

# Manchester Craft & Design

## Open Trustee Recruitment 2022



*MCAD is Manchester's space for craft, community and making*

### **Our vision**

We promote craft in all its forms, expanding the definition and relevance of craft for *everyone*. We nurture and develop emerging and established talent, support viable creative careers, and showcase innovative and ambitious craft practices.

MCAD is a place of enterprise, production and creativity and reflects the rich diversity of Manchester's 21<sup>st</sup> century communities. We welcome everyone to experience and engage with making and our creative community. We safeguard a space for everyday creativity in the heart of the Northern Quarter and look outwards beyond our building.

### **Our organisation**

Manchester Craft & Design Centre is located in a glorious former fish and poultry market in the city's thriving Northern Quarter. A registered charity, Arts Council National Portfolio Organisation, and part of Manchester City Council's Cultural Partnership, for nearly 40 years we've been home to some of the region's most talented independent designers and makers. Selling textiles, jewellery, accessories, ceramics, glass, prints and homeware, each of the 20 studios offers so much more than just a shopping experience – it's a place to be inspired. We play a significant role for craft in the North West and nationally.

Our exhibitions and curated events programme promotes local, UK and International craft and design. The building is open to the public six days a week and provides unprecedented access to incredible practitioners and their processes, is a safe creative space for our neighbours to meet and participate, and allows creative businesses to thrive within a supportive community.

Our strategic objectives are to:

- 1) Create space and activities for craft and community to flourish
- 2) Nurture and celebrate the talent of practitioners and makers
- 3) Be a powerful advocate in our sector and to funders for craft and making
- 4) Ensure financial, social and environmental sustainability for MCAD

### **Our values**

All of our work will be developed through the lens of equality and environmental sustainability. These are intrinsic values placed at the heart of our decision-making.

### **1) Welcoming**

We welcome all who wish to visit, work and learn with us. We create spaces that are vibrant, social and safe. We base our plans on listening to our key constituencies, creatives and diverse communities and pursue ways to make our work more useful and relevant to more people. We actively seek to remove barriers to participation and leadership for those who might be excluded from our programmes, activities, staff team and governance.

### **2) Transparent**

We behave with integrity and accountability around our decisions, programmes and strategies. We passionately believe in equality of opportunity and the value of craft and making in the world today. We look outwards for partners and projects with shared values.

### **3) Supportive**

Our approach is compassionate and people-centred, in our dealings with our creative community, staff, audiences and collaborators. We work towards shared wellbeing with everyone we encounter. We embrace our civic role to take action on social injustice and climate change, and improve our local area.

### **4) Empowering**

We seek to inspire and support creative and sustainable ways of living and working. We create opportunities for visitors to experience and participate in the positive power of making. We support creative careers and skills development, particularly for those with the least advantage and opportunity.

### **5) Vibrant**

We support artistic, creative and entrepreneurial risk. We are confident and capable of making change. We are an innovative, listening and learning organisation, accumulating and embedding knowledge. We are energetic and well networked, generous in sharing our learning, and actively advocate for our sector.

## **Our future**

Still in a phase of recovery in a world adapting to a life after COVID-19, we are taking the exciting step of *listening* to our communities and audiences, and carefully reviewing our activities to create a truly relevant MCAD for the future. We are changing how we do things; starting to be more dynamic with our approach to creative entrepreneurialism and creating a space that invites all to experience the intoxicating joy of everyday craft.

Having been a keystone in the regeneration of the Northern Quarter, we continue to make a major contribution towards the growth of Manchester's cultural vitality. We are working with MCC to make our current premises fit for purpose and exploring the feasibility of a capital transformation which will be directly underpinned by our values and ambition.

## **How you can get involved**

We are working towards a Board that is representative of the diversity of modern Britain, and that more closely reflects the diverse communities we work with and alongside. A personal love of the arts and learning is fundamental; as is a commitment to inclusion. At this exciting and critical time in our

organisational journey, we're particularly interested in hearing from people with skills, knowledge and expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- People leadership and HR
- Major project management and capital development
- Legal expertise
- Retail or business development

We recognise we currently under-represent Black people and People of Colour, Disabled people, and those with intersecting identities in our workforce and on our board; MCAD is actively working to address this and encourages applications from these backgrounds.

