



# **Chair of the Board of Trustees - Trustee and Non-Executive Director**

Application Pack — July 2026

Dunedin Consort | [www.dunedin-consort.org.uk](http://www.dunedin-consort.org.uk) | Scottish Charity No. SC025336



## About Dunedin Consort

Dunedin Consort, based in Edinburgh, is one of the world's leading baroque ensembles, recognised for its vivid and insightful performances and recordings. Its ambition is to allow listeners to hear early music afresh, coupling an inquisitive approach to historical performance with a commitment to commissioning and performing new music.

## The Role

As Chair of the Board of Trustees, this is a Trustee and Non-Executive Director role offering the opportunity to help shape the strategic direction and long-term sustainability of one of Scotland's most internationally respected classical music ensembles.

The Chair of Trustees is responsible for the leadership of the Board and for ensuring its effectiveness. In addition to the responsibilities and duties of any trustee, the Chair plays a leading role in setting the Board's strategic direction, creating a culture of accountability, improving performance and in ensuring the highest standards of probity and governance.

Working closely with the Chief Executive and other Board members, this role ensures that collectively, the organisation fulfils its governance, legal, charitable and financial duties and responsibilities, maintaining good practice in all areas. The Chair will also be an active advocate for the charity with potential partners, funders, and other networks.

The vacancy has arisen, as the current chair steps down after nearly 2 complete terms in post.



The successful candidate will have responsibility for:

- **Governance:**
  - To ensure the good governance of the organisation and effective functioning of the Board, meeting high standards of probity and in accordance with our mission and values
  - To ensure the Board is focused on meeting its charitable objectives in line with the articles of association, including our commitment to EDI and net zero
  - To ensure the organisation is operating in line with all relevant laws - such as charity and company laws
  - To ensure effective strategic oversight of the organisation including objective scrutiny of Dunedin Consort's affairs, its Board, Committees, Executive and its functions
  - To ensure that there are appropriate systems and controls in place for delivering sound financial health, accountability, and board-approved financial policies
- **Board Management:**
  - To chair the Board, agreeing Board agendas, ensuring meetings are minuted and actions circulated and followed up
  - To ensure trustees are given accurate and timely information needed to make decisions effectively
  - To manage the Board in an open and constructive way, ensuing active participation; positive, informed contributions; clear, informed and transparent whole-board decision making and effective accountability - including collective ownership of decisions taken
  - To build and maintain an effective and diverse Board with clear succession planning, including Board effectiveness reviews and identify any skills or knowledge gaps
  - To ensure appropriate induction is provided for new Trustees
- **Strategic Leadership & Fundraising:**
  - To lead the Board of Trustees to make key strategic decisions in the organisation's best interests
  - To provide oversight to ensure the organisation is delivering on Board agreed policies and strategies
  - To lead the Board in monitoring performance against strategic KPIs, including financial oversight
  - To safeguard the medium and long-term future of Dunedin Consort - including supporting the development of strategies and business plans that adapt to a changing external landscape
  - To take an active role in supporting fundraising initiatives
  - To lead the Board in managing risk
- **Advocacy of the Organisation:**
  - To promote the Dunedin Consort with funders and potential funders, with Creative Scotland and with other public bodies, and with the wider public and other stakeholders and key influencers as required
- **CEO:**
  - To act as a sounding board, mentor, and primary point of contact for the CEO, recruitment and to conduct the CEO's annual appraisal

## Person Specification

We are looking for an individual with the following skills and experience:

### Essential

- Ability to think strategically, work collaboratively, and act as a critical friend to the executive team
- Strong leadership skills with the ability to motivate and bring people together
- Strong networking capabilities with the willingness and ability to engage with external stakeholders including Creative Scotland and key funders and donors
- A strong understanding of charity governance, including oversight of risk, financial management, compliance, and accountability
- Experience of diversifying and increasing funding streams
- Previous trustee or non-executive board experience, preferably in the arts sector
- Experience in leadership roles in public, commercial or third sector, running large teams and substantial budgets
- Commitment to the values and mission of Dunedin Consort
- Interest in performance and classical music

## Terms of Appointment

Typical time commitment approximately 2 days a month.

- Meetings: attending 4 board meetings per year, plus a strategy away day; and attending subcommittee meetings (e.g., risk committee meetings) as needed
- Preparation: reviewing board packs, financial reports, and strategic documents
- Support to the CEO and team as and when required

Board meetings are currently held alternately in Edinburgh and Glasgow, with a hybrid option available to support remote participation.

This is a non-remunerated role. Reasonable expenses will be reimbursed.

Appointments are for a four-year term, with the potential for re-appointment for a second term.

