

Voluntary Chair of D6: Culture in Transit Recruitment Brief

D6: Culture in Transit is looking for an exceptional individual to become our new Chair, supporting us to implement our ambitious programme of work and contribute to our future strategic planning.

It's an exciting time for D6, with a full programme of activity in partnership with our sister organisation, D6:EU, and increased access to influential platforms for advocacy. We face the current global political climate head on and with a clear mission knowing that our work is more significant than ever.

D6 is a visual arts producer based in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Rooted in North East England, we build connections between local and international contexts, creating opportunities that extend across borders. We believe in the value of the arts in creating fairer, more informed and generous societies.

Since 1991, D6 has been working with artists and partners internationally and locally to commission and present work, often in public spaces. We build our programmes through collaboration and shared values, journeying together towards a common aim.

For example, the project *Contested Desires: Constructive Dialogues* brings together 22 artists across 12 countries spanning Europe, Africa and South America. Through a series of residencies, exhibitions and conferences, the project fosters conversations between artists and the museums, archives and communities that narrate and hold European colonial histories and their ongoing legacies.

In the North East, artist Elizabeth Efua Sutherland (Ghana) explored the histories of African and Caribbean communities who have made the region home over 150 years. Her performance at the Tyne Theatre (March 2026) and works shown at the Great North Museum: Hancock (June 2025) in a group exhibition brought forward lesser-known stories of creativity, resistance and social justice, uncovered through close collaboration with local archivists, activists and communities.

Contested Desires is one of a number of long term transnational programmes that draw threads between artists and communities across borders. With partners in Ukraine, Cyprus, Spain, France and Belgium, *ASSEMBLE* responds to the climate emergency at the intersection of conflict, ecological decline and forced displacement. Through professional development, capacity building, audience development and international exchange, it nurtures the expanding practices of displaced artists and curators.

We are actively involved in international and national platforms and networks where we advocate for the value of arts in our societies. Recently, our efforts have focused on a reimagining of a new EU-UK relationship in the context of the arts that is deeper than trade and commercial exchange. We have strong links with academia, and are proud to be hosting a Collaborative Doctoral Award focused on decolonisation, climate and mass migration. As a Visual Arts Organisation of Sanctuary, we join with the City of Sanctuary UK and other

organisations in a shared vision of welcome and solidarity for people who are refugees or seeking asylum. Regularly contributing to public conversations and debates, we serve as sector experts for international programmes and partners.

We are a small, welcoming team of committed Board and staff members.

Key requirements of the role

The Chair is a voluntary role, which supports the Executive Director (and other staff). As a not-for-profit organisation, D6's Board is made up of Directors (as opposed to Trustees).

Alongside maintaining strategic oversight of the company's affairs, we are seeking a thoughtful and effective leader who demonstrates a strong appreciation of local and international collaboration and the value cultural exchange brings.

The ideal candidate will be well positioned to lead D6 in taking forward the following strategic priorities for the next five years, including:

- Positioning the organisation to succeed in a new cycle of national and regional funding opportunities, with a focus on our local and international impact.
- Aligning with colleagues to influence national and international policy directions in relation to cultural rights and cross border exchange.
- Help identify new funding and collaboration opportunities, particularly from 2027 onwards.
- Build on our position as a respected thought-leader at high level advocacy forums.
- Connect us to national and international forums to help us develop new projects and programmes.

In addition to the above, and the duties of a D6 Director (see ANNEX 2), the Chair will be required to:

- Convene and chair meetings of the Board, relevant sub-committees and general meetings as agreed with the Director and ensure they are managed effectively and decisions made are acted upon.
- Consult with the senior staff and Secretary to the Company on shaping agendas and supporting papers and minutes.
- Ensure that the Board maintains effective regular monitoring of the business and scrutiny of the financial status and that it operates within a realistic and agreed budget
- Ensure that the annual review of Company performance, salaries and staff is carried out and that the results of these reviews are used to make decisions and plans for the future.

- Ensure appropriate policies that underpin the overall day-to-day management and control of the Company and its business are fit-for-purpose, and that the organisation adheres to those policies in its management, planning and decision-making.
- Ensure that the Board is properly represented in its dealings with external agencies and other organisations.
- The Chair must have commitment to the aims and objectives of D6 (as defined in its Articles), the equal opportunities and other policies of the Company.
- The Chair may occasionally be required to represent D6 on the Board of our sister company, D6:EU, alongside the wider D6: Culture in Transit Directors.

Skills and experience (essential)

- The Chair must have experience in the management of people and staff and the ability to promote cohesion and trust throughout the company.
- As an international producer, D6 works with local, national, European and international artists and partners. The Chair therefore needs to demonstrate an understanding of these contexts and relationships.
- They should have the time and willingness to speak on behalf of the Company, which may include travel to partner meetings, conferences and events on both a national and international level, along with the ability to network and advocate for D6 at such events.
- The Chair should have an understanding of business planning and the ability to translate this into practice.
- The D6 Executive Director, financial manager and producers are competent financial administrators, designing and managing complex project budgets across multiple years and currencies. The Chair should have financial competence to the level required for ensuring effective financial oversight of the Company and its business.
- The Chair should be geo-politically aware, emotionally intelligent and culturally sensitive, having an ability to communicate with people from different cultures and backgrounds with tact and diplomacy, and with marginalised or underserved communities, with a clear understanding of ethical, inclusive, and context-sensitive approaches.
- The Chair should have contacts and a wider network within a range of sectors and with any other bodies that may be relevant to the work of the Company.

