



## **‘Creating and Embracing Dance Together’**

### **An Invitation to Join Our Board**



[www.sidance.live](http://www.sidance.live)

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**The Roy Fletcher Centre, 12-17 Cross Hill, Shrewsbury SY1 1JE**

**Charity number: 1196537**

**Welcome to Shropshire inclusive Dance (SiD)**

SiD is moving forward with exciting developments and ambitious plans.

We are recruiting new **Board Members** and a new **Chair of the Board**. We are looking for at least two people who share our vision and would enjoy being part of a growing dance organisation based in Shropshire. This is an opportunity to become part of a team with the skills and expertise to support our stability and our ambitious delivery plan.

We are aiming to increase the diversity of the Board and welcome applications from everyone *who fits our criteria*, regardless of age, gender, sexuality, disability, race or faith. SiD are particularly keen to receive applications from people that represent groups identifying as D/deaf, disabled, neurodivergent and Global Majority.

Applications would be especially welcomed from people with knowledge and experience in the following areas:

- Practising dance artist and / or arts teacher
- Previous experience of being a trustee on another charity board
- Fundraising
- Marketing
- Digital inclusion

## **Chair of the Board**

The new Chair will be the leader and key spokesperson for the Board. They will support the other Trustees to fulfil their responsibilities regarding the strategic direction and general governance of the company.

Please reach out if you are interested and want to find out more, by contacting Jo Wright, General Manager on [officesidance@gmail.com](mailto:officesidance@gmail.com)



## In this pack you'll find information about:

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### 1. Shropshire Inclusive Dance

SiD is the only inclusive contemporary dance company in Shropshire. Since 2012 we have delivered distinct, exemplary, and creatively driven dance projects, and weekly classes and workshops which facilitate individuals' creativity, inclusion and community cohesion.

We make powerful performances with our own Contact Dance Company, and lead workshops for children, young people and adults, creating a supportive, creative and empowering dance environment.

At the heart of SiD are our core values of inclusion, respect, quality, connection, artistry and enjoyment.

We are a small, deeply committed and artistically driven contemporary dance company, consisting of two freelance part-time artistic directors, Ray Jacobs and Rachel Liggitt, a general manager, Jo Wright, and a freelance team of brilliant, experienced dance artists and dance specialist support staff, backed by a board of trustees. We have built strong relationships with our dancers, their families and support networks. We wish to continue to provide quality experiences for our all participants.

In November 2021 we converted from a CIC to become a CIO, and we celebrated our 10th anniversary in March 2022.

We're ambitious for the future and want to grow the organisation and its reputation, to provide more opportunities for dancing and to become better known for our inclusive approach.

## **Our Commitment**

- To share the enjoyment, power, creativity and connection that dance offers, with all those who participate in our workshops, and with a wide audience.
- To offer projects, workshops and regular classes to children, young people and adults where disabled and non-disabled participants can dance together.
- To support people to develop a sense of belonging, connection and creativity in relation to their own bodies, in a safe and supportive environment, which is vital to building a compassionate, cooperative and creative world.
- To reach out to the whole community, offering workshops where everyone feels included and empowered.
- Through dance and movement, to support the physical and emotional well-being of those that take part and enable the shaping of a more inclusive and integrated society.

## What we do

- Make and perform original choreography with our performance company 'Contact Dance Company', creating performances that celebrate the physical and emotional power of the moving body.
- Deliver weekly inclusive dance classes, workshops, and bespoke projects within community and educational settings, helping people connect, transform, and celebrate.
- Provide training opportunities for dance artists and other professionals including Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Nursing staff, and Teachers who wish to become more skilled in facilitating movement and dance.
- Partner with like-minded organisations (schools, colleges, theatres, day care centres etc.) supporting, encouraging, and providing inspiration, expertise, and experience in inclusive dance practice.
- Share our expertise in the field of inclusive dance and continue to explore and find new pathways to making dance accessible, creative and fun.



## **The Future**

SiD's 2-year programme of work includes:

Recruitment of Trustees to the board: SiD is particularly keen to receive applications from people that represent groups that identify as D/deaf, disabled, neurodivergent and Global Majority.

