

NEW WRITING NORTH

RECRUITMENT CALL FOR NEW TRUSTEES

To support our work we want to ensure that the profile and lived experience of our trustees reflects the communities in which we work and welcome applications from those who support our aims and share our vision for ensuring that UK literature is representative and diverse.

Our trustees have a passion for the written word and for supporting social mobility and participation through cultural engagement. Trustees act as ambassadors for NWN within their own networks and communities and support staff in areas where they have particular expertise.

The current board and trustees have a wide range of skills relevant to our work. We would now like to expand our skills and capacity and welcome applications from candidates who have professional experience in the following fields: **Education, Legal, Governance, Finance, Libraries and Literary Agencies.**

ABOUT US

New Writing North is a development agency for creative writing and reading. Established in 1996 the organisation was the first development agency to be established outside of London and has since being the model for six more regional agencies across the country. We have been funded by Arts Council England since inception and are currently a National Portfolio Organisation.

From a base in Newcastle upon Tyne we operate across the North of England working in partnership with regional and national partners and supporters to produce a range of literary and performance activities including flagship projects such as **The Northern Writers' Awards**, the **David Cohen Prize for Literature**, an award winning programme of work with young writers including our schools programme **Young Writers City, Read Regional, The Gordon Burn Prize** and **Durham Book Festival**.

We specialise in developing and investing in writers of all ages and act as a dynamic broker between writers, producers, publishers and broadcasters across the creative industries.

To achieve our ambitions over the next three years will require New Writing North to both continue to develop our internal operations and capacity whilst expanding the profile of our work nationally and internationally.

This will require the organisation to work in a considered and focused way to achieve growth at a measured and manageable pace.

As we enter our 22nd year of operation we are readying the organisation for creative growth with a talented management team, supported by a proactive board and Chair who bring with them wide industry and sector experience and a passion for empowering New Writing North to achieve our ambitions.

BEING A TRUSTEE

We have four board meetings a year and an annual away day. Trustees are expected to attend the majority of meetings and to participate in sub-committee meetings (we have sub-committees for HR, Digital, Equality and occasional time-limited task and finish groups) and to attend occasional NWN events in order to experience and evaluate our work. Some trustees also serve as director of our trading company Mayfly Press, a small publishing house.

Our trustees are based in the North and in London and we welcome applications from potential trustees from anywhere in the UK. Board meetings take place during the day in Newcastle upon Tyne and dates are programmed two years in advance.

The post of a charity trustee is not a remunerated position. Trustees are recompensed for the travel and if necessary accommodation costs associated with attending meetings and for any other costs incurred whilst undertaking activities for the organisation.

TO MAKE AN APPLICATION

You can find out more about [New Writing North](#) on our website and view our current staff and trustees [here](#).

The New Writing North board has a process for appointing new trustees that begins with an open access call for applications. Following this submissions are read by a sub-group of trustees and the Chair and the Chief Executive who then shortlist candidates against an agreed criteria of skills and experience. Shortlisted candidates will then be invited to interview. Final decisions on invitations to take up a trusteeship will be made on merit.

The deadline for applications is **FRIDAY 1st JUNE**.

Timeline: Candidates notified by Monday 11th June, Interviews during July, prospective trustees invited to observe a board meeting (next available ones will be 19th September and 5th December 2018).

To apply please send a covering letter stating what you feel that you can contribute as a trustee to David Roche, Chair of the Board at david@davidroche.co.uk . For an informal discussion about the role please contact David on the above email address.