Skills and experience (desirable)

- Ideally, the Chair should have knowledge of the North East region.
- An additional relevant language(s) would be advantageous, but is not essential.

Equal opportunity

We welcome applicants from people of all backgrounds and lived experiences, in particular those that are currently under-represented within the arts and our staff team. This includes, but is not limited to people who identify as Disabled, d/Deaf, Global Majority, and people with lived experience of migration.

We are committed to building a diverse and inclusive Board and to ensuring our recruitment process is accessible to all. We welcome requests for reasonable adjustments at any stage of the application or selection process.

Additional information

This is an unpaid voluntary position. The initial term will be for three years in accordance with the organisation's Articles of Association. Our current Chair's term ends in June, and we aim to have the new Chair in post in July, with flexibility to start later if needed.

The Board meets at least four times a year, with regular Board meetings held approximately every three months. In addition to this, there can be extra meetings scheduled, and the Chair is also invited to attend partner meetings, conferences and other events. One meeting in the autumn is usually an extended planning away day.

Our in person Board meetings take place at our office and studios in central Newcastle - 5, Charlotte Square, NE1 4XF. Reasonable out of pocket expenses will be reimbursed for regular Board meetings. D6 will cover travel, accommodation, and provide a per diem for national or international meetings, conferences or events that you are invited to attend on D6's behalf.

How to apply

If this prospect interests and excites you, please email a letter of application to Clymene Christoforou, D6's Executive Director, at clymene@d6culture.org.

In the letter (no more than two sides of A4) please tell us:

- Why you are interested in the position
- How your experience relates to the brief and main responsibilities outlined
- What qualities you would bring to D6

If you would like an informal conversation before applying, please contact Clymene by email to arrange a convenient time - clymene@d6culture.org.

The closing date for applications is Monday 22 June (midnight) 2026

Interviews will be held in the week of 29 June 2026

Thank you for your interest in D6, we look forward to hearing from you.

ANNEX 1

Recent D6 projects are [listed in our organisational CV](#)

ANNEX 2

Financial Capacity

D6 are careful and experienced financial managers with a 30-year history of navigating complicated arts funding landscapes. With a long history of international programming we handle multi year, multi partner budgets across multiple currencies. We operate clear financial systems and regularly share financial reports and updates with the board which includes fundraising plans. Our funding includes the Arts Council of England, Newcastle Cultural Investment Fund, the National Heritage Lottery Fund, Four Nations International Fund, with various international contributions through the British Council and our international partners for services.

D6's Team

Executive Director

Clymene Christoforou

Team members

Andrea Carter, Lead Producer

Helen Holtom, Communications Producer

Matt Denham, Producer

Vicki Moore, Finance Manager

D6's Board of Directors

The roles and responsibilities as a D6 Director:

- Agree and regularly review a range of policies and procedures for the effective governance and management of the Company and ensure that these are adhered to at all times in the day-to-day management and planning of the Company business.
- Agree and monitor annual budgets and other financial projections.
- Receive and analyse regular financial and management reports and progress information.
- Act as an employer and ensure that good employment practice is followed and employment legislation is met.
- Support the strategic direction of D6 by contributing to the development of the organisation's strategy, ensuring alignment with long-term goals and organisational values.
- Promote the interests of D6.

The Directors will ensure that D6 is managed effectively and efficiently through consideration of quarterly and annual accounts, progress reports and results of evaluations and reviews.

Directors are required to attend meetings on a regular basis as agreed by the Board and to ensure that notice and apologies are given if they are unable to attend for any reason whatsoever. Directors who fail to attend three consecutive meetings without giving apologies may be asked to resign from the position of Director.

When appointing new Directors, serious consideration will be given to the skills, knowledge and experience that will be brought to D6.

It is essential that all Directors understand the management process and can carry out their role both diligently and efficiently without becoming either a barrier to progress or overstepping their responsibilities.

The current members of D6 Board are:

Chair

Tania Mahmoud, British Council, Country Director Sudan

Vice Chair

Fiona Crisp, Artist and Professor of Contemporary Art, Northumbria University, Newcastle.

Board Members

Clymene Christoforou, D6's Executive Director, Founding Board member D6EU (CY), Board member On The Move - mobility platform (BE)

Dave Pritchard, International Consultant in environment, culture, heritage and the arts

Dima Karout, Artistic Director and creative health consultant

Emma Dean, Senior Curator at Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead

Laura Jeffery, Professor of Anthropology and Migration at the University of Edinburgh

Lucy Latham, Sustainable Futures, University of Manchester

