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BRIEF FOR THE ROLE OF
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Mountview is one of the most exciting, innovative and accessible theatre training grounds in the world. I am very excited and proud to have been Mountview's President for the past eighteen years.

DAME JUDI DENCH CH DBE

President of Mountview



WE DO THINGS DIFFERENTLY

Whether through our higher education programme, our participation work or Mountview Exams, our training aims to develop skills, grow confidence, celebrate creativity and reward individuality.

As one of the UK's leading drama schools, we develop actors and practitioners who will become the future of the creative industries. Through innovative practice, new approaches to working and close relationships with industry, we cultivate graduates who are independent, generous and actively connected to the issues of the day.

The arts can enrich and change lives. We are passionate about dismantling barriers to the arts and engaging with communities in Peckham and beyond. Every year we share our space, expertise and resources, opening up access to the dramatic arts for all ages and abilities, while simultaneously learning from and collaborating with the vibrant cultural ecology on our doorstep.

Mountview is synonymous with exceptional Musical Theatre training and we are widely considered to lead the field as global innovators. We are proud to have launched our own examination board, offering graded Musical Theatre qualifications. Our unrivalled expertise brings a fresh approach, sharing our values with people of all ages and at all stages in their development.

Today's students join a constellation of graduates making their mark on the profession. Actors Grace Hodgett Young (Sunset Boulevard), Ben Joyce (Back to the Future), Louisa Harland (Derry Girls), Artistic Director Rachel Bagshaw (Unicorn Theatre), Musical Director Sean Green (Get Up, Stand Up!) are just a few of our notable alumni.

In this 80th birthday year we are joyfully celebrating Mountview's success and resilience by welcoming three extraordinary Vice Presidents to join us, supporting Dame Judi Dench our illustrious President. As champions of our work and our ambitions Elaine Paige DBE, and alumni Eddie Marsan OBE and Giles Terera MBE epitomise the values of our world-class training.

WELCOME TO MOUNTVIEW

From Professor Simon Ofield-Kerr, Chair of the Board of Trustees:



Mountview is a vibrant and dynamic organisation to be a part of and this year we celebrate Mountview's 80th birthday and all its achievements. Dedicated to ensuring the future of the creative industries, we train actors, practitioners and technicians to the highest standards. The staff team are highly skilled, friendly and dedicated, and as a result Mountview is flourishing. We are an outward-looking organisation, with ambitions spanning local, national and international activity. Our home in Peckham is beautifully purpose-built and we thrive in it. However, Mountview is not a building, it is an ethos, and we have recently launched six regional sites for some of our training. Mountview is a happy and energetic workplace which celebrates kindness and difference, and succeeds through a shared pursuit of getting things done well.

Our core values which guide and inform everything we do and believe are:

- **CHALLENGE THE STATUS QUO**
doing things differently and courageously; allowing curiosity to drive us; being motivated by new ideas and pushing boundaries; celebrating dynamic and playful exploration; influencing industry with progressive practice; inspiring everyone we reach.
- **CREATE BELONGING**
welcoming all people from all backgrounds; implementing anti-oppressive practices; developing liberatory training practices; actively seeking to break down barriers to inclusion; creating access; embedding Equality, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion approaches; celebrating difference.
- **SUSTAIN THE FUTURE**
environmental mindset, maintenance, and renewal of existing resources; retaining rigour and integrity of our quality and standards; financial sustainability; resilience and wellbeing and supporting with nurture and kindness.
- **COMPASSIONATE COLLABORATION**
elevating ideas by working together with respect, sharing our warmth, creativity, and resources; finding strength in partnerships and collaborating internally and externally; developing cultural competency; listening; utilising networks.
- **TRANSPARENT COMMUNICATION**
being appropriately open with our information and processes; compassionate and clear communication; solutions focussed; ownership of responsibilities with clear accountability; observing data privacy.

I hope you will enjoy getting to know more about Mountview and wish you well in the application process if you choose to apply.



