

AVANT GARDEDANCE



INTRODUCTION



Our Board currently comprises:
Tony Adigun, Artistic Director and CEO
Franck Bordese, Impresario
Kiki Gale, Senior freelance arts consultant
Bradley Hemmings MBE, Artistic Director, Festival.org

Thank you for your interest in joining Avant Garde Dance Company's Board as Chair.

Avant Garde Dance Company (AGDC) is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, governed by a Board of Directors.

Avant Garde (AGDC) is a National Portfolio client of Arts Council England and has performed and produced work both in the UK and internationally. This includes at The Place, Breakin' Convention, Sadler's Wells, Pavilion Dance South West, Southbank Centre, Barbican, DanceXchange, Greenwich Dance, Latitude Festival, British Dance Edition 2012, Greenwich & Docklands International Festival, Brighton Dome, East London Dance at Stratford Circus, Barcelona Festival and Madison Square Gardens New York.

In the past few years AGDC has reached over 170,000 audiences and engaged over 2,000 young people taking part in learning and participation opportunities. Nominated for the Best Independent Dance Company category in the National Dance Awards, The AGDC mantra 'Innovate Never Replicate' is evident throughout the work, as the company embraces a sense of difference and individuality.

AGDC remains focused on its ambitions to take its artistic work to

new audiences, to provide innovative development opportunities to diverse artists, children and young people and to build a magnetic brand on multiple platforms from the base of a solid and sustainable organisation.

With plans for national and international touring of new work, release of new digital and physical participation and learning platforms and a variety of film projects over the next three years, now is the perfect moment to join AGDC's team.

At this exciting stage of the organisation, we are keen to broaden our Board's skill-set; background; network, and are particularly interested in hearing from candidates with backgrounds that are under-represented within the industry.

Senior experience working within the arts would be ideal, but not essential.

The successful applicant will bring passion, energy and enthusiasm to the role. You will be ready to get stuck in to dream and scheme alongside the SMT and work closely with the Artistic Director to realise the organisation's aspirations.

We are particularly interested in applications from candidates who bring experience in supporting the leadership journey of others.

ABOUT AVANT GARDE DANCE

INNOVATION AND RISK

INSPIRATION AND TRANSFORMATION

COLLABORATION

DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY

Avant Garde is a critically acclaimed company at the forefront of London's innovative Hip hop/Contemporary Dance scene. The company was founded in 2001 and is led by entrepreneur and maverick Artistic Director/CEO and Choreographer Tony Adigun.

Having gained extensive experience in the world of commercial dance, Tony set out to transform a group of hip hop dancers into a unique company that could explore contemporary influences and create an unusual, abstract and artistic practice. The company's dynamic performances explore a myriad of styles, themes and media, whilst embracing different genres and forms of music, dance, literature, circus and digital work.

AGDC is dedicated to creating and distributing world-class dance with a broad appeal to diverse, intergenerational and multicultural audiences nationally and internationally.

The company is also committed to the learning and participation of young people and provides multiple opportunities for them to engage in the company's work through formal and informal education and engagement opportunities.

Avant Garde's work is underpinned by its mission and a number of core values:

OUR MISSION

TO PRODUCE WORLD-CLASS,
INNOVATIVE AND INSPIRING
NEW DANCE WORKS FOR
DIVERSE AUDIENCES, THE
WIDER PUBLIC AND THE
COMMERCIAL SECTOR, AND TO
BE A UNIQUE LEADER IN THE
PROVISION OF TRAINING AND
DEVELOPMENT FOR YOUNG
PEOPLE AND EMERGING DANCE
ARTISTS.

OUR VALUES

INNOVATION AND RISK – CONSTANTLY EVOLVING, AGDC'S ATTITUDE IS BASED AROUND THE MANTRA OF 'INNOVATE, NEVER REPLICATE'. WE BELIEVE IN CHALLENGING EXPECTATIONS AND TAKING RISKS – QUESTIONING THE STATUS QUO AND PUSHING AT THE BOUNDARIES.

COLLABORATION – AGDC BELIEVES IN THE IMPORTANCE OF SHARING EXPERIENCES AND SKILLS WITH OTHERS. WE USE DANCE TO COLLABORATE WITH OTHER CREATIVE INDUSTRIES, PARTICULARLY MUSIC, FASHION AND TECHNOLOGY.