Collaborating with an organisational development and funding advisor to create a 5-year business plan.

Offering support for members of Contact Dance to be part of the company decision-making processes.

Sharing our performance work to wider audiences, regionally and nationally.

Through the diversity and democracy in Contact Dance, inclusion of more people through taster dance workshops, including people with physical disabilities and sensory impairment.

Continuing to train our dancers in the skills needed to facilitate workshops, so that all workshops are co-led by company members.

## **Our Base**

SiD's office is in The Roy Fletcher Centre and dance classes take place at The Hive, Shrewsbury. We also hire additional spaces on an ad hoc basis.

## **2. SiD's Financial profile and legal status**

SiD is a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation).

We are principally funded by the Arts Council until February 2024. Additional income is generated from a variety of trust funds and foundations as well as from class and project fees.

### 3. Roles and responsibilities of the Chair

To ensure:

- the board fulfils its strategic and charitable aims and objectives.
- compliance with the governing document and charity law.
- fulfilment of key responsibilities to funders.
- sustainability of the charity by regularly scrutinising finances, risks, policies, and procedures.
- network and act as an ambassador for SiD.

#### **Governance**

To:

- prepare agendas for meetings, in consultation with the artistic directors and general manager.
- chair meetings efficiently, ensuring full participation, discussion and democratic decision-making.
- facilitate actions by communicating with board members.
- hold the casting vote.

#### **Advocacy**

To represent SiD at external events, and support SiD's events by giving introductions or making presentations.

#### **Relationship with the core team**

To:

- support the Co-Artistic Directors and General Manager, building strong and positive working relationships with them and the wider freelance team.
- ensure regular contact - identifying opportunities for personal development.
- conduct annual reviews of Co-Artistic Directors as well as regularly checking in with them and the progress of projects.
- hold the Co-Artistic Directors to account regarding the achievement of strategic objectives.





## 4.Attributes of the Chair

### Personal qualities (essential)

- Passion, energy, enthusiasm, understanding of the value of the arts, commitment to inclusion and inclusive practice.
- Ability to motivate the core team and board and to build a strong team.
- Willingness to be involved, working with the team to support events where needed, the annual showcase event, for example.
- An approachable and non-judgemental attitude, with excellent interpersonal and communication skills.

### Experience (desirable)

- Experience of working in the third sector, or other connection with not-for-profit organisations.
- Experience of being a trustee for a charity or other non-profit organisation.

### Knowledge & skills (essential)

- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Knowledge of the arts
- Vision and insight to ensure the right skills are available to support the charity's aims and objectives.
- Skills to support the development of the board.

## 5. General duties of a Trustee

- To develop the strategy in collaboration with the board.
- To creatively support and actively challenge decision making at board meetings.
- To work as part of a team and with subgroups of the board to enable development of policies and projects.
- To support events and network with stakeholders across Shropshire, promoting SiD wherever possible.
- To support preparation of governance documents and ensure financial viability.
- To support the responsibilities of governance to the Charity commission and SiD's funders.

## 6. Commitment

Trustees are expected to attend quarterly board meetings including an AGM in November and an annual board away day. Board meetings are face to face or on Zoom at The Roy Fletcher Centre, Shrewsbury, 5.45 - 7pm.

Trustees and the Chair are appointed for a maximum of 3 terms of 3 years.



## 7. How to apply

If you need to talk anything through or have any queries, please email Jo Wright at [officesidance@gmail.com](mailto:officesidance@gmail.com)

### to apply:

Please send a covering letter of up to 2 pages

**or** a video/audio recording max 3 minutes

**or** a voice memo, max 3 minutes **or** PowerPoint presentation (up to 10 slides)

explaining why you think you would be a good fit for the role and the specific skills and knowledge you feel you would bring.

You are also welcome to include a CV.

Please email this to

[officesidance@gmail.com](mailto:officesidance@gmail.com)

Please complete our equal opportunities form and send your applications for this round of recruitment to [officesidance@gmail.com](mailto:officesidance@gmail.com) by **12 noon on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024**.

