

Artistic Director for Community Engagement

The Artistic Director for Community Engagement will provide creative leadership for Skye Bridge Studios, shaping and delivering a bold, inclusive artistic vision that places young people—particularly those of secondary school age—at the heart of the organisation’s work.

The role combines artistic direction, youth arts development, and community engagement, ensuring that Skye Bridge Studios is a centre of excellence for creativity, participation, and progression for young people, while also contributing to the wider cultural life of Skye and the Highlands.

Key Responsibilities

Artistic Leadership & Vision

- Develop and articulate a clear artistic vision aligned with Skye Bridge Studios’ mission, values, and strategic aims.
- Lead the creation of high-quality artistic programmes, with a strong emphasis on work for and by secondary-age young people (approximately ages 12–18).
- Ensure artistic work is ambitious, relevant, and inclusive, reflecting the voices, experiences, and aspirations of young people in rural and island communities.

Youth & Participation Focus

- Design, deliver, and oversee year-round creative programmes for secondary-age young people, including workshops, residencies, performances, exhibitions, and digital projects.
- Create safe, supportive, and inspiring creative environments that promote confidence, wellbeing, collaboration, and self-expression.

Programme Development & Delivery

- Ensure all programmes meet safeguarding, health and safety, and equalities requirements.
- Embed evaluation and reflection into programmes to support continuous improvement and demonstrate impact.

Community & Partnerships

- Build strong relationships with schools, youth services, community groups, and cultural partners across Skye and the wider Highlands.
- Encourage intergenerational and community participation where appropriate, strengthening local cultural connections.

Leadership & Management

- Lead and inspire creative staff, freelance artists, and volunteers, fostering a collaborative and supportive working culture.
 - Contribute to organisational planning, funding applications, and reporting, particularly in relation to artistic and youth programmes.
 - Work closely with the Board and senior management to ensure artistic ambition is matched by operational and financial sustainability.
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Person Specification

Essential

- Significant experience as an artist, creative practitioner, or arts leader.
- Proven experience of working creatively with secondary-age young people.
- Strong understanding of youth engagement, participation, and inclusive practice.
- Excellent communication and facilitation skills, with the ability to inspire young people, artists, and partners.
- Experience of developing and delivering artistic programmes from concept to completion.
- Knowledge of safeguarding and best practice when working with children and young people.
- Driving licence and a car.

Desirable

- Experience of working in rural, island, or remote communities.
 - Understanding of Scottish arts, youth arts policy, or education contexts.
 - Experience of partnership working with schools or youth organisations.
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Values & Approach

The Artistic Director will be committed to:

- Collaboration and community connection
- Youth voice and co-creation
- Artistic excellence and experimentation

Salary & Contract

- This is a two-year contract 3 days per week (and may be extended) and the salary is pro rata 38K per annum
- Help with accommodation may be available.
- A capped travel allowance.

How to Apply

- To apply please send a full cv with two referees, and a covering letter of no more than two pages outlining your experience and suitability for this role. To contact@skyebriidgestudios123.com
- Skye Bridge Studios is committed to inclusive practice and welcomes applications from people of all backgrounds.