



Trustee: Role description and requirements

Turner's House Trust is seeking a small number of new Trustees to join the eight-person-strong Board and be part of the dynamic team that brings JMW Turner's house to life.

This summer the Trust has completed its ambitious project to restore the house that JMW Turner built to his own designs c.1813 as his country villa in leafy Twickenham near the Thames. His intention was to create a place near the Thames, which was a source of inspiration for his art, where he could retreat from the pressures of the London art world and the hurly-burly of his Marylebone household. The Trust aims for the house to become a 'monument to Turner in Twickenham' providing a unique opportunity for visitors of all ages and backgrounds to enjoy Turner's largest work of art – the House itself - and to experience "by walking in his footsteps" life in the early 19th century. In 2016 the Trust finished raising the £2.4 million needed for the restoration as well as the important educational and other facilities to be provided. The House was opened to the public in July 2017 and the transformation is stunning.

The Trustees bring great energy, enthusiasm and dedication to the management of this important House. Collectively the Board of Trustees guides the strategic direction of the organisation. The Board of Trustees is seeking new Trustees to support and guide it including in the areas of development and fund raising, historic buildings management, strategic business management and conservation architecture.

General responsibilities

- To actively contribute to the Board's role in giving strategic direction to Turner's House Trust, setting overall policy, defining goals and evaluating performance against agreed targets
- To support management in the ongoing transformation of the organisation and ensure that the Trust uses its resources effectively
- To support the Trust's work through regular attendance at its events and, where appropriate, be an ambassador for the Trust externally

The qualities which we think are needed to help us work together towards the success of our venture include:

Professional expertise and interest in one or more of:

- Development/ fund raising in the not for profit sector
- Historic buildings
- Business experience
- Conservation architecture

Personal attributes

- An enthusiasm for the Trust's role to advance education in the arts in our broader community by thoughtful, creative use of this fascinating building - which is, after all, the largest artwork by (arguably) Britain's greatest artist
- Willingness to work as a member of the team
- Ability to act impartially and objectively in dealing with Trust matters
- Ability to engage with strategic development of the Trust
- An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties and responsibilities of trusteeship, and of the legal basis of charity operations. We will, of course, give new trustees as much assistance as is needed with the latter. We would also refer potential Trustees to the Charity Commission's website's helpful guidelines: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission.

Practicalities

- Willingness to attend Board meetings plus necessary preparation and follow up. Board meetings will usually take place at Turner's House. These have been held monthly during the conservation period and we anticipate they will reduce to a meeting every two months now the House is open to the public.
- Ability to devote adequate time to the role including responding to emails in a timely manner in order to maintain efficient communication within the Trust.
- Trustees are appointed to serve for a term of three years.

We provide a tailored induction for new Trustees. Our aim is to help new Trustees become part of this integrated team as quickly as possible so that collectively we can enable Turner's House to have a long term sustainable future.

We hope that new Trustees will find great personal satisfaction, as we do, from the journey to bring Turner's House to life for as many people as possible.

For more information about the Trust, visit our website <http://turnershouse.org/> or find us on



If you wish to discuss the role you may contact Lucy Thompson at housedirector@turnershouse.org.

If you are attracted by this exciting opportunity, please send a CV and covering letter - including why you are interested in becoming a trustee and what you would bring to our team - to housedirector@turnershouse.org. Short-listed candidates will be invited for interview. The closing date for applications is 15 October 2017.

www.turnershouse.org

Registered charity no. 1111653

September 2017