If you would like an informal conversation about the role, please contact [markbatho@dunedin-consort.org.uk](mailto:markbatho@dunedin-consort.org.uk)

## Application Process

Please send a short covering letter (maximum one page) outlining your interest in the role and relevant experience. Include a link to your LinkedIn profile or your CV, and details of two referees. Send to Mark Batho (Trustee) at [markbatho@dunedin-consort.org.uk](mailto:markbatho@dunedin-consort.org.uk) by **12 noon on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July**

## Diversity and Inclusion

Dunedin Consort is committed to building a diverse Board that reflects the richness of our audiences and communities. We warmly encourage applications from individuals from underrepresented backgrounds in the arts and charity sectors.

## Introducing Dunedin Consort

### Mission statement

To be recognised as one of the world's leading baroque ensembles, a group that is rooted in Scotland but admired internationally for its insightful and creative programming.

To move, engage, challenge and delight our audiences with performances, recordings, educational activities and digital output of exceptional quality, both in Scotland and beyond.

To reach new audiences and diversify our activities with programming that is rooted in historical performance, but which can take our listeners on interesting — and sometimes unexpected — journeys into different repertoire. To remain relevant, vital and inquisitive, and to bring the same sense of freshness, innovation and curiosity to our listeners in everything that we do.

To care for, nurture and embrace a diverse, contemporary society through a wide-ranging learning and participation programme that is accessible to all, both inside and outside the concert hall.

Our values are set out here: [Our Values – Dunedin Consort](#)

### Vision

Over the past 30 years, Dunedin Consort has blossomed into an ensemble that is recognised worldwide for its insightful performances and recordings, particularly of baroque repertoire. It is renowned above all for its exceptional musicianship, and for its insightful, inquisitive and often revelatory approach to music-making, breathing new life into familiar repertoire and often revealing deep-seated connections between seemingly disparate works.

It has amassed a collection of award-winning recordings and now has an annual touring schedule that complements its work at home in Scotland, with regular appearances across the UK, Europe, and North and South America. In 2021 it was the Winner of the RPS Ensemble Award.

We do not only play baroque music. In recent years, Dunedin Consort has commissioned new pieces by well-known contemporary composers including Erollyn Wallen, Sally Beamish, Cassandra Millar, Tansy Davies, David Fennessy and Caroline Shaw.

Dunedin Consort is rooted in Scotland. Its primary audience, supporters and beneficiaries are based here, and with Creative Scotland funding secured until 2028, its work is underpinned by a commitment to its Scottish heritage.

In recent years Dunedin Consort has broadened this commitment with an expanding programme of work outside the concert hall, benefiting new listeners of all ages and backgrounds, and reinforcing the transformative power of music across communities. We deliver an extensive primary school workshops programme, dedicated mentoring schemes for young singers and instrumentalists, and one-to-one performance classes for non-professional musicians. We also host free open rehearsals and relaxed and accessible performances for those with additional support needs.

## About Dunedin Consort

With pioneering research fueling our historically informed performances, Dunedin Consort strives to bring our listeners performances that are not only of the highest quality, but which are also compelling, innovative and alive. The ensemble has earned two coveted Gramophone Awards and a Grammy nomination, alongside a further four Gramophone Award nominations, three BBC 'Building a Library' recommendations and two Scottish Album of the Year award nominations, along with the 2021 Royal Philharmonic Society Ensemble Award.

From the festivals of Europe to the concert halls of North and South America, Dunedin Consort is a major presence on the international stage. At home in the UK, the ensemble is a regular at the BBC Proms, London's Wigmore Hall and Edinburgh International Festival, while the group's ground-breaking recordings have seen its popularity spread across the globe.

'John Butt conducts Bach's eternal masterpieces as though the music were the elixir of life. Silky strings, spicy winds and raucous horns gave the music a colour that any baroque ensemble would envy.' — The Times ★★★★★

'Joy, passion and precision... it was as though Butt and his players were rediscovering this well-known music afresh all over again, and taking their listeners with them.' — The Scotsman ★★★★★

In 24-25, turnover was over £900k, we played over 40 concert programmes, nationally and internationally, to approximately 14,000 people, with 1.5 million audio plays and directly reaching in excess of 5000 people in our Learning and Participation work. The Musicians are from a world class pool of freelance players and singers. We are Creative Scotland Multi Year Funded. The Team is 5.4FTE, currently with a board of 9 trustees.

## Directors

Dunedin Consort performs on period instruments and its Music Director is Professor John Butt OBE FRSE FBE. John's musical ideas and research have not only shaped our work but have also influenced how many other musicians present theirs. He is particularly respected for his research into the music of J.S. Bach. He has written several books for Cambridge University Press and in 2013 was awarded the OBE for his services to music in Scotland.

He was joined in 2020 by Nicholas Mulroy as Dunedin Consort's Associate Director. A longstanding member of the group, Nicholas has helped to shape much of the group's vocal programming in recent years and continues to appear regularly as a soloist, while also directing a number of other programmes.

We have been pleased to work with a number of guest Directors in recent years including Johanna Soller, Kristian Bezuidenhout, Lillian Gordis, Ellie Slorach, and Peter Whelan.