



# yvan

## **Board Recruitment Pack 2023**

Yorkshire & Humber Visual Arts Network (YVAN) is looking for new Directors to join our Board at an exciting point in our development as we consolidate our organisation to create a closer alignment with the artist and artist-led visual arts sector in the region.

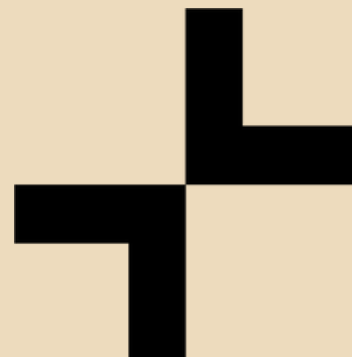
The role of a YVAN Board Member is a voluntary position and requires dedication to the company's development, acting as ambassadors and ensuring that we fulfil our mission and aims for the benefit of the visual arts sector in Yorkshire & Humber and beyond.

We are committed to ensuring that our Board of Trustees is representative of the diversity of Yorkshire & Humber and would like to encourage applications from people from underrepresented backgrounds, the global majority, people with lived experience of disability and neurodiversity and LGBTQ+.

Whilst we welcome applications from all individuals, we are particularly interested in applicants with the following skills/experience to complement the current membership of our Board:

- Accessibility
- Alternative models for wealth creation in the visual arts
- Company Secretary & Legal

- Climate justice in the visual arts
- Data analysis
- Finance
- Fundraising
- Human Resources (HR)
- IT / digital
- Policy development
- Public relations (PR)
- Research & research methodologies
- Sector knowledge



## About YVAN

YVAN is a voluntary-led micro-organisation, managed by part-time freelancers. We are funded by [Arts Council England](#) and are one of 9 regions as part of [Contemporary Visual Arts Network \(CVAN\)](#)

We prioritise individual practitioners and small-scale initiatives, including those that are artist-led. YVAN is made up of artist networks, studios, collectives, individual artists and makers, visual arts organisations, visual arts professionals, a range of specialist associates, Higher and Further Education departments and professionals.

## **Vision**

Yorkshire and the Humber is a place where the visual arts thrive through the collective strength and collaboration across the sector, founded in the creative vision of individual artists.

## **Mission**

To be a voice and advocate for the visual arts sector in Yorkshire & the Humber, delivering a programme that effects change in the profile, reputation and sustainability of the visual arts and artists in Yorkshire and the Humber.

Ensure the visual arts are accessible to meaningful participation and enjoyment by the diverse range of people who visit, live and work in Yorkshire and the Humber.

Amplify the important strategic contribution of the visual arts sector to place-making and quality of life in Yorkshire and the Humber.

YVAN is committed to ensuring that the visual arts in the region is contemporary, inclusive and diverse; that it opens up opportunities in fair and transparent ways; and challenges itself and partners to examine the unconscious bias and prejudice that permeate the arts and its institutions.

YVAN works towards being an anti-racist organisation for the visual arts. YVAN continues to demonstrate its commitment to CVAN's Fair & Equitable strategy through its governance and programme structures.

## What we do:

- **Support**

artists, makers and professionals to identify issues and priorities for action focusing on: Equity, Diversity and Inclusion; the Climate Crisis, areas of research and National Policy

- **Collaborate**

with organisations in supporting the visual arts through professional development, advocacy, research and promotion

- **Champion & Advocate**

for the role of the visual arts in leading on social and political change, and amplifying the impact from our region.

## YVAN'S governance and structure

YVAN Ltd is constituted as a limited company by guarantee (Company No. 10387805). With two Co-Chairs, a Board of Directors and four working groups, our priority is to ensure that YVAN's governance structure seeks close alignment to the needs and aspirations of the artist and artist-led in the region — our structure is agile and able to broker new strategic relationships with tangible benefits to the sector.

Board members are Directors of the Company. The Board is the leadership body for YVAN, ensuring that strategic and operational decisions are in line with the mission and objectives of the organisation and are operated within the laws and regulations that govern.

### The Board currently includes 6 members:

Helen Nakhwal: Co-chair and Finance manager

Michael Barnes-Wynters: Co-Chair and multi-disciplined audio visual creator

Sue Ball: MAAP Cultural producer

Laura Biddle: Curator/Producer

Lucy Dunhill: Director of Dujo

Dr Zanib Rasool: Rotherham United Community Sports Trust, Partnership and Development Manager

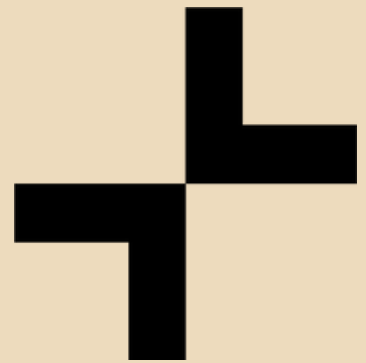
## **Non-Board members are currently:**

Freelance: Sharon Gill - CEO, Hannah Burgess - Communications Coordinator and employee: Sarah Yaccabe - Administrator.

There are two fully funded Collaborative Doctoral Research posts focused on the capacity and characteristics of the artist network and the artist-led in Yorkshire and The Humber, Alice Chandler and Melissa Burntown.

