

Trustee recruitment

The Victor Murphy Trust SC037409

We are looking for trustees with professional expertise/experience in any of the below and a belief that your skills will contribute to the strong and effective governance and growth of a small charity.

- Fundraising or philanthropy
- Digital/data/design
- Interaction with public bodies in the field of Fine Art or Education
- Acquisition of public buildings or architecture/building management

Responsibilities of all trustees

- Support and provide advice on TVMT purpose, vision, goals and activities.
- Approve operational strategies and policies and monitor and evaluate their implementation.
- Oversee TVMT financial plans and budgets and monitor and evaluate progress.
- Ensure that key risks are identified, monitored and controlled effectively.
- Provide support and challenge to TVMT trust management
- Keep abreast of changes in TVMT's operating environment.
- Applying your skills, expertise, knowledge and contacts to promote TVMT's work.

Essential qualities and attributes of all trustees

- Willingness and ability to understand and accept their responsibilities and liabilities as trustees and to act in the best interests of the organisation.
- Ability to think creatively and strategically, exercise good, independent judgement and work effectively as a board member.
- Effective communication skills and willingness to participate actively in discussion.
- Enthusiasm for our vision and mission.
- Willingness to lead according to our values of wonder, play and openness.
- Commitment to Nolan's seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership

Terms and Commitment

We estimate you'll need to commit around 30 hours over the course of a year including helping during trust exhibitions and for fundraising activities. The board meets when required and we plan from 2026 to have a strategy day one afternoon a year based around the Trustee's Annual General Meeting. Trustees are appointed for a 3-year term, with a maximum of 2 terms.

Salary and benefits: Unpaid, travel expenses will be reimbursed if needed and where necessary.

We would be looking to work with new Trustee's in developing their life skills within the boundary of us being a small independent charitable arts trust.

Deadline for applications: 17th October 2025

Interviews beginning: November 2025 through to December 2025

You should tell us what your previous experience is, and what knowledge and skills you have and what you would like to gain from the experience. Also someone we can talk to and contact as a referee. We will accept applications in writing/electronically via our word document application.

You are welcome to have a call with Kozo Hoshino, to find out more.

About Us

For nearly two decades, The Victor Murphy Trust (TVMT) has been an independent arts Trust and registered charity SC037409. We are a member of SCVO and have been an associate member of Museums Gallery Scotland. Our goal is to find a sustainable venue that can assist in our drive towards museum accreditation and to enhance our trust mission and objectives.

Trust Background

The Victor Murphy Trust SC037409 was founded in 2006 in Edinburgh as a registered charitable trust. The name sake of the trust Group Captain Victor Ronald Murphy of Royal Air Force was born in Edinburgh in 1919 and passed away in 1999 in the city, having spent 12 years as the Chairman of Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund Scotland after retirement.

The Trust holds a fine collection of works of art which was originally the personal collection of the chairman of the trust Kozo Hoshino which was donated to the trust when it was founded in 2006. At the present moment the collection consists of about 5000 items of different forms of works of art and craft from different parts of the world and it includes several Scottish works that are culturally of national significance. The trust is particularly interested in raising the profile of the Scottish born artist and designer Dr. Christopher Dresser and at present we hold 75 items of his works. It has been always the trust ambition and desire to create a public museum/gallery. Currently the trust is hoping to create a body of trustees who could devote their time and energy for this project. The trust has not found any sustainable building to house the collection and open it to the public other than the Trust HQ in Edinburgh where viewing of parts of the collection is possible by appointment.

The Victor Murphy Trust SC037409

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The trust has held 7 public viewing exhibitions since its foundation in 2006 including one on Wemyss Ware in Japan. Our next planned exhibition is of the Trust, owned original 1902 set of 30 etchings on “Don Quixote” by William Strang RA (1859-1921). The provisional date for this exhibition in Edinburgh is August 2026.

Leadership and Management

The Victor Murphy Trust is led by its board of five Trustees, chaired by Kozo Hoshino. Kozo is a Japanese born long term resident of the UK, he brings extensive experience as a fine art collector and a lifelong background of interaction between the UK and Japan in business and culture. Other trustees are John Duncan Ferguson with experience as a Planner/QA in the petrochemical sector; Peter Lyle, with an estate agent background; Sheena Mackay, former fine art gallery partner and Dr Iain Wilson, enthusiast and collector of Japanese art and craft.

The organisation is managed day by day by the Trust management team of Kozo and John with specialist input from other trustees and professional support on an Ad Hoc basis.

The Victor Murphy Trust is a registered charity (charity number: SC037409).