TRUSTEE ROLE DESCRIPTION

The Thackray Medical Museum in Leeds is recruiting trustees to join its Board as non-executive directors. This is an unpaid, voluntary position, helping to provide governance of one of the region’s most important independent museums.

About us

Then...
Opened in 1997, the Thackray Medical Museum (TMM) was established to present a history of medicine with an emphasis on the social and political influences, and the commercial pressures which spurred technical developments. The museum also aimed to give visitors an understanding of the impact of medical techniques upon daily life.

Now...
While we keep a tight grip on our roots, which have been a part of the community for decades, the museum is changing. Over the next decade, the museum will nurture existing connections and foster new ones to create an environment that instills and inspires wonder, with a particular focus on growing medical capital.

We understand the impact we can have on our visitors, both children, and adults. Our vision is simple but wide in scope, we want to inspire people with the passion and purpose of medicine and healthcare in the past, present and future. Achieving this when we can confidently say we are inspiring and enabling people from any background to engage with medicine and healthcare. This will be possible through development of our brand, interpretation, and a focus on building strong networks within the medical community and beyond. By doing so, we can ensure that the museum fosters a culture of resilience and innovation.

As the museum undergoes a major capital redevelopment and a brand repositioning, it is crucial that TMM is guided by a Board that understands both our vision and the need to remain relevant and innovative. In doing so, the Board will be vital in leading and managing change to establish the museum as a leading institution in the 21st century.
Role description – Trustee

Role

To act as a guardian of purpose, ensuring the museum makes strategic decisions that are in the best interest of the community, the museum’s vision, and brand positioning.

What you’ll be doing...

▪ actively engaging with Board meetings, consulting with the rest of the Board to facilitate constructive debate
▪ contributing actively to the Board, giving firm strategic direction on all areas of corporate governance and compliance
▪ advising the Director on decisions relating to the constant development of the museum’s offer
▪ safeguard the museum’s brand identity and values, both internally and externally
▪ taking part in the AGM
▪ govern the museum effectively by scrutinising charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations
▪ ensure that the museum is constantly working towards the objectives outlined in the governing document
▪ scrutinise all administrative aspects of the organisation
▪ use your specific skills, knowledge or experience to help the board of trustees reach sound decisions

You will do this by...

▪ having a willingness to sit on committees
▪ helping to ensure decisions are guided by ethical considerations
▪ being committed to the museum and its purpose
▪ bringing about new and innovative ideas, strategic or otherwise
▪ being ready to take accountability for decisions made
▪ having an awareness of developments in a sector or sectors relevant to the museum
allowing the necessary time to be an effective trustee (i.e. typically attending quarterly Board meetings, participating in committees and Task and Finish groups and attending major events – between 4 – 12 days’ commitment per year)

▪ holding no significant potential conflicts of interests

Ideally, you’ll...

▪ understand Thackray’s vision and ambition for constant development
▪ have fairness, independence of mind, integrity, and good judgement
▪ believe in the museum’s potential to place itself alongside other leading institutions and museums
▪ have experience of governance
▪ have a particular investment in promoting Thackray’s commitment to science capital
▪ be able to articulate ideas persuasively
▪ have a passion for inspiring future generations
▪ be able to help represent our diverse public and stakeholders through lived experience

We are looking for people who have key skills in at least one of the areas below:

▪ Business Development
▪ Finance, particularly in the area of third sector finances and accounting
▪ Fundraising
▪ Networking
▪ Advocacy & lobbying
▪ Museum and culture sector (relating especially to best practice, ethics and engagement)
▪ Digital and media
▪ Health sector, including MedTech and health innovation
▪ Law and compliance
▪ Education, skills and training
▪ Capital development
▪ Trusteeship
▪ Finance
▪ Planning
▪ Governance
▪ Mentoring
How to Apply

Application for this position is in writing. However, we are very happy to discuss it informally in advance with you.

If you would like to arrange a visit to the museum, to meet its CEO, Nat Edwards and find out more about our plans, please email nat.edwards@thackraymuseum.org or ‘phone 0113 205 6528.

If you would like to have an informal discussion about the role with our current Chair Keith Ramsay, please email keith@keithramsay.com or call 07989851744.

To formally apply for the role of Trustee, please email nat.edwards@thackraymuseum.org with your current C.V. and a written statement setting out how you meet the requirements of the role.

The Thackray is an inclusive organization, committed to principles of equality and diversity. If, for any reason you would prefer to submit your application in a format other than in writing (e.g. as an audio or video file), please contact Nat Edwards via the contact details above or else by mail at:

Thackray Medical Museum
141 Beckett Street
Leeds
LS9 7LN

The closing date for applications is Friday 4 October 2019