

Job Description for the Chair of Derby's Cultural Education Partnership (DCEP)

(Volunteer role)

Derby – our place to make creative futures

Derby's Cultural Education Partnership is a collective of cultural organisations that work with young people: in schools, in cultural settings and in the community.

Vision: Children, young people and students from all walks of life will thrive in our city. They will be able to experience and help shape the widest possible variety of culture and through this, develop their skills, life chances and fulfil their highest ambitions.

Mission: We will build of sustainable and resource-rich partnerships between cultural venues, education settings, local businesses and other local organisations that enable all children, young people and students to thrive.

Aims (created by young people)

- Discover your creativity
- Be inspired
- Get involved
- Have fun
- Shape your future
- Develop through the arts
- A place for everyone.

Purpose of the Role

The Chair provides strategic leadership to the Derby Cultural Education Partnership (DCEP), ensuring the partnership operates effectively, collaboratively, and with a clear focus on improving opportunities for children and young people across Derby and beyond.

Key Responsibilities

Strategic Leadership and Governance

- Provide clear, inclusive leadership to the Partnership, ensuring meetings are purposeful, well-governed, and aligned with the Partnership's vision, mission and aims.
- Uphold the values of collaboration, equity, and cultural access across all partnership activity.
- Support the board to move from discussion to action, ensuring decisions are followed through appropriately.

Chairing and Board Effectiveness

- Chair meetings, setting a friendly and professional tone and enabling all partner organisations to contribute effectively.
- Work with the meeting administrator (currently with Derby Theatre) and partners to co-construct agendas that reflect current priorities, opportunities, and challenges in the cultural education landscape.
- Encourage reflective practice, shared learning, and continuous improvement across the Partnership.

Partnership and External Engagement

- Stay well informed about cultural education policy, funding opportunities, and sector developments within Derby City and the wider region.
- Act as an ambassador for the Partnership, strengthening relationships with partner organisations, funders, and key stakeholders.
- Support collaboration between cultural organisations to maximise collective impact and avoid duplication.

What we are looking for

The successful candidate will ideally:

- Have experience of chairing or participating in a voluntary board, steering group, or partnership.
- Demonstrate strong facilitation skills, enabling balanced discussion and inclusive decision-making.
- Possess a good understanding of, or strong interest in, the cultural and creative education sector.
- Be collaborative, diplomatic, and confident in working with diverse organisations and stakeholders.

Time Commitment

- Attendance at monthly board meetings (typically 2 hours). These may move to bi-monthly.
- Additional time for agenda setting with the DCEP administrator, liaison with partners, and staying informed about local and national cultural developments.

Term of Office

- To be agreed (typically 1 - 3 years), with the possibility of renewal by mutual agreement.

To apply for this role, please email Tanvir @ t.khaled@derby.ac.uk with your cv and a paragraph about why you are interested in the role.

Deadline: Thursday 30th April

Meeting members of DCEP: 14th May pm

Derby's Cultural Education Partnership Chair – call out

The **Derby Cultural Education Partnership** is on the lookout for a **Chair** to help guide a brilliant mix of creative organisations shaping cultural education across Derby and beyond.

This is a **voluntary role** and involves:

- Chairing our monthly (may move to bi-monthly) partnership meetings (keeping us focused and friendly),
- Helping shape agendas with partners around culture, creativity, and young people,
- Keeping an eye on what's happening in Derby's cultural landscape and the needs of young people and spotting opportunities,
- Supporting collaboration between cultural partners.

Who are we looking for?

Someone who:

- Is from a background that is currently underrepresented in our sector
- Enjoys bringing people together and making meetings meaningful,
- Can balance big-picture thinking with practical next steps,
- Has an interest in culture, creativity, and young people's development
- Can lead with warmth, clarity, and a sense of humour when needed.

What's in it for you?

- A chance to shape cultural education across the city,
- Working with an inspiring group of creative organisations,
- The satisfaction of making a difference

We aim to actively champion and celebrate diversity in all its forms. We are committed to equality of opportunity for all of those we work with and applications from individuals are encouraged regardless of age, caring responsibilities, disability, gender, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

We positively encourage disabled people, people of African or Caribbean heritage, South Asian heritage, East Asian heritage, West Asian heritage, Central Asian heritage, Southeast Asian heritage and people of Middle East and North African heritage and those who have experienced racism. By the term 'those who have experienced racism', we are referring to individuals who have experienced discrimination based on the colour of their skin, race and/or their culture.

We guarantee to interview any candidate with a disability who meets the essential criteria for the role.

If you're interested (or know someone who'd be perfect), we'd love to hear from you.

Please email Tanvir Khaled t.khaled@derby.ac.uk by Friday 17th April with your c.v. and paragraph detailing your interest in the post.