

Phoenix

To candidates for the roles of Chair of Trustees, and Independent Trustee

8th April 2019

I have found my 5 years as chair of the Board at the Phoenix to be exciting and stimulating. The Phoenix has creative and committed staff, ably led by its CEO, a loyal audience and a wide diversity of age and ethnicity in its users overall. It has supportive stakeholders, and a hardworking, impressive and engaged Board of trustees. Phoenix has an inclusive and welcoming culture.

The quality of the cinema programme and of the digital arts offer is impressive and highlights, such as the recent UK Asian Film Festival Leicester, the Japanese cinema season and the forthcoming Short Cinema celebration of local filmmakers ensure Phoenix has a distinctive offer. The café is central to our sustainability and buzzes all day. Annual attendance has grown to the point where Phoenix is often bursting at the seams.

Our work is undertaken at a time when public funding has been reduced everywhere, and as part of our future proofing, we developed the Phoenix 2020 project, which will add 2 more screens, a much better arts gallery and café facilities. It has attracted funding from the Arts Council, Leicester City Council and increased revenue support from the BFI.

My core role has involved chairing Board, attending finance and Phoenix 2020 project boards, regular meetings and line management of the CEO; managing stakeholder relations with the CEO; engaging Board members in the work, and doing what I can to overcome one particular challenge - Phoenix's tendency to hide its light under a bushel.

**Join us
for the
journey**

All organisations have future challenges. In my view the successful candidate will want to consider how best:

- We remain solvent during the development of Phoenix 2020; and in the light of further potential local authority grant reductions, we earn more money and build up our financial reserves.
- We raise enough money for Phoenix 2020 to be completed; and that the development is undertaken to budget and on time!
- Equality and diversity continue to be central to our work and that the full diversity of Leicester's communities is engaged in our cultural offer and staffing.
- Stakeholder relations are effectively managed.
- Staff are retained and properly rewarded.
- And that you have fun!

Best wishes



Professor Sir Alan Tuckett OBE
Chair – Board of Trustees