

The background of the entire page is a dark blue gradient. In the center, there is a large, dark silhouette of a person wearing a suit, with their arms raised high in a gesture of celebration or triumph. Below this central figure, there are several other smaller silhouettes of people, some of whom appear to be clapping or cheering, suggesting a crowd at a performance or event.

RECRUITMENT PACK

COUNCIL DIRECTORS

LIPA

THE LIVERPOOL INSTITUTE
FOR PERFORMING ARTS



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.

With our achievement of probationary degree-awarding powers, and the development of our new Strategic Plan for 2027-32, this is 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

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ABOUT LIPA

The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts (LIPA), co-founded by Paul McCartney and Mark Featherstone-Witty in 1996, is globally renowned for its university-level creative and performing arts training. Based on the site of Paul McCartney and George Harrison's former school, The Liverpool Institute for Boys, and incorporating John Lennon's Liverpool College of Art, LIPA offers a unique historical and cultural backdrop.

LIPA is dedicated to being a world-leading centre of excellence for creative learning and vocational training. Its pioneering, project-based approach to learning is highly practical and emphasises collaboration, industry connections, and entrepreneurial training. This method produces multi-skilled, innovative graduates equipped for sustained careers in the creative and performing arts. Its international community of performers, creatives, technicians, filmmakers, and business professionals work together with industry partners on fully realised productions and projects.

Collaboration is at the heart of LIPA's teaching, providing comprehensive training for all aspects of performance and production. With modern facilities and experienced industry experts, complemented by visits from notable professionals for masterclasses, LIPA fosters a high-quality learning environment. Notably, it has established strong partnerships with industry leaders, with many of its graduates receiving numerous accolades for its contributions to the arts.

With the achievement of its new degree-awarding powers, this is an exciting time for new Council Directors to join and contribute to LIPA's growth.





PERSON SPECIFICATION

COUNCIL DIRECTORS

LIPA seeks dynamic, non-executive Council Directors to enhance the existing Board and advance its strategic vision. Candidates with backgrounds in specialist performing arts education as well as individuals with strategic educational policy knowledge are encouraged to apply.

- **Specialist Performing Arts Education:** Ideal candidates will have strategic experience in education in the creative and performing arts. While a background in higher education is appreciated, it is not essential if candidates can demonstrate an understanding of the wider sectoral challenges facing higher education. LIPA values a technical and analytical mindset, and leadership experience in higher education is advantageous. Familiarity with the higher education political landscape is also beneficial.
- **Educational Policy / Governmental Links:** Ideal candidates will have experience from within or alongside government or government agencies and will have a strong understanding of national educational strategy / policy. Also beneficial would be knowledge of political and regulatory frameworks and the ways in which government priorities shape the operating environment for higher education institutes. They will be able to interpret government priorities, advise on effective engagement with ministers, members of parliament and regulators, and will be able to support effective engagement with public bodies and contribute to sound, accountable governance.

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 development of the Strategic Plan 2027-32 and degree-awarding powers, Council Directors have a unique opportunity to drive LIPA's growth and success.

First-time non-executives are welcome, given a clear understanding of governance. A connection to the Liverpool region is preferred. Above all, candidates must share LIPA's passion for education and the performing arts, resonating with its 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). Council meetings occur on weekdays, typically Friday mornings around 10:30.

The November Council meeting is held in person in Liverpool, while 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 Rosemary Millbank via e-mail: r.millbank@lipa.ac.uk

The deadline for applying is **1 May**. Interviews are planned to take place on **Friday 15 May**

Diversity

The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts welcomes 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

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