



ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT FESTIVALS

Job Title	Non-Executive Chair
Organisation	Association of Independent Festivals (AIF)
Location	UK
FT/PT	PT and freelance. Estimated 2 days per month. Proposed three-year tenure (with annual review points).
Application deadline	16 th March 2022.
Interview dates	TBC
Start date	TBC
Salary	Expenses covered + freelance fee which is DOE up to a maximum budget of £5,000 per year

Job Description
<p>About AIF</p> <p>National trade organisation The Association of Independent Festivals (AIF) is the UK's leading festival representative body. AIF is a not-for-profit entity, with the key objectives of helping the businesses of its festival members, and the overall needs of the independent festival sector.</p> <p>Established in 2008, the AIF has grown to be a vital support network for independent festivals promoters, creating a national network of promoters, offering a range of member services, lobbying on behalf of the sector in addition to producing conferences and training events and delivering impactful public facing campaigns. The combined attendance of AIF's member events now exceeds over 1 million people. The festival sector in general generates and estimated 1.76bn GVA for the UK economy each year and supports 85,000 jobs.</p> <p>Representing approximately 40% of UK festivals 5,000 capacity and above, AIF has over 90 member events, featuring some the UK's most successful and creative events in the UK as members. These include Boomtown Fair, Shambala, End of the Road, Kendal Calling, 2000 Trees, Sound City, Boardmasters and many more.</p> <p>During the last two years in particular, AIF has tirelessly supported and represented its members and been a leading collective voice to Government and the media throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. Its achievements include lobbying DCMS and presenting a detailed report and case for festival inclusion in the Culture Recovery Fund (CRF), securing confirmation of this and supporting members in various ways through webinars and</p>

resources, also appointing a funding consultant to check each application. 70% of member applications were successful in their funding bids across both rounds, resulting in unlocking over £11m of vital survival funds.

In addition, AIF lobbied for VAT reductions, set up working groups with DCMS and PHE, produced interim festival guidance, facilitated expert assistance and legal advice for members, contributed to a DCMS Select Committee enquiry into the future of UK festivals and lobbied for 18 months on the importance of a Government backed insurance scheme.

For more information about AIF and our membership, go to www.aiforg.com

About the Role

We are looking for a new Non-Executive Chair to support the CEO with the strategic development and growth of the organisation.

Responsibilities will include:

- To function as the non-executive Chair of AIF and to Chair and lead all meetings of the AIF board, actively monitoring and ensuring the involvement of all AIF Directors in meetings and contributing to the board. The board currently meets in person four times a year in addition to interim online meetings.
- To liaise with the CEO, Vice Chair and wider board to input on shaping the strategic direction of the organisation, acting as an effective sounding board for key decisions.
- To foster a culture of openness, inclusivity, and debate, ensuring the AIF board is an effective working group.
- To bring constructive relationships to the table that could benefit AIF in lobbying and campaigning efforts.
- To take joint responsibility with the CEO for the board's composition and development, inputting on annual board rotations and acting as a custodian of the governance process.
- To periodically review financial information produced by external accountants and the CEO including quarterly accounts and annual P&L budgets.
- To monitor executive activity, conducting annual employment reviews with the CEO alongside the Vice Chair.
- To represent the organisation at public AIF events including our annual Festival Congress and AGM.
- To take an active role in the organisation's recruitment processes where appropriate.

About You

- You will be an experienced professional with wide ranging leadership experience, preferably within the creative industries. Candidates should have proven experience in team leadership, executive level experience and governance. Previous experience as a Chair of an organisation is considered desirable but not essential.
- A good working knowledge of the work of AIF and the wider UK festival and events sector is also desirable.
- As an organisation we celebrate and support members from all backgrounds and are working to build an adaptable culture of mutual allyship, and an environment where everyone is comfortable being themselves 100% of the time. We actively encourage applications from people of every race, gender, religion, age, disability and the LGBTQIA+ community.

To Apply

Please email your CV and a brief covering letter to AIF Chief Executive Paul Reed: paul@aiforg.com by the application deadline of 5pm on **Wednesday 16th March**.