

Join Our Board

2026 — 29

IAF

1.0 Context

The Irish Architecture Foundation (IAF) is an independent organisation, established in 2005, with a mission to connect people with architecture. Working island-wide, we bring audiences together to experience, explore and discuss the ways architecture shapes our lives, both individually and as communities, and as a culture and as a nation.

Through festivals, exhibitions, placemaking and learning initiatives, IAF expands knowledge and understanding, sparks new ideas and advances new thinking about the role of architecture and the built environment in our shared future.



In November 2025, the IAF published its new eight-year strategy, *Shaping Our Future, Building Our Knowledge 2026-2033*. This will guide the organisation’s mission and strategic direction in the coming years. This strategy is available to read [here](#).

The IAF is a not-for-profit, registered charity. We are principally funded by the Arts Council as a Strategically Funded Organisation. In addition, we receive core support from a range of government agencies and partners; full details are available on our website [here](#).

The IAF currently has up to five vacancies on its Board of Directors. These vacancies arise from the conclusion of the appointed terms of existing Board members. The IAF recently appointed a new Chair, Parag Joglekar, who will assume the role on January 1, 2026.

2.0 Role Description

Being a Board member of the IAF involves the following key responsibilities:

- Attending quarterly Board meetings, as well as other meetings as outlined above.
- Supporting the Director and the Executive Team in addressing strategic issues facing the organisation throughout the year.
- Attending a reasonable number of IAF events in Dublin, across Ireland, and - where agreed - at international locations.
- From time to time, providing one-to-one advice to the Director on strategic or administrative matters relating to the IAF.
- Taking an active role in supporting the sustainability and growth of the organisation, including contributing to fundraising efforts.
- Serving as a member of, and actively participating in, one of

the IAF sub-committees, such as Finance & Administration, Governance & HR, Education, or Strategic & Capital Development, and Audience Inclusion.

- Championing the organisation and its programmes across national and international networks, and actively leveraging those networks in support of IAF.

3.0 Board Profile and Skills Mix

You do not have to be an architect or come from a background in architecture or related fields to serve on our Board. The IAF depends on a skills-based Board, drawing equally on professional expertise and lived experience.

As a guide, and following a skills audit of the current Board, and in light of the strategic priorities and audience development ambitions for the next eight years, we are particularly interested in candidates with experience in one or more of the areas listed below:

- Members of the legal profession
- Individuals with experience of strategic capital development and/or the establishment of new venues for arts and cultural practice
- Those with a working knowledge of national policy and the public sector in Ireland, including Government and/or local government
- Expertise in strategic and/or digital communications and/or public affairs
- Expertise in strategic and cultural fundraising
- Architects employed full-time in a public-sector role at national or local government level

Our interest is not limited to the areas outlined above, and all

candidates will be given equal consideration.

4.0 Responsibilities of the Role

The IAF welcomes applications from individuals who have not previously served on a Board but who feel they have skills, experience or perspectives to contribute. In 2026, following the appointment of the Board, IAF will provide training to ensure new members have a shared understanding of their roles, responsibilities, and functions while serving as Board members.

The work of the Board is governed by the Charities Act 2009 and overseen by the Charities Regulatory Authority. The work of the Board is guided by the following:

The Charities Act 2009

Guidance and requirements issued by the Charities Regulatory Authority

The Charities Governance Code, with which the Board reviews compliance annually

Companies Registration Office and Charities Institute

Ireland's Triple Lock Standards

The charity's governing document and internal policies

Principles of good governance, accountability, and transparency

The Arts Council also provides a document for funded organisations which guides the work of the IAF. This can be accessed [here](#).

5.0 IAF Board Values

The IAF is committed to maintaining a Board that broadly reflects the diversity of Ireland. This is particularly vital to our work, given that all people live in the designed and built world. We therefore seek to identify candidates' suitability in relation to a

range of protected characteristics, including age, race, gender, disability, sexual orientation, and socio-economic background. To that end, candidates are invited to include, optionally, a brief statement in their application letter outlining their lived experience. We reiterate that we do not only seek applications from architects or individuals working in allied fields. All people live and work in the built environment and can contribute valuable perspectives.

Remuneration:

As is standard for not-for-profit Boards, the appointment is unremunerated, but reasonable expenses incurred while carrying out IAF-related duties will be reimbursed. We acknowledge that this may make applying for a Board position challenging.

Conflicts of Interest:

If you are interested in applying but are concerned you have a conflict of interest, please raise this in advance of making an application via email on opportunities@iaf.ie

6.0 Details

6.1 Commitment and Term of Appointment

A successful candidate is appointed to the Board for a period of three years. This term may be extended if the candidate wishes to do so, subject to approval of the Chair of the Board.

There are up to six Board meetings per year, which include the Annual General Meeting, the Board/Staff Away Day, and the Stakeholders Annual Meeting. Board members are also required to serve on a committee or steering group that supports the strategic work and mission of the IAF.

6.2 Location

The IAF is located on 15 Bachelor's Walk, Dublin 1. Board meetings are hybrid, with at least one in-person meeting per

year, typically in November, at our Dublin 1 office.

Applications from individuals residing outside Dublin who feel they have something to contribute to the future of the IAF are encouraged. Facilitation and reasonable costs for travel and attendance will be covered for such Board members. As the IAF works across the island of Ireland and internationally, Board members residing outside Dublin or abroad are welcome to apply.

6.3 Application Process

There are two steps to apply.

First, candidates should complete the online form [here](#).

Second, candidates are required to email a short letter of application to opportunities@iaf.ie

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to meet representatives of the IAF Board and the CEO/Director to discuss the work of IAF and their suitability for the position. Following shortlisting, the IAF may contact candidates for additional information prior to finalising the interview list. Applications must be submitted no later than 6:00 p.m. (Irish Standard Time) on Friday, 6 February. The deadline is strictly enforced.

6.4 Further Information

If you have any questions about the role, please email opportunities@iaf.ie with IAF Board in the subject line.

The IAF Director, Emmett Scanlon, welcomes informal discussions prior to submitting an application. If you wish to have a conversation with Emmett, please contact him via vacancies@architecturefoundation.ie.

For further information on the Irish Architecture Foundation, please visit our website at www.iaf.ie.



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