

BOARD MEMBERS: Position Description

About Women's Circus

We are a cohesive creative community that has been teaching circus and creating performances to connect and empower women, trans, gender diverse and non-binary people since 1991. From our early days of providing a safe space for survivors of violence, we've grown into an inclusive community that welcomes all people of marginalised genders with an interest in physicality, circus and performance.

Today, Women's Circus is an internationally recognised leader in the field of social circus. Our innovative programs offer individuals and communities the opportunity to develop skills, confidence and creativity while fostering a sense of belonging and connection. We have a small team of core staff, working alongside experienced circus trainers, and supported by a volunteer board. We have over 200 current members who range in age from 18 to 70+. We operate in our own fully equipped circus venue in Footscray, with the support of Maribyrnong City Council (MCC).

Role Overview

We are seeking new board Directors who are aligned with our mission and values and wish to be part of an active volunteer board to drive, guide and govern our wonderful organisation.

Responsibilities

Women's Circus is a company limited by guarantee. All Directors of Women's Circus are bound by the company's constitution, relevant rules and legislation, including the Corporations Act 2001. Women's Circus board terms are 3 years with opportunity for renewal, and board positions are voluntary.

The role and responsibilities of a Director are described in the Women's Circus Board Charter and include:

- Participation in, and contribution to, approximately 8 -10 Board meetings per year
- Oversight of effective governance of the organisation
- Formulation of the strategic direction
- Recruitment and oversight of the Executive Director
- Reviewing, approving and monitoring the business plan and annual budget
- Contribution to the development of board and organisational policies
- Involvement on board sub-committees

In addition to the above, Directors are also expected to attend and assist in Women's Circus fundraising, community and end of year shows, as well as promote and represent Women's Circus in a professional capacity at various functions and forums held across Melbourne.

All Women's Circus roles take an active part in our vision to empower people of marginalised genders to shape community and culture through circus, by:

- Championing genuine and meaningful engagement, participation and representation of marginalised individuals and communities.
- Participating in the creation of a robust, sustainable, and healthy organisation and working culture.
- Creating programs and partnerships that create positive lasting and reverberating impact.

Qualifications

Experience and/or skills in the following:

- Professional background in Financial Management or Accounting
- Professional background in Law
- Professional background in Human Resources
- Circus or another live performance artform
- Professional background in Fundraising and Development
- Proven experience developing relationships with, and securing funding from, philanthropic organisations
- Not-for-Profits, Community Organisation and/or Purpose led organisations,
- Arts & Culture
- Risk Management
- Audits
- Governance

To find out more:

Contact execdirector@womenscircus.org.au to request a copy of the Board Charter, setting out the responsibilities, governance procedures and other matters relating to the operation of the Board.

To express your interest:

Please email execdirector@womenscircus.org.au with a copy of your Curriculum Vitae and a cover letter describing your motivation to contribute to our great organisation, as well as your relevant skills and experience.

At Women's Circus we are privileged to meet, train and create on the lands of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung and Bunurong peoples of the Kulin Nation and recognise their continuing connection to land, waters, communities and culture. We pay our respect to Elders past and present and through them to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. Sovereignty was never ceded. Always was, always will be Aboriginal land.

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