



SEETA PATEL DANCE

Trustee – Role Overview

WWW.SEETAPATELDANCE.COM

ABOUT SPD



Our Vision and Mission

Seeta Patel Dance (SPD) is a pioneer, creating opportunities and spaces of belonging for future generations by disrupting systems and hierarchies through performance and dialogue. Seeta Patel Dance makes performance art rooted in Bharatanatyam that challenges existing perceptions and perspectives.

SPD became an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation in 2023. As a diverse-led company with strong values on equity and inclusion, we champion art that is diverse, dynamic and inclusive. Our vision, mission and values represent the ethos that underpins and is embedded in our work. We work to support and inspire, and we increasingly impact on the richness of the performing arts landscape in the UK and internationally.

Our Values

- *Activism*: To challenge hierarchies and advocate for better representation, equity and inclusion. Highlighting systemic issues that exist within society.
- *Authentic*: To connect to our British/South Asian roots to authentically question systems and hierarchies and drive creative processes.
- *Courage*: To speak the truth to power structures by supporting the voices that challenge oppressive systems.
- *Integrity*: To practise fair, equitable and transparent processes, to the best of our ability.
- *Passion*: To follow through on a genuine desire to develop exciting and relevant work that shows how diverse we can be.
- *Revolutionise*: Building better spaces for future generations within the arts and learning from past errors.
- *Rigour*: Commitment to deep rooted practice and dialogue to generate excellence in the company's processes for the best experience for all those we engage and work with.
- *Inclusiveness*: Working together as a team to embed equity and inclusion into all our processes and practices, to empower artists, collaborators and partners, to create spaces of belonging for all.

In 2024, Seeta Patel's staging of The Rite of Spring was nominated for an Olivier Award for the Best Dance Production, making her the first South Asian Woman to be nominated in the category and the first woman of colour in the 40+ year history of the awards. The company was also nominated for Best Independent Company and Best Classical Choreography (for the Rite of Spring) by the National Dance Awards (2023).

For information on our [projects and productions](#) and the [Talent Development Programme](#), please click on the links.



SEETA PATEL

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



Seeta Patel works across the UK to produce and tour dance works, developing talent in South Asian dance, and regularly represents and advocates on behalf of dance as an artform and representation of her culture.

Trained in the classical dance form of Bharatanatyam, her work includes performing solo classical Bharatanatyam and creating contemporary dance and film.

Although her work is diverse, Seeta's perspective is based on a coherent set of overlapping forms and concepts, all underpinned by the rigorous thought and attention to detail derived from her classical background.

As an artist, her goal is to create work that provokes thought in the audience and fellow practitioners, triggering each of us to bring our own experiences to it and creating something unique together. She is inspired by the idea that each piece is only truly complete once it has been experienced, assimilated and reimagined by the viewer.

TRUSTEES

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES



Trustees of a Registered Charity fulfil two roles: as a Trustee of a registered charity (1191197) and a Director of a limited company (12310843). These roles are slightly different, and there are responsibilities associated with each. Time commitment is estimated at 4-8 hours per month.

As a Director of a Limited Charity these include to:

- Manage the Charity's affairs in accordance with its articles of association
- Register as a Member of the Charity which gives the right to attend and vote at General Meetings and allows individuals to stand for election to the Board of Directors
- Ensure the Charity operates within the law (The 1985 Companies Act, as amended in 1989 and later), including the filing of annual returns and keeping of Charity Registers
- Keeping up to date with regulation and where appropriate charity law and best practice recommendations. The Board is not expected to be experts on everything, and advice should be sought internally and externally as needed
- Note that requirements of some funding bodies also place responsibilities on the Charity's Directors.



This document provides a brief introduction to the roles and responsibilities of Directors and Trustees of charities in the UK. A more detailed summary of what is required of a charity trustee, including your responsibilities to your charity, is available on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

TRUSTEES

ROLE AND RESPONSIBILITIES



As a Trustee of Seeta Patel Dance, these include to:

- Maintain a passion/interest in dance or the arts and a commitment to SPD's strategic objectives and cause
- Ensure that SPD complies with its own Constitution, charity law and any other relevant legislation or regulations to reflect best practice
- Ensure SPD maintains a clear vision and strategic direction, and actively contribute to the Board through specific areas of expertise
- Exercise duty of care and ensure that SPD pursues its vision, mission and objectives in a legal and ethical manner
- Take an active role in the governance of the organisation and act together as a group in the best interests of SPD and its beneficiaries
- Safeguard the Charity's assets and ensure SPD's financial stability by scrutinising funding and other income streams
- Support the Executive staff to ensure the Charity is administered efficiently
- Take an active role in the preparation of documents such as the Business Plan and the Charity Commission's annual return
- Keep informed about charity law





"As a Trustee, you will have an important role in shaping the future of the organisation, supporting not only my artistic vision but also the future of dance in the UK and internationally. My hope is that, together, we create a long-standing service to the arts and culture that will shape and shift dance towards a more diverse, inclusive and equitable sector for artists of many voices. If you are interested, I am honoured and excited to work with you to establish a solid foundation for the successful future of Seeta Patel Dance".

Seeta Patel

HOW TO APPLY

We are particularly interested in candidates with experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Charity Accounting
- Fundraising & Development
- Marketing & Communications

Please send us your CV accompanied by a written statement or a video or audio recording explaining:

- Why you would like to join SPD's Board of Trustees
- Key experience, skills and values relating to the role.

Please email your documents by **Monday 22nd December 2025** to Vicky Yannoula (General Manager) at **vicky@seetapateldance.org**.

We aim to interview candidates in the first half of January 2026 with the view for the appointment to start as soon as possible. If you would like to learn more about the role, please contact us for an informal discussion which we would be delighted to arrange.

We are a diverse led organisation that has strong values around equity and inclusion. As an inclusive employer, we champion art that is diverse, dynamic and inclusive and we want our team to reflect that. Therefore, we welcome applications from all underrepresented and underserved groups in the arts, including Black, Asian and other Global Majority communities, those from working-class backgrounds, those who are disabled and neuro-divergent and the LGBTQI+ community.

Thank you very much for your time and we look forward to hearing from you.

Seeta Patel Dance