## **There currently are four active working groups:**

- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
- Research
- HR
- Finance



## **Programme and Artist Support**

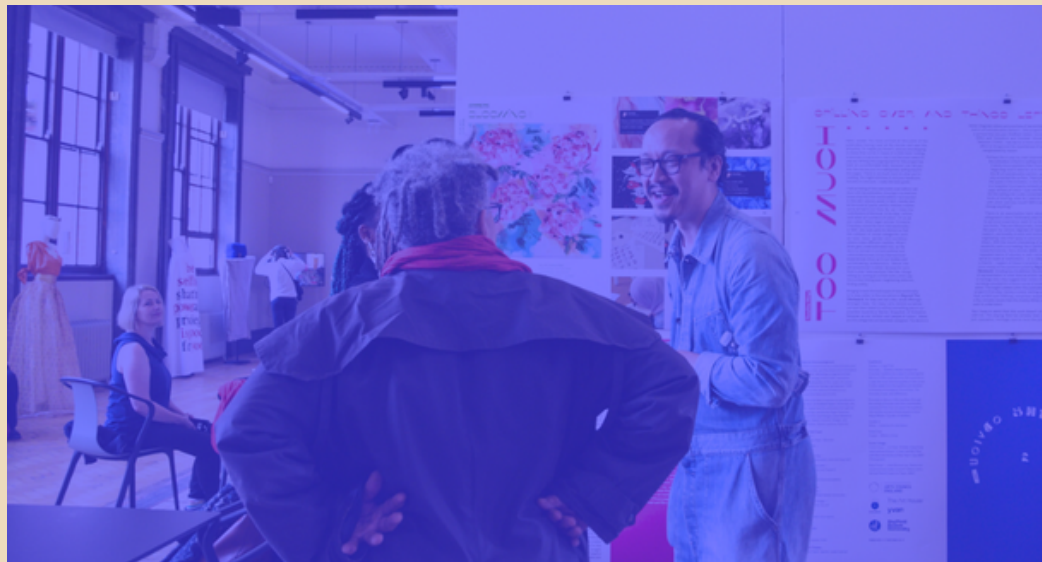
YVAN creates a dynamic responsive programme to bring tangible benefits to the visual arts sector, its public and audiences.

YVAN's programme is consciously designed to enable artists, makers and arts workers to determine the nature of activity, collaboration and debate that is required to effect change and ensure resilience in the visual arts sector in Yorkshire and the Humber. All the key strands of the programme are offered through a co-production ethic, moving from organisational delivery to collaborative approaches including open calls for applications, invitations to tender, and for expressions of interest in research briefs.

YVAN's role is to support and profile the selected practitioners and formulate a research framework to gather, analyse and disseminate learning from the projects. By drawing on this material and data, it will inform and validate individual artists' practice and through strategic presentation by CVAN National, enhance advocacy for the sector and seek to influence policy.

## We offer and run:

- Facilitation to grow the artist-led and artists networks
- Snapshot research programme lead by artists for artists
- Artist-led research in the lived experience of artists and designers from the global majority as students, practitioners and academics
- Artist commissions, opportunities and signposting
- Publications
- Mentoring
- Research placements
- Museum and Gallery Exhibition Tax support
- Campaigning to petition for artist livelihoods and policy change at a regional and national level.



## Partnership Development

YVAN are currently seeking a new productive partnership with one of our region's Arts Council funded NPO's for the 26-29 funding round. An organisation that aligns with our core principles and is excited to collaborate with us and the wider CVAN England network.

We are also preparing to build on an existing or develop another, HEI partnership to secure a Collaborative Doctoral Award placement to address our third research question.

YVAN is the lead for national sector support of the Museum and Gallery Exhibition Tax Relief (MGETR) from UK Government which continues to bring investment, £24 million into the sector, and has been working with CVAN, CVAN London and UCL to deliver research and case studies to ensure the Reliefs continuation.

Other active partnerships include University of Leeds, University of Newcastle, Artist Union England, Corridor8, Artworks Rotherham & Sheffield, Doncaster Creates, Growing Colour Together and artists networks and artist-led organisation and studios across the Yorkshire and Humber region.

## **Working across the north and nationally**

YVAN is part of the national Contemporary Visual Arts Network ([CVAN](#)) and advocates for Yorkshire and the Humber as a place where artists and arts workers feel supported to practise and pursue professional careers and where their multiple contributions to society are acknowledged and valued.

For more information about YVAN, read our [Annual Report](#) or visit the website: [www.yvan.org.uk](http://www.yvan.org.uk)

## **Director role description**

Remuneration: The role of Director is not accompanied by any financial remuneration, however expenses for travel to Board meetings and expenses related to event or meeting attendance where you are representing YVAN can be claimed.

The cycle of Board meetings are agreed at the AGM and are in February, May, August and November.

Term of appointment: 3 years

Location: Various locations within the region and/or via Zoom

Time commitment: Minimum 4 meetings (2 hours) per year + 8 hours of additional time per quarter to take on delegated actions

Reporting to: Chair and CEO

Purpose: To be agreed depending on interest and skill set

Responsibilities: To act in the interests of YVAN and to ensure the probity of the organisation



Privet at Threshold by Alice Chandler  
Photographer: Jules Lister

## How to apply:

Please send us a covering letter telling us why you are interested in becoming a Board Member of Yorkshire & Humber Visual Arts Network and what you think you will bring to the organisation.

Please also complete an [Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form](#) online. It is also available in [word format](#). This information will be treated confidentially.

Please email your application and Equal opportunities form to [info@yvan.org.uk](mailto:info@yvan.org.uk)

There is a rolling recruitment for interested Board members with two deadlines per year. The 2023 deadlines are 30th July and 30th October.

If we invite you to join our Board, then there will also be an opportunity to observe a Board meeting before you confirm you would like to proceed.