INSPIRATION AND TRANSFORMATION – AGDC INSPIRES AND IS INSPIRED BY YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGHOUT ITS WORK. WE CHANGE YOUNG PEOPLE'S LIVES THROUGH ARTISTIC EXPERIENCES AS PARTICIPANTS, PERFORMERS, EMPLOYEES AND COLLABORATORS. WE INSPIRE AUDIENCES AND TRANSFORM EXPECTATIONS OF WHAT DANCE CAN BE.

DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY – AGDC BELIEVES THAT TO BE RELEVANT AND INSPIRATIONAL RELIES ON DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY OF REPRESENTATION IN THE INDUSTRY. WE ARE COMMITTED TO QUESTIONING OUR OWN WORK AND SYSTEMS, AND THOSE OF OUR STAKEHOLDERS AND PARTNERS, TO ENSURE THAT ALL PEOPLE HAVE ACCESS TO THE ARTS.

OUR GOALS

GOAL ONE:
CREATE HIGH
QUALITY WORK THAT
IS INNOVATIVE AND
INSPIRATIONAL

GOAL TWO:
EXPLORE NEW AND
DISTINCTIVE ITERATIONS
OF OUR WORK

GOAL THREE:
ENSURE ROBUST
GOVERNANCE AND
FINANCIAL AND
MANAGERIAL BEST
PRACTICE

GOAL FOUR:
CONSOLIDATE
AND DEVELOP OUR
PARTNERSHIPS

GOAL FIVE:
SUSTAIN AND DEVELOP
OUR AUDIENCES AND
EXTEND OUR REACH

GOAL SIX:
TO DELIVER LEARNING
AND PARTICIPATION
ACTIVITIES FOR
CHILDREN AND YOUNG
PEOPLE

ROLE OF BOARD CHAIR

OVERVIEW

The Board of Directors, led by the Chair, are responsible for overseeing the management, finances and governance of Avant Garde. The Board of Directors are also responsible for ensuring the efficient running and continued development of the organisation within its stated policy. The Board of Directors are not generally involved in the day-to-day running of the organisation.

The role is voluntary, meetings take place 4-5 times annually and attendance at company performances and events is encouraged. Additionally, Directors may be asked to sit in sub-committee/ working groups.

While AGDC is based in Hackney, it is envisioned that for the foreseeable future meetings will be conducted remotely.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Ensure that AGDC complies at all times with its governing document, company law and any other legislation or regulations

Advocate for, champion and promote AGDC

Contribute towards strategic and business planning

Stay up to date with the company's activities and ensure that they are in line with the aims and objectives

Ensure effective Board meetings, contributing knowledge, experience and expertise, and support all

Directors to maximise their skills and knowledge

Use the position on the Board as a fundraising tool for the organisation, through PR, advocacy and networking that may lead to private donors, individual giving or introductions to corporate companies, charitable trusts and foundations

Work collaboratively with other Directors

Regular communication with Senior Management Team

PERSON SPEC

Belief in AGDC's vision, foreseeing a way in which they can support the company's ambitions

Familiarity with the subsidised arts sector

Professional experience working in a specialist area relevant to the company such as dance, theatre, music, digital technology, young people, law, finance, fundraising, marketing, PR, advertising, sponsorship

An interest and understanding of performance making and participatory practice

An understanding of business finance

An awareness and understanding of key social and cultural issues, especially surrounding young people

The commitment and ability to attend board meetings and events during the year and an appetite to join relevant sub committees

The ability to use the position on the Board as a fundraising tool for the organisation, through PR, advocacy and networking that may lead to private donors, individual giving or introductions to corporate companies, charitable trusts and foundations

Knowledge of the London boroughs of Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham, Greenwich & Lewisham



“DARING, DYNAMIC AND HUGELY ENJOYABLE”

★★★★ THE TIMES

“ADIGUN HITS YOU WITH FAST, PRECISE CHOREOGRAPHY – CONTEMPORARY DANCE SHARPENED BY HIP HOP.”

★★★★ THE STAGE

HOW TO APPLY

AGDC champions and promotes diversity and access across all our activities and our workforce. We are committed to equality of opportunity and encourage applications from individuals from underrepresented groups.

To begin a conversation about joining as Treasurer, please contact Prince Laryea, Executive Producer on prince@avantgardedance.com We ask that candidates contact us before 14 January 2022, though we will be engaging with prospective candidates between now and then.

If you require this information in an alternative format please contact James Tilston, General Manager on james@avantgardedance.com