

## Chair of the Board of Trustees

Do you believe that arts, culture and creativity can support the health and wellbeing of individuals and communities and help society flourish?

Arts & Health South West is a leader in the field of arts and health in the UK and internationally. We are looking for a new Chair to take us into the next stage of our development.

We have a strong board of committed and proactive trustees and a small and efficient team of staff. The new Chair will:

- be willing and able to commit time and energy to supporting the staff to deliver the programme of work;
- understand the entrepreneurial nature of small charities and believe in the role of infrastructure networks;
- be keen to work with the Director and the staff to ensure that the organisation is sustainable, agile and well managed in this time of unprecedented change and challenge.

**Please see the accompanying 'Description of Role' document for key dates, and guidance on how to apply.**

### About Arts & Health South West (AHSW)

AHSW is a learning, advocacy, networking and development organisation. We believe that creativity is at the heart of human flourishing and want more people to experience the arts and culture for the benefit of their health and wellbeing. We provide learning programmes and resources, advocate with decision-makers and funders, deliver networking events and support the development of partnerships and collaborations. We have been an Arts Council England funded National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) since 2012 and a registered charity since 2006. We are a free membership organisation with a membership of over 1300 people, mostly but not exclusively from the south west region. AHSW has developed a regional strategy in collaboration with stakeholders in the region and our current priority areas are loneliness, mental health and social prescribing. Our programme includes [network meetings](#), [webinars](#), [podcasts](#) and [Action Learning Sets](#). Recent and current partnership projects can be viewed [here](#).



The [Alternative Visions](#) project led to the establishment of a lively and active Advisory Group of people with lived experience of ill-health who also pursue creative practice. Three of them were involved in and helped plan and deliver our most recent [Spring School](#). Alternative Visions recently featured as a case study in [New Philanthropy for Arts & Culture](#) published by Arts Council England and the Beacon Collective.

From 2016-19, AHSW was the recipient of an Arts Council England Catalyst Evolve fund which strengthened our capacity for fundraising and individual giving. We now employ a part-time Fundraising and Development Manager. As well as offering an annual regional conference, AHSW has also delivered two major international conferences, in 2013 and 2017. The third [Culture, Health and Wellbeing international conference](#) will be in June 2021.

In 2022, AHSW will be applying to Arts Council England for NPO funding for 2023-2027 to support the core function. In addition to raising funds for our work from trusts and foundations, philanthropy and individual giving will continue to be an important activity supported by the Chair and Trustees.

The Director, Alex Coulter, is employed two days a week by AHSW. Hannah Mumby, General Manager, works 3 days a week and Alexis Butt, Fundraising and Development Manager two days a week. Our finances are managed by a freelance Finance Assistant, Sarah Holmes, one day a week. Oversight of finances are provided by our Finance Trustee, Bill Boa, with a finance sub-committee which involves the Chair.

Arts & Health South West represents the south west region on the Culture, Health and Wellbeing Alliance (CHWA) regional strategy group and works closely with colleagues across the country in joint projects and events.

Since 2014, Arts & Health South West has provided the secretariat for the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Arts, Health and Wellbeing on behalf of CHWA. It is anticipated that responsibility for this will transfer to CHWA by summer 2023.

The field of culture and health has grown considerably in influence and profile in recent years and Arts and Health South West has played a key role in this development. We managed the two-year Inquiry for the All-Party Parliamentary Group, leading to the publication of [Creative Health: The Arts for Health and Wellbeing](#) in 2017 and incubated CHWA as a national sector support organisation with Arts Council England support. A key challenge for the organisation in the future will be to integrate its national profile with development support of new dynamic initiatives across the South West.