

RECRUITMENT PACK

COUNCIL DIRECTORS

LIPA

THE LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE
FOR PERFORMING ARTS



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WELCOME FROM THE PRINCIPAL/CEO

A warm welcome to LIPA. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your interest in joining us.

LIPA is recognised as a world leading centre of excellence for creative learning and vocational training within the performing arts and creative industries. Our ethos and learning environment is underpinned by a commitment to collaborative and creative practice in pursuit of developing artists and cultural entrepreneurs ready to respond to the evolving needs of the creative industries and lead positive change in the performing arts.

The implementation of our ambitious Strategic Plan 2023-26, progress towards achieving degree awarding powers and our 30th anniversary celebrations in 2026 make this an exciting period in our evolution.

We have high expectations for new appointees, and are looking for inspiring, inclusive, and innovative leaders who will support us in developing the next generation of performers, creative artists, and entrepreneurs.

If you share our mission, we would really like to hear from you.

I wish you all the best.

Sean

Professor Sean McNamara

Principal & CEO



ABOUT LIPA

The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts (LIPA) is world renowned as a leading provider of university level creative and performing arts training with a portfolio of ambitious and popular courses. We are an international community of performers, creatives, technicians, filmmakers, and businesspeople who learn by working together with industry partners on fully realised productions and projects.

LIPA's pioneering approach to learning is project based. This highly practical method is underpinned by collaboration, industry links and entrepreneurial training. It creates multi-skilled, innovative, and empowered graduates able to follow their passions and forging a sustained career in the creative and performing arts.

OUR STRATEGY FOR 2023-2026

Our vision for the future is underpinned by six core themes:

- **Excellence:** to be recognised as a world leading centre of excellence for creative learning and vocational training within the performing arts and creative industries
- **Equity:** to create and develop a culture and environment for equality and inclusion at all levels throughout the institution
- **Environment:** to achieve and maintain financial, environmental, systemic, technological and campus sustainability
- **Empowerment:** to empower and enhance the student, staff, and alumni experience within the LIPA Learning Group to meet the evolving demands and requirements of the higher education sector and creative industries
- **Employability:** to embed employability into the curriculum and co-curricular activities to develop students for future employment opportunities and career progression
- **Entrepreneurship:** to create an environment for inspiring creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship





COUNCIL DIRECTORS

The Council at LIPA sets the strategy, addresses policy issues, and monitors management performance. Council Directors focus on governance by ensuring clarity of vision, ethos, and strategic direction; holding executive leaders to account; and overseeing educational and financial performance.

Council Directors uphold LIPA's values of creativity, inclusivity, and excellence, foster industry partnerships, support fundraising efforts, and advocate for diversity and inclusion. They represent LIPA in the community, ensuring adherence to legal requirements and managing risks. With the launch of the Strategic Plan 2023-26 and new degree-awarding powers, Council Directors have a unique opportunity to drive LIPA's growth and success.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

LIPA seeks dynamic Council Directors to enhance the existing Board and advance its strategic vision.

Candidates with backgrounds in **at least one** of the following fields are encouraged to apply:

- **Higher education:** Candidates will have experience in higher education governance and a solid understanding of degree awarding powers and regulatory frameworks, such as the Office for Students (OfS). We are seeking individuals with a background in the creative and performing arts and leadership experience in small specialist providers is advantageous. Familiarity with the higher education sector and policy landscape is also beneficial.
- **Property:** Candidates will have significant experience in the property sector, with a strong understanding of real estate markets, development, and investment. They should possess a proven track record in governance, strategic planning, and regulatory compliance within the industry. Expertise in overseeing large-scale property portfolios and managing stakeholder relationships is essential. Strong financial acumen, risk management skills, and a commitment to ethical leadership are also essential.
- **IT / Creative digital:** Candidates should possess a background in IT or creative digital industries. The ideal candidate will have a background in the technology sector, with a focus on consumer engagement. They should demonstrate proficiency in leveraging digital technologies and platforms to drive innovation and enhance creative outputs. An understanding of the evolving digital and technological landscape and its impact on the performing arts sector will be invaluable for this position.

First-time non-executives are welcome, provided they have a clear understanding of governance. A connection to the Liverpool region is valued. Above all, candidates must share our passion for education and the performing arts, resonating with our values and mission.



FURTHER PARTICULARS

Terms of appointment and meetings

This role is unremunerated but reasonable pre-agreed expenses will be reimbursed. There are three Council meetings per year (March, June and November), occurring on weekdays, typically Friday mornings around 9:30am.

The November Council meeting is held in person in Liverpool, featuring a LIPA show and dinner. The March and June meetings are in a hybrid format.

Council Directors also participate in Committee meetings and will join at least one Committee. Most Committee meetings are conducted online, and meetings are held three to four times per year.

APPLYING

To apply, please send your CV and a brief covering note to Natalie Cook via e-mail: n.cook@lipa.ac.uk

The deadline for applying is **17 January**

Diversity

We welcome applications from everyone regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, faith or disability. All appointments will be made on merit, following a fair and transparent process. In line with the Equality Act 2010, however, the organisation may employ positive action where candidates from underrepresented groups can demonstrate their ability to perform the role equally well.

Privacy notice

For information on how we handle your data, please see our privacy notice on our website: lipa.ac.uk/privacy



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