THE ROLE

Mountview is at a key point in its growth and development. Under the leadership of our Principal & CEO, Sally Ann Gritton, and Board of Trustees, we have launched a new business plan which celebrates and builds upon our success to date, by widening our footprint of impact, increasing participation, creating new artistic and pedagogical opportunities, developing our organisational resilience and expanding our brand recognition locally, nationally and internationally.

With the appointment of Professor Simon Ofield-Kerr as Chair to the Board of Trustees in July 2025, we are now seeking to appoint a number of new trustees to join the Board.

We are keen to hear from applicants from any background who meet the Person Specification below, but are particularly looking for Trustees with any of the following experience:

- A strong connection to the community in Peckham and/or South East London, whether as a resident, community or business leader
- Audit
- Performing arts education in a Higher Education or conservatoire setting
- Lobbying and strategy development
- Fundraising
- Strong connections in film, television and recorded media
- Examinations awarding body

We know that diverse groups of people make better decisions and we value the positive impact that difference has on our institution. We would particularly like to encourage applicants from backgrounds underrepresented in the creative sectors.



Photo by Steve Gregson

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustee Board plays an important role, supporting the Executive Team to deliver the Mission, Vision and Values of the organisation; guiding the delivery of a new business plan which seeks to improve our financial sustainability, increase our brand recognition and widen our footprint of impact; and ensuring that Mountview retains its reputation as a leader in performance and production training with equality, diversity and inclusion embedded throughout. We are looking for new Trustees who can support the delivery of these aims.

- Act as a Trustee of the charity, with responsibility for the strategic direction of the institution and the monitoring of its performance against objectives, including educational delivery, financial viability and risk management.
- Lead by example and ensure that the Board conducts itself in accordance with the accepted standards of public life.
- Ensure that Mountview complies with its obligations as a charity and exercises efficient use of its resources for the furtherance of its charitable purpose.
- Attend and contribute to board meetings, board committees and meetings with the leadership and executive teams, as well as staff and student representatives.
- Ensure Mountview is well-engaged with its stakeholders including staff, students and the London Borough of Southwark as well as the Higher Education sector, the performing arts industry and the local community.
- Act as a public ambassador, spokesperson and strong advocate for Mountview.
- Actively campaign, and fundraise for, and raise the profile of Mountview.



PERSON SPECIFICATION

- Interest in Higher Education and the creative industries and their role in transforming life chances.
- Commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion.
- An understanding of the distinction and boundaries between governance and management in a charity setting.
- Effective interpersonal and communication skills, including the ability to establish good working relationships with other members of the Board, the Chair of the Board and members of the Executive team.
- A strong personal and professional network.
- Demonstrable influence, networking, public speaking and advocacy skills.
- Experience of fundraising.
- Previous experience acting as a Charity trustee.

MINIMUM TIME COMMITMENT

The role includes:

- attendance at four Board meetings annually which usually take place in-person at Mountview on a weekday afternoon.
- attendance at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) which usually takes place in January.
- attendance at other Committee or working group meetings, depending on the interest and expertise of the trustee. These may be held in-person or remotely.
- the provision of additional support (usually by phone, Teams or email) around specific areas of expertise.
- strategy day held annually.
- attending ongoing governance and trustee training sessions as required, and to keep skills current.
- engagement with the work of Mountview and regular attendance of student performances.



RECRUITMENT PROCESS

To be considered for this important and exciting role, please send:

- a covering letter (no more than two pages)
- your CV

to ea@mountview.org.uk. As well as addressing your fit for the responsibilities and person specification, please also cover why you wish to become a Trustee of Mountview and what you would bring to the role.

We are particularly keen to hear from candidates from all backgrounds currently underrepresented in the creative industries due to barriers linked to ethnicity, class, gender or disability.

Please also complete and return our [Equal Opportunities monitoring form](#). The information collected will be treated as confidential, used for statistical purposes only, and will not be treated as part of your application.

Short-listed candidates will be invited to meet with representatives of the Board and Executive team. If you would like to discuss this role in confidence, please contact ea@mountview.org.uk who will arrange for an informal chat with Simon Ofield-Kerr (Chair of the Board of Trustees).



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LIVES!
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THANK YOU