



KSC
KEN STRADLING
COLLECTION

THE STRADLING COLLECTION

Trustee Recruitment Pack

A UNIQUE COLLECTION – A REMARKABLE MAN



The Stradling Collection is unique in that it came out of the world of retailing post-war craft and design. It is a spectacular collection of 20th and 21st Century design and applied arts, containing over 650 pieces of studio ceramics, 300 pieces of Scandinavian and British studio glass and many items of furniture, industrial design, decorative objects, paintings and prints. Of international significance, it is also a wonderful repository of stories about the designers, manufacturers and craftspeople - and the collector himself - all set in the context of Bristol's place in design history.

The Collection's Bristolian founder turned 100 in January 2022 and ended his remarkable life in July this same year. Ken Stradling started as a buyer at the Bristol Guild in 1948 and rose to become one of two Directors by 1965, retiring in 2006. During his incredible 60-year stewardship at the Guild, he collected many of the items that he also sold in the shop and the gallery. In reflecting the stock at the Guild, this collection shows how his personal vision helped shape the tastes of shoppers at such an exciting and innovative era of design and crafts. The Guild became a key destination for Bristolians to see and feel new exciting ceramics, glass, lighting, furniture and home-creating objects sourced from makers in Britain, Scandinavia and throughout Europe.

Ken was deeply committed to sharing his love of design and making and in 2006 he established a charitable trust to give his Collection a permanent home at 48 Park Row, Bristol. Through Ken's generosity and vision, the Stradling Collection is, and will remain, a jewel in Bristol's cultural crown.

THE STRADLING COLLECTION TODAY

Today, The Ken Stradling Collection Trust exists to care for the Collection and inspire and educate current and future makers, making it available to everyone for study and to enjoy.

The gallery at 48 Park Row features changing displays from the Collection, loan exhibitions which respond to it, or artworks created through our learning programme by children and students engaging with all its amazing variety. Sometimes our exhibitions feature all these types of work, and a varied activity programme engages people of every age and experience.

As a small charity, we value the support of our loyal volunteer stewards who work closely with our part-time Curator and Administrator. The Collection is currently open to the public twice a week.



THE KEN STRADLING COLLECTION TRUST IS LOOKING FOR NEW TRUSTEES TO JOIN ITS BOARD

This is a pivotal moment for this small, well-loved and respected charity and we are looking for Trustees to help us shape our vision for the future. We are seeking people who have an appetite for using their skills and experience to contribute to developing a new, sustainable business model. Building new audiences is key, and our Trustees will help us to reach out deeper into the community, and share the collection with more people, from more backgrounds, in more places.

We are now looking to the future, with ambitious plans to re-invigorate our offer – particularly focussing on sharing the collection with wider audiences; providing more creative learning opportunities for children, young people and scholars; considering the future needs of the building and storage of the collection and forming partnerships with other arts organisations and academic institutions.

To develop these plans, the organisation needs further skills on its board of Trustees. The Trustees are looking to stimulate new ideas for the future, specifically to ensure financial sustainability; greater visibility and acknowledgement; and a professional staff structure to enable growth and high-quality exhibitions, creative learning programmes and community outreach projects.



ROLE DESCRIPTION

The Board of Trustees is critical in setting and overseeing our mission, vision and values and in supporting the staff team to implement our projects and programmes.

You don't have to have previous experience of being a Trustee to join us nor do you have to come from an arts, design or cultural background. A passion for our organisation and Collection is the most important requirement. We are seeking people who appreciate the value arts and design contribute to society and the part we play within this ecology, particularly in Bristol and the West of England.

The Trustees are planning to expand as we move into the next period of our development and are looking for people with the following skills:

A new Chair – to lead us through this period of change and progression. We want you to inspire us. You will be entrepreneurial, well connected and passionate. Some prior experience of being a charity Trustee will be required for this specific role.

Business Development – to contribute ideas and energy into a new business model. This could include brand development or income generation experience.

Legal – to be our voice on the Board regarding all legal matters, including understanding charity law and compliance with it.

