

Chair of the Board

Role Description:

The Chair of the Grierson Trust is a pivotal leadership position. You will work closely with the Board of Trustees and the Managing Director to guide the Trust's strategic direction, ensure good governance, champion fundraising efforts and strengthen industry engagement. The Chair acts as an ambassador for the Trust's values, helping sustain its reputation as a cornerstone of the UK's documentary filmmaking community.

Key Responsibilities:

Leadership and Governance

- Lead the Board of Trustees in setting strategic direction, ensuring that all activities align with the Trust's charitable objectives.
- Promote good governance, ensure legal and financial compliance, and support effective decision-making.
- Build a strong, collaborative working relationship with the Managing Director and staff team.

Strategic Planning

- Work with trustees and executive staff to develop and refine the Trust's medium and long-term strategy.
- Ensure programmes and initiatives remain relevant and impactful.
- Drive innovation and future proof the Trust in a changing media landscape.

Fundraising and Advocacy

- Actively support fundraising and income generation strategies, leveraging your network to build relationships with sponsors, partners and donors.
- Represent the Trust at industry events to raise its profile and expand its influence.
- Contribute to developing and maintaining a strong case for support to secure future investment.

Industry Engagement

- Act as a key ambassador for the Trust within the documentary film and television community.
- Bring established connections within the UK and international documentary ecosystem to support the Trust's aims and partnerships.
- Advocate for diversity, talent development, and excellence in documentary filmmaking.

Grierson Awards Involvement

- Chair one of the annual Grierson Awards categories, overseeing the judging process and maintaining the integrity and credibility of the competition.
- Lead and facilitate fair, constructive discussions among jurors, ensuring alignment with the Trust's values and criteria.
- Represent the Trust at the awards ceremony and related events.

Person Specification:**Essential:**

- Demonstrated leadership experience, ideally in a non-profit/charity, media, or cultural organisation.
- Strategic thinker with a proven track record of guiding organisational vision and development.

- Experience with or understanding of fundraising, sponsorship, and philanthropic partnerships.
- Deep knowledge of and strong network within the documentary film and television industry in the UK and internationally.
- Passion for the mission and activities of the Grierson Trust, with a commitment to promoting diversity and new talent in factual media.

Desirable:

- Previous experience as a chair or trustee of a charitable organisation.
- Familiarity with charity governance, legal and financial responsibilities of a board chair.

Internal stakeholders:	Managing Director and staff.
External stakeholders:	Grierson Trustees, Sponsors, Jurors, Reviewers, Patrons.
Salary:	Voluntary.
Term:	Initial three-year term.
Location:	Remote – UK-based with some travel to London.
Start date:	November 2025.

How to Apply:

If you would like to be considered, please send your CV and a covering letter to sylvia@griersontrust.org explaining what you would bring to the role by **5pm on Friday 11 July 2025**.

The Grierson Trust is committed to being a diverse and inclusive employer. We particularly welcome applications from under-represented groups, including, but not limited to those from people from the black and global majority community; disabled people; people from the LGBTQ+ community; and those from lower socio-economic backgrounds. You can read our [Diversity Statement](#) on The Grierson Trust website.



About the Grierson Trust:

The Grierson Trust is a registered charity that exists to celebrate the best of documentary and factual filmmaking from Britain and around the world. Each year, the [Grierson British Documentary Awards](#), more fondly known as the Griersons or Grierson Awards – shine a spotlight on the best documentaries of the year across an array of genres. The Trust also nurtures factual TV talent via the [Grierson DocLab](#) training and mentoring schemes, helping to sustain and diversify the documentary workforce in the UK.

The Grierson Trust is led by a committed [board of Trustees](#) drawn from across documentary, factual TV and finance sectors.