

firstdraft directors' callout 2018-2019

firstdraft is where the future of contemporary art emerges, through a program that is current, critical, ambitious, challenging and experimental.

Firstdraft needs passionate people to join its Board of Directors for 2018 and 2019, and help lead a program that is current, critical, ambitious, diverse and experimental, with artists firmly at its centre.

Firstdraft is a national artist-led organisation that creates an environment to imagine the expanded possibilities of visual art practices. The Firstdraft Board of Directors is made up of a diverse range of artists, writers, curators and arts administrators, whose skills and knowledge are key to realising the success of its vision.

Firstdraft has recently experienced an exciting period of development that has seen the evolution of its facilities and programs at its site in Woolloomooloo. We are looking for individuals to join the board who have a strong knowledge and understanding of emerging arts practice, and the passion, time and creativity to develop, support and promote early-career artists locally, nationally and internationally.

The Firstdraft Board consists of a group of Directors, each serving a two-year term. As a Firstdraft Director, you will become an ambassador for one of Australia's longest-running artist-run initiatives (ARIs) and a key stakeholder within the emerging arts community. We are looking for leaders who possess the drive to take Firstdraft forward, who represent its interests and vision, and who can articulate and facilitate its future.

Directors make decisions collaboratively and work together with staff to conceptualise and implement the many and varied activities of Firstdraft. Firstdraft values honesty, integrity, diligence and an ethical approach to both decision making and gallery operations.

Firstdraft is committed to diversity and strongly supports applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, LGBTIQ+ people, and people with disabilities.

The Board is responsible for a range of areas, including:

- **Programming, producing and implementing Firstdraft's program:**
 - Assessing biannual program call outs for exhibitions, curators and writers
 - Programming the exhibition and event calendar
 - Working with staff to manage exhibitions and public programs
 - Developing collaborative projects with program partners
- **Providing strategic direction and administration:**
 - Formulating and implementing policy and organisational direction
 - Implementing and reporting against Firstdraft's strategic plan

- Managing and maintaining relationships with artists, organisations, funders and other key stakeholders
- Providing support and direction to staff and volunteers

- **Representing Firstdraft publicly, such as at public talks, panels, in the media and at formal meetings**

- **Ensuring the financial stability of the organisation:**
 - Identifying and securing grant and funding and other income sources
 - Managing Firstdraft's annual fundraising auction
 - Developing Firstdraft's philanthropic relationships
 - Administration and financial management

- **Actively contribute to the day-to-day operations of Firstdraft, including:**
 - Attending fortnightly board meetings and other meetings as required
 - Attending monthly exhibition openings, public programs and other events at Firstdraft where required

Selection Criteria

Ideal candidates will possess:

- A degree in a Visual Arts related field or have relevant industry experience
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- A sound knowledge of contemporary and emerging art practice
- Knowledge and/or experience of artist-run initiatives and/or not-for-profit organisations
- Experience with the handling and installation of artwork
- Be capable of working both autonomously and within a collaborative environment; and be able to work flexibly, consistently and outside of conventional working hours.

A typical weekly commitment involves 5-10 hours.

Tasks and responsibilities are shared between Directors based on their interests and skills (it's not expected that each Director can do everything!). We support Directors to learn and grow in the role through formal training and hands-on experience.

Applications including CV and letter addressing the selection criteria should be made online prior to midnight Sunday 29 October 2017 via the link firstdraft.org.au/joinfirstdraft or send via email to apply@firstdraft.org.au.