



CHAIR OF TURNER'S HOUSE TRUST

We are looking for a person to chair the Board of Turner's House Trust, to succeed the current Chair, Catherine Parry-Wingfield, who plans to retire in 2019.

Turner's House Trust is the registered charity responsible for Sandycombe Lodge, the house which J M W Turner designed and built in Twickenham, and in which he lived with his father. Following an extensive conservation and restoration project, the House opened to the public for the first time in 2017, its garden opened in 2018, and it is now one of the leading small cultural attractions in South West London.

Principal responsibilities of the Chair

- Provide strategic leadership to the charity and its Board, ensuring that Trustees fulfil their responsibilities and operate within its charitable objectives
- Ensure that constructive relationships exist within and between the Trustees
- Ensure that systems are in place to evaluate, manage and mitigate the risks the charity faces
- Ensure that the Board maintains the sound financial health of the charity, with appropriate financial accountability
- Ensure that the governance arrangements are effective and develop the knowledge and capability of the Board of Trustees
- Act as an ambassador and spokesperson for the cause and the charity, and represent the charity at external functions, meetings and events
- Set objectives for the full-time House Director and monitor his/her performance

What are we looking for?

Personal Qualities

- A strong commitment to Turner's House Trust and its objectives
- Excellent leadership skills
- Being comfortable in an ambassadorial role in public
- Tact, diplomacy and powers of persuasion, able to listen and engage effectively
- Strong networking capabilities
- Willing to go the extra mile in committing time to the charity.

Experience

- Experience of operating at a senior strategic leadership level, with strong commercial experience
- Active interest in, knowledge of, and understanding of, the cultural and heritage sector
- Successful track record of achievement and making a difference through his or her career
- Experience of charity governance and working as part of a Board of Trustees

- Experience of external representation and managing stakeholders
- Significant experience of chairing meetings and events
- Financial management expertise and a broad understanding of charity finance issues.

What difference will you make?

Since opening to the public in August 2017, Turner's House has already attracted over 8,000 paying visitors, and has run an ambitious programme of activities and events to reach out to local schools and the wider community. We are looking for a Chair who can secure the future of the House by leading us on our journey towards long-term sustainability. This will involve strategic leadership on matters including volunteer engagement, fundraising, finance and the role of the House in the community.

What's in it for the Chair?

Turner's House is a small gem which occupies a distinctive place on London's cultural map. The role of Chair offers the opportunity to play a leading role in enhancing the life of the local community and to celebrate the outstanding artistic achievement of J M W Turner. In return for your commitment, you can be assured of a personal sense of satisfaction and of the support and encouragement of the skilled and committed Board of Trustees, the professional staff of the House and the enthusiastic volunteer team, who will all be excited to welcome you to the helm. We will provide a tailored induction.

The Commitment

The Chair leads six Board meetings a year. The Chair also has regular meetings with the full-time House Director and with the other Board Members and represents the charity at various public events and meetings, and in the media. The Chair (and Board members) serve a three-year term and are eligible for re-appointment for one additional term. The post is unremunerated and is estimated to take up around five days a month. In the Board's view the post is best suited to someone living within an hour's travelling time of Twickenham.

