



## **Job Description: Director of the Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts (RHA)**

**Job Title:** Director of the Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts (RHA)

**Location:** Dublin, Ireland

**Employment Type:** Full-time

**Salary:** €90,000

**Term:** 7-year fixed contract with option for extension

**Application Deadline:** 30 September 2025

### **About Us:**

The Royal Hibernian Academy of Arts (RHA) is one of Ireland's leading visual arts institutions, dedicated to supporting contemporary artists through exhibitions, education, and artist development. The RHA comprises an artist membership, a prestigious public art gallery, the RHA School, artist studios, and a dynamic education and outreach programme. Our mission is to foster the appreciation and understanding of visual arts while supporting emerging and established artists in Ireland and beyond, and to contextualise our historic legacy.

For 200 years, we have been run by eminent artists and architects, elected by their peers in recognition of their work. The RHA Director works in tandem with the gallery team and RHA Academicians to realise the core vision of supporting artists, training students and exhibiting contemporary art.

### **Position Overview:**

We are seeking an experienced and visionary Director to lead the RHA into its next phase of growth and innovation. Reporting to the Council of the RHA, and working in close collaboration with the Officers of the RHA, and the RHA's Advisory Boards, the Director will provide strategic leadership and collaborate across all facets of the institution, overseeing the gallery's artistic programming, the development of the RHA School, the management of artist studios, the expansion of the education and outreach programme and building



management. This role requires a passionate director with a collaborative approach, deep knowledge of contemporary art, good interpersonal skills, fundraising capabilities, and a commitment to fostering artistic excellence and public engagement. The new director will support the RHA in its constant evolution as an inclusive, innovative and ambitious space for artists and audiences.

The normal hours of work will be 35 hours per week and will be set out in the Contract of Employment. Flexibility is required as part of this post and a willingness to work occasional evenings and weekends is essential. Annual Leave will be 25 working days a year. This leave is the basis of a five-day week and is exclusive of the usual public holidays

#### Requirements:

- Minimum **5 years of senior leadership experience** in the arts sector.
- A strong track record that demonstrates **curatorial expertise** and a deep understanding of contemporary visual art.
- Proven track record in **fundraising, grant writing, and strategic operational and financial management**.

#### Key Responsibilities:

- **Vision & Strategy:** Develop and execute a forward-thinking, inclusive strategy for the RHA
- **Curatorial & Artistic Programme:** Oversee the development and execution of exhibitions and public programmes and provide space for a variety of voices.
- **Team Leadership:** Inspire, manage and support a skilled and committed team, nurturing a positive, motivated and collaborative working culture
- **Operational & Financial Management:** Oversee budgeting, nurture human resources and manage the RHA's financial and administrative operations efficiently and ethically.



# RHA

## ROYAL HIBERNIAN ACADEMY *of* ARTS

Acadamh Ibeirneach Ríoga na nEalaíon

- **Communication:** Ensure that there are effective channels of communication between staff, management, council and the wider membership ,and the RHA Advisory Boards, maintaining transparency throughout the organisation
- **Fundraising & Development:** Proactively identify and secure grant funding, sponsorship and philanthropic support to sustain and grow the RHA's activities.
- **Sustainability & Accessibility:** actively driving strategies for accessibility, inclusion and environmental and social sustainability
- **Education & Outreach:** Oversee the expansion of programmes that make art accessible to all. Nurturing creativity and inclusion.
- **Advocacy & Promotion:** Champion the RHA's mission on national and international platforms
- **Community & Stakeholder Engagement:** Build meaningful relationships with artists, funders, public bodies and communities.
- **Member Engagement:** Cultivate strong and authentic relationships with RHA members, ensuring their voices are represented and celebrated throughout the Academy's work.

### Benefits:

- A creative and inspiring work environment within one of Ireland's leading contemporary art institutions.
- A competitive salary and pension scheme.
- Opportunities for professional development and international collaborations.
- Relocation assistance can be provided

### How to Apply:

Interested candidates should submit the following:

- A cover letter detailing their vision for the RHA.
- A detailed resume/CV.
- Contact information for three professional references.
- Portfolio or examples of previous curatorial and educational work.



# RHA

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Acadamh Ibeirneach Ríoga na nEalaíon

Applications should be sent via email to Kate McBride at [kate@rhagallery.ie](mailto:kate@rhagallery.ie) by:

**30<sup>th</sup> September 2025** with the subject line: Director Application - [Your Name].

An acknowledgement will be issued for all applications.

The RHA is an equal opportunity employer. We strongly encourage applications from diverse and underrepresented communities. If an applicant has access requirements in relation to the application process please contact Kate McBride at the above email address.

