginative and eclectically satisfying film festival in the Midlands."
Birmingham Wire



Introduction

We make great things happen by mixing film and other forms, by illuminating place and by bringing people together. We inspire others and help ideas to grow.

We want to hear from people who can bring new thinking and life experiences that reflect the West Midlands to help us continue this growth and inspiration as trustees.

Having grown from putting on small pop-up film nights in pubs to producing a festival attracting over 14,000 visitors, Flatpack Projects is a nationally respected organisation which delivers a host of year-round projects and events alongside our annual festival. We are at an exciting point in our journey as we look to expand our activities further over the next 3-4 years.

**FLATPACKFESTIVAL.ORG.UK
T: 0121 771 1509**

About Flatpack

Flatpack is a mobile arts organisation which exists to show amazing work across all elements of film, bring people together and develop new ideas. We love film in all shapes and sizes, particularly where it bumps up against other artforms, and get a kick out of transforming spaces to create unforgettable events. Every May you can find us taking over venues across Birmingham with the "magnificently eclectic" Flatpack Festival, while throughout the year we pop up all over the place with everything from family activities to al fresco horror.

Flatpack began life back in the early 2000s, with a monthly mixed-media night at the Rainbow pub in Digbeth called 7 Inch Cinema. The first edition of Flatpack grew out of those hugely popular events, and took place over one wintry weekend in early 2006. Since then the festival has gone from strength to strength, established as a vital fixture in the city's cultural calendar while drawing plaudits, audiences and envious looks from across the world. Stirring together a colourful stew of screenings and performances, walks and installations, the programme boasts a mind-boggling range of international talent with an emphasis on the playful, the surprising and the indefinable.

The annual festival has always been complemented by an itinerant year-round programme, whether it be film-tents at music festivals or rural archive tours, and in recent years this part of our work has grown significantly. Flatpack is a lead partner in [Film Hub Midlands](#), an initiative as part of the BFI Film Audience Network to develop a thriving film culture in the Midlands, and among other things this means working with partners across the region, sending out monthly Filmwire bulletins and breeding the next generation of exhibitors through Build Your Own Filmnight. We're also committed to supporting the artists we work with and developing new work for the festival and beyond, and our family programme Colour Box reaches thousands of children every year through schools activity and public events. You can find out more about current projects [here](#).

Our ambitions for Flatpack

Our new trustees will be joining at an exciting time for Flatpack helping to define and shape our ambitious growth plans, including:

- Growing our commissioning plans at the festival through mixed art-form projects with film at their heart;
- Expanding our Colour Box family and young people programming strand beyond the festival;
- Expanding our community and outdoor film programming;
- Long-term, exploring the opportunities of developing a new venue for film programming and activity;

- In our Film Hub Midlands role, exploring the film heritage of the West Midlands and enabling young producers to create their own film programmes that represent wider audiences and communities.



Flatpack trustees and who we are looking for

Flatpack's current small group of trustees include people from film, entrepreneurs and from the legal world, who work with our small management team who programme and deliver our festivals and engage with communities across the West Midlands.

We are looking to expand this group of trustees to bring new thinking to Flatpack and help shape the organisation's future direction – particularly from people who represent diverse audiences across the West Midlands.

We recognise the value of different perspectives, backgrounds and experiences in our organisation and believe this makes our work and working environment more inclusive and exciting. We guarantee an interview for anyone who fulfils the minimum criteria for this role and is from a background that is underrepresented in the culture sector (for more information see 'How to apply' below).

We would be interested in hearing from candidates who could bring insight across one of more of the following areas:

- Strategic planning, organisational development and leadership, which could be from the cultural or wider not-for-profit and creative sectors;

- Creating and/or commissioning multi-disciplined projects across the wider cultural sector;
- Marketing and communications, particularly to West Midlands audiences currently underrepresented in film festival programming;
- Cultural venue development including capital development;
- Creating cultural experiences through film and heritage that contribute to wellbeing outcomes;
- Lived experience that gives insight into the film heritage of the West Midlands, particularly the film heritage of global majority audiences.

What does being a Flatpack trustee involve?

As well as bringing one or more of the above skills, trustees also have a duty to scrutinise and ensure the good running of Flatpack. This does not mean, however, that you need to have experience as a trustee or running an organisation to apply. What is more important is the life and career experiences that you bring, and support can be provided for anyone new to being a trustee.

We meet formally four times a year, usually in Birmingham, with occasional working groups to look at specific issues. We would expect that trustees would spend around half a day a month with our producers, developing relationships across the business and sharing insights and understanding to help shape the organisation.

Mostly importantly, our current trustees, whether from the region or from further afield in the UK, take huge enjoyment from being a part of Flatpack, engaging with our programmes and festival and being a part of the West Midlands film community.

Flatpack trustees do not receive payment for their time, but reasonable expenses will be reimbursed including those for access needs and travel associated with attending Flatpack events.

How to apply

If you would like to apply to be a trustee of Flatpack, please complete the application form [at the link here](#) and the equal opportunities form [at the link here](#).

The application form consists of three short questions which will explore your experiences and skills and can be completed as a written statement or as film/audio. We will not ask for your CV unless you are selected for interview.

There is a closing date of **26 May 2022**, with first stage online interviews in early June

If you have questions about the role or application and would like a confidential conversation, please contact Matthew Swann at matthew@achates.org.uk. These conversations will not form part of our assessment process.

If you would like any of this information in an alternative format e.g. Microsoft Word, please contact Victoria Hibbs at victoria@achates.org.uk.

We recognise the value of different perspectives, backgrounds and experiences in our organisation and believe this makes our work and working environment more inclusive and exciting. We guarantee an interview for anyone who fulfils the minimum criteria for this role and is from a background that is underrepresented in the culture sector (for example you are from a community that experiences racism, you had free school meals as a child, are a D/deaf disabled person, are neurodivergent, identify as being a different gender to that at birth, face barriers due to mental health, have experienced domestic violence, homelessness, incarceration or other social circumstances that might have created barriers professionally). If you would like this to be a consideration in your application, please indicate this on the application form.