Community Engagement – to help to identify and build relationships with members of cultural, academic and educational organisations and communities

SHOULD YOU HAVE FURTHER OR DIFFERENT SKILLS TO THESE, WE STILL WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU AS TO HOW YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES AS A BOARD MEMBER

With fellow Trustees and the staff team, you will be involved in the following activities:

- Overseeing the development of a new strategic business plan
- Contributing to ideas about diversification of our programme, activities both within the building and elsewhere
- Developing an income generation plan to ensure financial sustainability
- Ensuring the organisation is acting in strict accordance with the law
- Taking responsibility for our financial solvency, including scrutinising budgets and cash flow
- Developing our brand to include the widest possible audience
- As an advocate, promoting and communicating our organisation to your peers, networks and other contacts
- Creating a risk register and its ongoing refreshment
- Helping to update policies and procedures on an annual basis
- Proactively developing relationships with potential funders
- Helping to recruit staff members and other Trustees as and when required

TRUSTEES WILL BE EXPECTED TO:

- Attend and contribute to 4 - 6 Board meetings a year
- Attend exhibition openings or other events and meetings that we programme
- Become knowledgeable about our core aims and objectives and support their growth
- Provide informal advice and guidance to the staff team

YOU MAY ALSO BE ASKED TO:

- Join sub-committees to focus on specific areas of our work
- Provide informal advice and guidance to the staff team

APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE AND TENURE

You will be appointed initially for a period of three years. This is then renewable for a further three years, based on a mutual agreement. In some instances, you may be asked to remain for a further exceptional period of one year.

We are seeking to carry out meetings with potential candidates in Autumn 2022, with a view to officially appointing new Trustees by the end of the year.

OUR EXISTING TRUSTEES



David Beech

David joined us after retiring as Head of Art, Design, Media and Photography of The Bristol School of Art (WISE campus) of South Gloucester and Stroud College and as course leader for the Foundation Diploma. Previous to his educational career, David ran a successful furniture design company. He is a passionate and committed believer in the positive effects of an arts education for all.



Peter Metcalfe MPHIL

Peter founded the Bath-based design and development consultancy 'Alchemede' which undertook a diverse range of design-led assignments for the manufacturing and retail sectors in the UK and overseas. In the 1980s he was Principal of the London College of Furniture. As a former Mayor of Bath, Peter is currently engaged with a number of cultural and educational bodies in the city region.



Oliver Kent MA PhD PGCE

Oliver is a potter and a ceramic historian. He has lectured and researched for many years, and twice been selected to build and fire kilns at the International Ceramics Festival in Aberystwyth. He was a lecturer in art and design at UWE and Bristol School of Art where he was course leader for the BA Design and Applied Arts. He retired from teaching in 2020. He continues his involvement with ceramic research, as well as making and a little teaching.



Karen White

Karen is a communications specialist who has worked both in consultancy and in house for over 30 years. She currently runs her own private client consultancy. Karen is passionate about the visual arts and their promotion within the city and beyond and is also a Trustee of Bristol Museums Development Trust.



Mike Cannings

Mike has collaborated with Ken Stradling for many years. He was Sales Director at Dartington Cider Press Centre, Commercial Manager at the SS Great Britain and is now Managing Director of the Bristol Guild.



Cleo Witt MA MFA

Cleo was Curator of Applied Art at Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, then became a freelance lecturer in further, higher and adult education, and an art/design historian. She joined the 20th Century Crafts Study Centre at the Holburne Museum in Bath, became Keeper of Decorative Art at the Holburne, then Head of Education, winning two Sandford Heritage Education Awards

HOW TO APPLY

If you are inspired to apply, we will be delighted to hear from you. Please send your CV with a supporting statement expressing your interest in becoming a Trustee, outlining the skills and expertise you could bring to the organisation, and other experiences you think could add value to the role.

Please apply by Monday **17th October 2022 at 5pm** to:

Email: admin@stradlingcollection.org with Trustee application as the subject line (or)

By post to: The Stradling Collection, 48 Park Row, Bristol BS1 5LH marked Trustee application

For an informal conversation prior to applying contact Cleo Witt at cleowittsaunders@gmail.com

If you would like to arrange for a Curator's Tour of the Gallery prior to applying, please contact Bettina Langlois at admin@stradlingcollection.org



The Ken Stradling Collection Trust
48 Park Row
Bristol BS1 5LH
Registered charity number: 1117689