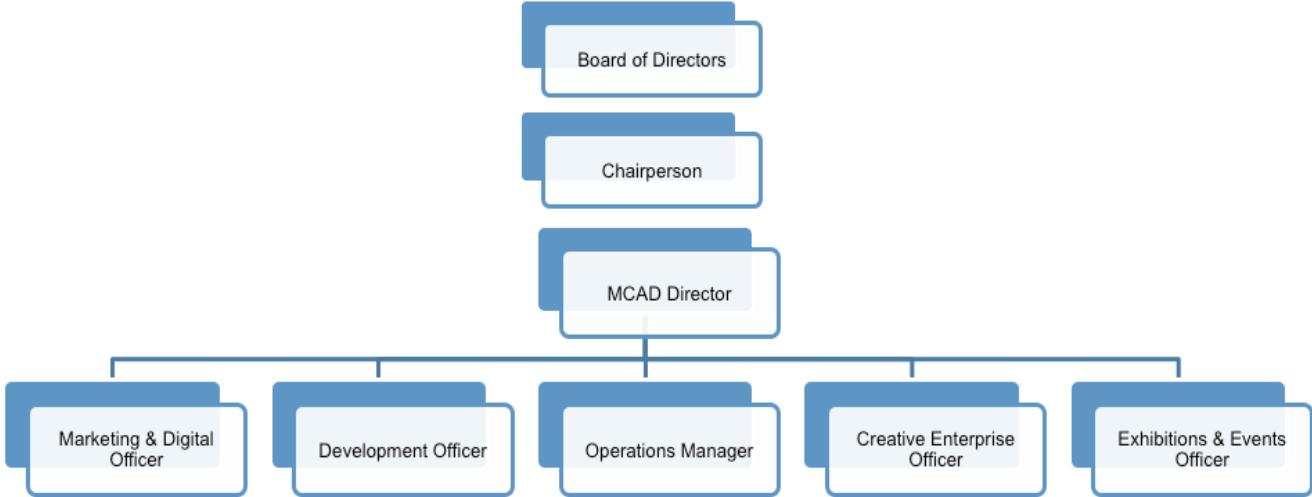
**What to expect**

Manchester Craft & Design is a registered charity with a voluntary Board of Trustees and has a trading arm (MCAD Enterprises) which has its own board of directors. The Charity Board meets four times per year, and sub-groups such as the Finance Committee also meet quarterly.

Board meetings take place in a fully accessible room, typically on weekday evenings. Since the COVID-19 pandemic we have conducted all meetings on Zoom, although we intend to adopt a hybrid approach with Trustees expected to attend a minimum of two meetings per year in person, and to also support a number of other committees and task and finish groups.

Attendance at our annual Makers Q&A and participation in events and exhibition launches is also encouraged.

**Management Structure**



## Meet our current board

Julie Platt (Chair)	Head of Development, The Scottish Association for Marine Science
Mike Woodward (Chair of the Finance Committee)	Heritage & Culture Consultant, Management Accountant
Shiraz Anwar	Creative, digital and tech entrepreneur
Katy Ashton	Director, Peoples History Museum
Professor Martyn Evans	Director of Manchester School of Art, MMU
Wayne Hart	Independent Maker: Lettercarver, Typographer, Sculptor
Jack Kirby	Associate Director of Collections Services, Science Museum Group
Jenny Tegg	Marketing and behaviour change consultant. Director at The Good Cause Project
<i>Toby Sproll (Chair of the Enterprise Board)</i>	<i>Director of Retail, Amenity &amp; Community, Bruntwood</i>

## What next?

If you believe you can contribute through your experience and skills, then please get in touch for an informal conversation or simply send us an email about why you want to be part of MCAD's family before **12pm on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2022**.

Shortlisted candidates will meet with some of our existing trustees during this summer/early autumn at a time that suits you.

There will be some paperwork and due diligence from our side (as I'm sure you will do yours on us) and trustees are formally elected to the board in the November AGM.

Contact us on [contactus@craftanddesign.com](mailto:contactus@craftanddesign.com) we would love to hear from you.