

Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the Federation of British Artists (FBA). On behalf of the Board, I am delighted that you are considering joining us at an exciting and pivotal time for our organisation. Stepping into the Mall Galleries, our home in central London, visitors are struck by the serenity and elegance of the space. Just off Trafalgar Square in central London, it can host a lively private view one evening, a focused life-drawing workshop the next morning, and offer the stillness of quiet contemplation throughout the day. It is a space that elevates the experience of encountering art, but what makes it truly special is the dedicated community of living artists and art lovers behind it.

For decades, we have championed excellence in contemporary figurative art. As a charity, we are committed to supporting established artists, nurturing new voices, broadening access to original artwork, and deepening public engagement with the visual arts. There is a strong sense of momentum here and a shared appetite for shaping the next chapter of the FBA, ensuring artists gain the visibility, support, and validation they need, while building connections with new audiences and the next generation of art enthusiasts.

Warm regards,

Jane Ellison

Chair, Federation of British Artists

Join the Board of the Federation of British Artists

The Federation of British Artists (FBA) is seeking **two independent Trustees** to join our Board as we build on our history and the rich heritage of our nine member art societies.

We are also looking to appoint an **independent member of our Finance and Budget Committee**, who may join the Board as a Trustee later. This would be an excellent opportunity for someone with financial and accounting expertise (qualified) to become involved with the organisation before taking on a full Trustee role.

About the FBA

The FBA is a leading visual arts charity, established in 1961 to aid, promote and encourage the study and practice of the fine and visual arts, primarily by living artists. Our mission is to deepen public appreciation of contemporary figurative art, champion artistic excellence, support emerging artists, and create meaningful connections with audiences through exhibitions, education, and public engagement. Our member art societies represent some of the UK's most distinguished artistic communities:

The Royal Society of British Artists
The Royal Society of Portrait Painters
The Royal Institute of Oil Painters
The Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colours
The Royal Society of Marine Artists
The New English Art Club
The Pastel Society
The Society of Wildlife Artists
The Hesketh Hubbard Art Society

The FBA is responsible for providing these member societies with gallery services, space to host workshops and events, marketing and sales support, digital assistance, and administration. It has a range of income streams, including membership fees, commission on sales, venue hire, and artist submissions. Some 25 member and non-member exhibitions are hosted a year at the Mall Galleries with footfall of over 65,000.

An exciting time to join the FBA

With a new Chief Executive, Tom King, and an ambitious vision for the future, we are looking for people who share our commitment to supporting artists at different stages in their careers, strengthening our charity, and ensuring the visual arts remain accessible, relevant and valued by diverse audiences.

The FBA is governed by a Board of 15 Trustees, who are also Directors of the charity. Chaired by Jane Ellison, the Board includes nine Trustees nominated by

the member societies and five independent Trustees, bringing a breadth of artistic and professional expertise. Trustees are appointed for a three-year term, renewable once, to a maximum of six years. We would be delighted to welcome the new Trustees and new Finance and Budget Committee member in December 2026/January 2027.

Who are we looking for?

We welcome applications from people with varied leadership experience who can contribute strategic thinking, sound judgement, and strong governance. We are particularly interested in expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- **Fundraising, Sponsorship & Development** – securing commercial partnerships, attracting philanthropic support, developing fundraising strategies, and helping the charity grow.
- **Advocacy, Communications & Brand Development** – stakeholder engagement, public affairs, marketing, communications, and strengthening the organisation's profile and reputation.
- **Digital Strategy & Technology** – digital transformation, e-commerce, technology systems, data, digital engagement, and innovation.
- **Finance, Audit & Risk** – financial leadership, audit, risk management, governance, and long-term financial sustainability. Candidates with this expertise may be particularly interested in joining the Finance and Budget Committee.

Above all, we are looking for Trustees who bring curiosity, sound judgement, and a genuine commitment to the FBA's charitable purpose. Understanding of and enthusiasm for the visual arts is highly valued.

Diversity and inclusion

The FBA believes that a diverse Board brings broader perspectives and stronger governance. We are committed to building a Board that reflects the diversity of the communities we serve and the artists we champion. We welcome applications from people of all backgrounds and lived experiences.

How to apply

If you share our commitment to the FBA's charitable purpose and would like to bring the skills, insight and curiosity that will help the organisation flourish, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Please send a CV and a personal statement of no more than two sides of A4 to:
trusteerecruitment@mallgalleries.com

Closing date for Finance and Budget Committee applications: 11 September, 12 noon

Closing date for Board of Trustees applications: 18 September, 12 noon

We aim to hold interviews for the Finance and Budget Committee on 22 September, and interviews for the Board positions will be in early October.