



Chair of Trustees

Thank you very much for your interest in Spun Glass Theatre. We are seeking to appoint our first Chair of Trustees as the first step on our journey to registering as a charity.

About Spun Glass Theatre

Spun Glass Theatre is an award-winning theatre production company based in Hastings, East Sussex, founded by Jessica Cheetham. Spun Glass Theatre blend groundbreaking theatre making with excellent community engagement. We are a young, dynamic company creating bold, visual, theatre productions for all ages with experience in traditional theatres, schools, community settings and developing early years activities. Each project is built from the ground up with its intended audience, ensuring that the end result is delightful, entertaining and meaningful.

We are currently funded on a project by project basis by Arts Council England with support from community funding pots including National Lottery Awards For All, Sussex Community Foundation, Chalk Cliff Trust and Tesco Community Foundation.

Past projects include This Noisy Isle in association with The Place Bedford, touring regionally 2019-2021. This family event based on The Tempest was an exciting interactive journey for family audiences, as if they had arrived on England's shores as refugees and needed to navigate a magical Shakespearean world to finally find a home.

We also distributed an accompanying digital version of This Noisy Isle created for Living Record Festival 2021, initially 100 packs via the Holbeck food bank, and then to 2,460 families served by 15 different food-banks across Central London (Southwark, Paddington), Greater London (Brent, Kingston), Croydon, Brighton and Hastings. Food bank partners sent back very positive feedback and requests for further packs.

Our First parent and baby groups run weekly - one in St Leonards-on-Sea and two in Brighton, providing a creative, playful and supportive space for new parents to come together. Our workshop leaders run entertaining, sensory sessions which create opportunities for parents and babies to be creative together, as well as share experiences and seek out support. The groups run on a combination of paid places (£8 a week) and funded free places for parents on Universal Credit, single parents and those aged under 25.

See more of our past projects [here](#).

During the pandemic, Spun Glass Theatre created Theatre Search - a full free-to-access database of UK touring venues, which now powers The Public Campaign for the Arts interactive Arts Map.

More on Theatre Search [here](#).

Spun Glass Theatre also provides Arts Council England bid writing consultancy and project based access support for disabled and neurodivergent artists, raising over £750,000 from the Culture Recovery Fund.

More on our consultancy work [here](#).

Our plans for 2023-2025

The Spun Glass Theatre

We are currently embarking on our most ambitious project to date - the creation of Spun Glass Theatre - a fully accessible space for those both young and young at heart - a safe, vibrant and sensory world for little ones to experience their first taste of the arts.

Our vision for Spun Glass Theatre is to create a destination for a whole new generation of theatre goers; reimagining programming for a younger audience and creating events which bring children, parents, and siblings together. A space designed to immerse babies, toddlers and children in the magic of live performance.

Our aim is to find a home for Spun Glass Theatre in Hastings and St Leonards, to bring the local community together and to provide excellent cultural opportunities for children

from all backgrounds. We are building in options for Spun Glass Theatre to go on the road - able to tour to venues and festivals in 2025 and beyond.

“It's great that this is being done by parents of small children, you really understand what we need” - parent feedback

Information pack for this project is available on request.

Come join our journey to revolutionise the theatre experience for early years audiences.

Role profile - Responsibilities and Duties

Spun Glass Theatre is seeking to appoint a Chair for an initial three year term. The appointment will take place in Summer 2022. This is a voluntary and unremunerated position.

The Chair will be responsible for ensuring that Spun Glass Theatre is run sustainably and in accordance with its vision and aims. They will provide leadership to the Board ensuring that Trustees are properly engaged with the work of the company. They will offer support and challenge to the Executive Team and will work closely with them and the Trustees to register as a charity and refine/deliver on our new three year plan, spanning 2023-2025.

The Chair must share a passion for our artistic work and our commitment to being an equal, diverse and inclusive organisation.

In addition, the Chair will be:

- An experienced leader, with strong interpersonal skills, who is able to inspire trust and collaboration across a team of professional staff and partners;
- A clear communicator with an open and inclusive style and with experience of chairing meetings efficiently and effectively;
- Expected to have a capacity for fundraising, to be eager to bring new networks to Spun Glass Theatre;
- Willing and able to act as an ambassador for the organisation and to represent and promote it with funders and stakeholders at the highest levels;

- Excited about the challenge of balancing financial and non-financial metrics for success, particularly in giving proper consideration to both artistic ambition and long-term fiscal responsibility;
- Committed to maximising the talents of the staff team and supporting them to achieve their goals;
- Able to attend events and performances in the evening as well as be available to speak on the phone during the day, as necessary, on an ad-hoc and regular basis;
- Expected to have knowledge of corporate and charity governance and as its leader will be required to ensure that the Board fulfils its responsibilities for the proper governance of Spun Glass Theatre in meeting the requirements of the Charities Commission and all statutory reporting;
- Required to ensure that the Board's composition includes the necessary expertise and is sufficiently diverse to act effectively for the organisation.

Time Commitment

It is suggested that the Chair would ordinarily need to commit to the equivalent of two to three days per month to perform their duties. However the time commitment required in 2022 may be slightly greater – not only at the beginning of the Chair's tenure as they familiarise themselves with the work of Spun Glass Theatre but also as we develop partnerships and investment relationships for our capital project.

Locality

We have set up home in Hastings so whilst it is not essential for candidates to be based in the town, we will hold team meetings here and local knowledge is important to us when making work.

How to Apply

Please email Artistic Director Jessica Cheetham on recruitment@spunglasstheatre.com with your CV and a short explanation of why you would be interested in joining the board and your suitability for the role. We will reply to everyone who gets in touch - please bear with us.

Please also fill in the Equal Opportunities form here -

<https://forms.gle/nkxYUvcPbYtRGjyR8>

If you have a disability and need any reasonable adjustments to be made for you to be able to participate in the selection process, please contact Jessica Cheetham jessica@spunglasstheatre.com as soon as possible so we can accommodate your needs.

We want our board to reflect the diversity of the communities and artists we work with. We welcome expressions from everyone, but especially from people from ethnically diverse backgrounds, disabled people, young people, new parents and people who are LGBTQ+.

Interview Dates:

Informal chats - in person in St Leonards-on-Sea in Autumn 2022 at a mutually beneficial time.

Deadline for applications - 30th September 2022 5pm.