



APPLY TO JOIN THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE ADVISORY PANEL FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

ABOUT US

The Royal Society of Literature is one of the oldest learned societies in the UK, and Britain's charity for the advancement of literature. Founded in 1820 'to excite literary talent and reward literary merit', we continue to meet these ideals, particularly with the launch of the RSL 200 five-year festival celebrating the best writing past, present and future, across the UK.

With our Fellowship of around 600 distinguished writers at our core, the RSL acts as a voice for the value of literature, engages the public in literature, and honours and encourages great writers, at all stages of their careers. We believe that Literature Matters, and across our public events, publications, awards and prizes and outreach programmes, we celebrate the transformative power of literature to shape society and to change an individual life.

We are seeking up to two advisors to join our Finance and Human Resources Committee, supporting the growth of the organisation over the next four years.

LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

The RSL is led by its Council of Fellows and Honorary Fellows, chaired by Daljit Nagra. The Finance and HR Committee draws additional expertise in finance, fundraising, legal and human resources management, as well as providing additional insight into best practice for the Society's governance.

The Finance and HR Committee is led by Daljit Nagra and RSL Treasurer, Colin Chisholm (a former Investment Director at Rathbones Investment Management). Advisory members are John Leonida (with over 20 years of legal experience) and Fran Fahey (Chief Operating Officer at River and Mercantile Group, an advisory and asset management business).

The team is led by Molly Rosenberg, Director, who was appointed at the end of 2017 after two years as Business Director. The team also includes Martha Stenhouse, General Manager; Beth Gallimore, Events and Outreach Manager; Annette Brook, Communications Manager, and freelance team members Keira Brown, Programmes Assistant; Paula Johnson, Awards and Prizes; Maggie Fergusson, Literary Advisor, and sub-contracted Finance Manager, Niki Couldridge, and HR consultant, Claire Powell.

The RSL is a charity governed by the Charity Commission and its Royal Charter. Its Constitution (including the Charter and Byelaws) was last revised in 2017.

NEW FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEMBERS

We are looking to appoint up to two new members to our Finance and HR Committee, advising the RSL Council on matters of Finance, Fundraising, Human Resources and Governance.

We seek individuals with expertise in any of the below to contribute to the strong and effective governance and growth of this charity:

- Fundraising from different sources (including both restricted project funding and unrestricted core funding);
- Financial management, with an understanding of charity accounts;
- Governance of and legal guidance for small charities; or,
- Best practice for managing Human Resources and planning team growth.

Ideally, applicants should show interest in the literature sector and/or literacy and education.

Members of the Finance and HR Committee are not Trustees of the charity, but advisors forming recommendations to the Trustees, members of the RSL Council.

TERM AND COMMITMENT

Location: All Finance and HR Committee meetings may be attended online. We will return to in-person meetings at Somerset House when it is safe to do so, but Committee members will be able to join by Zoom if unable to attend in person. We particularly welcome submissions from applicants outside of London.

The Committee meets quarterly in advance of our quarterly Council meetings. We seek advisors able to commit to a minimum of one year, with the option to extend for a further three.

This is an unpaid advisory role. Travel expenses will be reimbursed if required and where necessary.

Deadline: Monday 12 July

To find out more, contact martha.stenhouse@rsliterature.org with FHRC2021 in the subject line.

If you wish to apply, please send a CV (up to two pages) and email with a little about your knowledge and experience as it applies to the Committee. We'll then be in contact with applicants we feel are a good match to the organisation, and will arrange a meeting online with the RSL Chair, Daljit Nagra, and Director, Molly Rosenberg, to discuss the position, Committee, and RSL's wider strategy.

EQUALITY AT THE RSL

The RSL supports equal opportunities, and the ethos of respect and compassion for each other and the communities we work with runs through everything we do. We believe literature is for everyone, regardless of their ethnicity, gender identity, disability, culture, religion/belief, sexual orientation or age. We value and celebrate diversity and encourage applications from people under-represented in the creative industries, particularly candidates from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic communities, and disabled candidates.

We support reasonable adjustments and will work with candidates to meet the demands of the role, making adaptations where necessary. If you require information in a different format or have any questions regarding accessibility – in relation to the application process or the role – please contact Martha Stenhouse, martha.stenhouse@rsliterature.org.

The Royal Society of Literature is a registered charity (charity number: 213962).