



Baroness Bull (Deborah Bull)

CHAIR

Vice President (Communities & National Engagement) and Senior Advisory Fellow for Culture, King's College London

Crossbench Peer, House of Lords

Deborah joined King's College London in 2012 following a long and successful career in the arts, first as performer and then as creative leader and cultural commentator.

She danced with The Royal Ballet for twenty years before joining the Royal Opera House Executive to devise and implement strategies for developing new art, new artists and new audiences, including its innovative ROH2 programme. She became Creative Director in 2008, taking executive responsibility for ROH Collections and leading on the organisation's Olympic programming as well as its live relays to Big Screens nationwide.

Deborah writes and presents a wide range of work for television and radio, is the author of four books, and regularly writes and speaks across the media on issues relevant to her work at King's. Deborah has served on the Boards of South Bank Centre, Arts Council England, as a Governor of the BBC, as a judge for the 2010 Booker Prize and was a member of the governing body of the Arts and Humanities Research Council. She has received honorary doctorates from Derby University, Sheffield Hallam University, the Open University, Kent University and Lincoln University and was awarded a CBE for her contribution to the arts in 1998.

She was nominated for a life peerage in June 2018 and joined the House of Lords as Baroness Bull in July 2018, sitting as a cross bench Peer.



Sukhy Johal MBE

Director of the Centre for Culture & Creativity, University of Lincoln

Sukhy has a depth of senior leadership experience spanning 30 years across the Public, Higher Education and Third sectors. He has a strong affinity across the cultural ecology and its vital contribution to the wider development agenda. Amongst his current roles, Sukhy is the Director of the Centre for Culture and Creativity at the University of Lincoln, and an Arts Council Trustee and Chairs the Midlands Region.

He has spent his career passionately advocating and enabling strategic environments in unlocking the capability of the sector to support thriving communities and places. He understands the barriers faced by communities in striving for better life chances, as well as the challenges organisations must address to affect change.



Amanda Parker

Founder and Chief Executive, Inc Arts

At Inc Arts UK, Amanda advocates for the creative, contractual and economic rights of the UK's ethnically diverse arts sector workforce. Previous Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion roles include her leadership of BBC's recruitment and awareness campaign for the launch of BBC Radio 1Xtra, and as Head of Communications for Directors UK, Amanda was responsible for overseeing the UK's first industry-wide

research into gender diversity in TV directing.

A former broadcaster in BBC news and current affairs teams, Amanda's previous roles include Development Producer for BBC Arts (TV) and BBC Radio and Music, as well as Campaigns management for BBC Education. Recognition for her work in EDI advocacy and campaigns include CRE Race in the Media, Royal Television Society, MIND Mental Health in the Media and the Stephen Lawrence Foundation awards.

Amanda's advocacy includes representations to UK and European Parliaments on behalf of cultural and creative sector workers, and UK-wide campaigns on anti-racist action in the arts and cultural sector. Amanda is on the Arts and Culture Strategy Group for the Covid-19 London Government Task Force, the advisory board for the UK Coalition for Cultural Diversity, and the advisory board for Sheffield University's COVID-19 culture and arts recovery project.

Amanda has been a trustee of Film London since 2016, serving on the FLAMIN visual arts committee, as well as the communications and public affairs and audience development working groups; she is a trustee of Intermission Youth and was the inaugural chair of Parents and Carers in Performance Arts in 2017. Amanda is Director of London Short Film Festival, is an RSA Fellow, and a Clore Fellow.



Briana Pegado

Co-Director, We Are Here Scotland

Briana Pegado FRSA is Founder of the Edinburgh Student Arts Festival (ESAF) and Co-Director of We Are Here Scotland, a community interest company that supports Black and People of Colour creatives in Scotland. She is a fellow of the Royal Society of Art and is Chair of the Board of YWCA Scotland – the Young Women’s Movement, a 150-year old feminist movement that supports women’s

leadership.

She has held roles as Executive Director of Creative Edinburgh and a Co-Director of Creative Informatics, a Creative Clusters Programme by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) established to invest in data-driven innovation in the creative industries in Edinburgh and the Lothians. She is a multi-award winning social entrepreneur whom was named one of Scotland’s Top 10 Social Innovators by Third Force News. She holds a Master of Arts with Honours Sustainable Development from the University of Edinburgh and has worked across the arts as a senior manager for over 7 years focusing on alternative, sustainable business models for the creative industries.



Isabelle Schwarz

Head of Public Policy, European Cultural Foundation

Building on her personal upbringing, multi-track education and life-long interest in culture, Europe and international relations, Isabelle Schwarz is a passionate advocate for culture in building communities and the European project. She joined the European Cultural Foundation in 2002 with the responsibility to lead the organisation's advocacy. Her expertise combines EU policy influence and

development, philanthropy, and cross-cultural relations.

Previously, Isabelle was Executive Director of ENCATC (European Network of Cultural Management and Policy), and worked as research assistant with the World Commission on Culture and Development (UN/UNESCO) that published the landmark report "Our Creative Diversity". She also held research and project management posts with the Council of Europe, Ministry of Culture of France, and foundations/NGOs in Brussels, London, Paris, and Copenhagen. Isabelle is a frequent contributor (speaker, moderator, host) to international encounters and serves on juries and boards.



Devinda de Silva

Head of Collaboration, National Theatre of Wales

At National Theatre Wales, Devinda da Silva has led the creation and development of the TEAM programme – the company’s unique approach to engagement.

Devinda has over 20 years’ experience working within the field of social change. He has worked in partnership with communities across Wales and internationally, focusing on the arts and its

ability to address inequality, develop practices based around co-creation and to encourage greater and more meaningful participation.

He is currently a Council member of Arts Council of Wales and a trustee of Disability Arts Cymru.



Mark Williams MBE

CEO/Artistic Director, Heart n Soul

Mark Williams co-founded Heart n Soul in 1986.

Throughout the last 33 years he has been central to the strategic development of Heart n Soul, helping take it from a locally based touring company to an internationally respected creative community/organisation, producing music, clubs, live art, dance, and films by artists with learning disabilities/autistic

artists in collaboration with non-learning disabled artists. At the heart of Heart n Soul is an ethos and approach to innovation, inclusion and thinking differently that effectively puts people at the heart of decision and change making.

Mark led the Core Team for the recent Heart n Soul at the Hub Wellcome residency and is Co-Director of the Believe in Us programme funded by the Health Foundation. Heart n Soul were awarded the main Gulbenkian Award for Civic Arts Organisations in 2021.