

Director

The Montgomery Theatre and Arts Centre, Sheffield

www.themontgomery.org.uk

FURTHER INFORMATION

Key skills that the successful candidate will demonstrate are as follows:

- Experience of enterprise and income diversification within an arts / cultural organisation
- Experience of producing and presenting reports to a range of internal and external audiences including Board level
- Exceptional written / verbal communication and negotiation skills
- Experience of line managing a multi-disciplinary team
- Proven ability to work as part of a varied and remote working team
- Excellent IT skills, including Microsoft Office
- Rigorous attention to accuracy and detail
- A strong interest in community theatre and the arts for young people.
- Understanding of GDPR and Health & Safety legislation

Ideally, you will also bring:

- Knowledge of The Montgomery
- Experience of working for a registered charity
- Experience of venue management
- Knowledge of the Sheffield creative landscape and city infrastructure.

History

The Montgomery as an organisation was formed in 1812 as Sheffield Sunday Schools Union, providing much needed education to Sheffield's children & young people, enabling them to gain employment away from the chimneys, factory floors and rise out of poverty. In 1886, Montgomery Hall was built in memory of James Montgomery, a well-loved local champion of the poor. Upon its completion various arts activities including floral arranging, choral singing and drama also took place in the building, engaging the wider communities of Sheffield.

In 1948/49 the large hall was adapted to be used as a theatre by Sheffield's amateur dramatic societies. Some of those community companies continue to perform at The Montgomery today. In 1971 a fire tore through the theatre threatening to close the building for good, but through fundraising from the community companies and help from Sheffield Council the theatre was able to be rebuilt and our mix of faith and community arts work continued through the next 6 decades.

In 2012 the organisation incorporated, changed its name, and became The Montgomery. With the declining need from local churches for support from The Montgomery, the Trustees made the decision in 2016 to change the focus of the organisation away from faith based activities to that of a Theatre and Arts Centre.

We are proud of our heritage and the journey that The Montgomery started over 200 years ago, we are also proud that we remain committed to families, children and young people within our community as we focus on the future.

Artistic Policy

The beating heart for creativity - art in all its glorious forms - begins with the people and communities of our fantastic city, Sheffield.

The Montgomery is so much more than a historic building. From the beginning our passion was the development of children, families and the wider communities; and as a centre for the arts in Sheffield, our aim is to enable people from diverse communities to discover, develop, explore, experience and share their creativity.

The Montgomery is the only centre for the arts in Sheffield that has a specific focus on programming outstanding professional theatre productions for young audiences between the ages of 5 and 16, to share with their families. Working with selected partners, we offer creative workshops, classes and experiences for children and their families to explore the world of theatre and encourage their own creativity, developing a relationship with the arts that we hope will last a lifetime.

The Montgomery is the most important performance space for the thriving non-professional theatre community in Sheffield. We host and support performances from community groups, schools, colleges and dance academies on our stage, bringing together people from across the diverse range of our communities in shared creative experiences.

The Montgomery is an art centre dedicated to the exploration and development of creativity for local people and local community artists, from workshop space to art gallery exhibitions.

Current Strategy

The current strategy has been developed to guide The Montgomery through a significant period of change and development over the next 5 years, and to enable us to continue being the most important community theatre and arts centre for people of Sheffield for years to come. The 5 key strategic aims are:

- To be financially stable
- To build our creative reputation
- To continue organisational development to further our mission and vision
- To develop facilities to support the mission, vision and business plan
- To maintain the existing facilities to support the business plan and our ongoing activities

The Business Plan covers the period until the re-opening of the building, which we would hope to be within 5 years, after a planned major refurbishment of the facilities.

To prepare for this, we are currently focussing on developing and strengthening our organisation, our financial stability and our creative reputation, alongside developing plans for the refurbishment through a Feasibility Study. Future key actions will focus on fundraising for the redevelopment, alongside the continued development of our core activities.

**Staff Structure
From September 2019**

