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THEATRE & ARTS CENTRE

**Freelance Fundraiser
Recruitment Pack
June 2025**

www.eastgatearts.com

Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre,
Peebles, EH45 8AD

1. Welcome from the Executive & Creative Director

Thank you for your interest in working with Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre. This is a crucial time for our organisation. As we continue to evolve our artistic and participatory programmes, develop new partnerships, and improve our facilities, we also face the growing challenge of securing the resources to match our ambition.

We're seeking an experienced freelance fundraiser to support our team on a part-time basis over an initial six-month period. You will work alongside me to help develop and deliver an effective fundraising strategy, with a particular focus on trusts, foundations and individual giving.

If you're passionate about the power of the arts in rural communities, experienced in raising income for charitable organisations, and keen to help secure a vibrant future for this much-loved venue, we'd love to hear from you.

Warm wishes,



Fraser Morrison
Executive & Creative Director



Young Participant of Rhythm Kids



Dance for Parkinsons



Helen Mort as part of Wild Writers Festival



Dance Participants

2. About Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre

Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre is a vibrant, multi-purpose cultural hub based in Peebles, at the heart of the Scottish Borders. Since opening in 2004, the Eastgate has grown into one of the region's most valued cultural assets — a place where creativity is nurtured, stories are shared, and communities come together.

The Eastgate presents a diverse, year-round programme of live performance, cinema, and participatory activity. We host theatre, music, dance, comedy, literature, film and visual art, and serve audiences of all ages and backgrounds across Tweeddale and the wider Scottish Borders. With a welcoming café, gallery space, studio and performance auditorium, the Eastgate is a social and creative gathering place as much as a venue.

Each year we programme over 300 performances, events, and workshops — welcoming more than 30,000 visits from audience members, participants, artists and visitors.

We also play a vital civic role in Peebles, providing space for rehearsals, community groups, schools engagement and youth theatre, as well as offering hire opportunities for local businesses, choirs, music schools and more.

In Autumn 2024, Eastgate Theatre entered a new phase under the leadership of Executive & Creative Director Fraser Morrison. With renewed purpose and ambition, the theatre is now pursuing a more integrated and inclusive artistic vision. This includes:

- Developing original in-house work, beginning with the launch of Borders to Broadway in April 2025
- Expanding festival programming, including Wild Writers, Back to Nature, Peebles Jazz Weekend, and Inspiring Life.
- Strengthening cinema and event cinema, with a growing audience for independent film, NT Live, Royal Opera House and art documentaries
- Deepening our participatory offer, with a focus on access, wellbeing, and social impact

As a registered charity, Eastgate is governed by a Board of Trustees and powered by a small but dedicated core staff team, supported by volunteers, artists, and freelancers. Our funding model includes earned income, public subsidy, charitable grants and individual donations. As with many arts organisations, the current funding landscape presents challenges — but also opportunities for innovation and growth.

The Eastgate is now focused on becoming more resilient, more rooted in our community, and more confident in our role as a catalyst for creativity and cultural life in rural Scotland.



Peebles Players



Eastgate Auditorium

3. Our Mission, Vision & Values

Our Mission

Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre provides vibrant, accessible, and diverse artistic experiences for all ages that inspire creativity and foster community connections. We empower individuals to engage actively in the arts through performances, engagement programmes, and collaborations, enriching the cultural life of the Scottish Borders and making the arts a vital part of our community.

Our Vision

Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre will be a place that Inspires individuals and communities, Engages people in the arts in the broadest sense, and drives meaningful Change—changing minds, broadening perspectives, and transforming outcomes. We aspire to be a creative hub for the whole of the Scottish Borders and beyond, setting the standard for inclusive, innovative, and participatory artistic experiences, and becoming a centre for cultural enrichment and social impact for generations to come.

Our Values

Engagement: We are dedicated to actively connecting with individuals and communities across the Scottish Borders and beyond, using the arts as a tool to bring people together, foster understanding, and create meaningful connections.

Excellence: We are committed to achieving the highest standards in all our artistic work, striving to provide enriching and inspiring experiences that elevate creativity in our community.

Inclusivity: We value diversity in all its forms and are committed to creating an inclusive environment where everyone feels welcome and has the opportunity to participate and express themselves through the arts.

Creativity: We champion new ideas and creative approaches, embracing innovation in our programming, operations, and partnerships to keep the arts vibrant and relevant.

Collaboration: We believe in the power of partnership, working collaboratively with artists, audiences, and other organisations to enhance our impact and deliver dynamic, shared artistic experiences.



Wild Writers Festival Audience 2025



KT Tunstall

4. About The Role

Job Title: Freelance Fundraiser

Type: Freelance (Self-employed)

Contract Duration: 6 months (initial)

Time Commitment: 1–2 days per week (flexible)

Fee: £250–£300 per day (depending on experience)

Location: Remote/Flexible, with occasional visits to Peebles

Reports to: Executive & Creative Director

This is a new role created at a time of both opportunity and challenge. Eastgate is delivering more than ever before, but – like many cultural organisations – faces uncertainty around public funding. This role is designed to help us build greater resilience, grow our philanthropic income, and make a compelling case for support.

You'll work in close partnership with the Executive & Creative Director and leadership team to develop and deliver a coordinated fundraising strategy, with an initial focus on trusts and foundations, but with the scope to explore wider opportunities including individual giving, sponsorship, and strategic partnerships.

We are looking for someone who combines strategic insight with hands-on experience of securing income, and who is excited by the opportunity to help shape the future of a distinctive, community-focused arts organisation.

5. Key Responsibilities

- Research and identify funding opportunities from trusts, foundations, and public bodies aligned with Eastgate's work and ambitions
- Develop and submit high-quality, compelling funding applications to support core costs, participatory programmes, and capital improvements
- Work with the Executive & Creative Director to design and deliver a tailored fundraising strategy
- Advise on the development of our individual giving programme
- Track application progress and ensure all reporting requirements are met
- Offer strategic advice on new income streams, sponsorships, and partnerships



Fiona Henderson School of Dance



Graceland

6. Person Specification

Essential:

- Proven track record of successful fundraising – ideally securing multiple grants in the 4–5 figure range from trusts, foundations, or statutory sources, including Creative Scotland
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, with the ability to turn creative ideas into persuasive cases for support
- Strategic thinker with a proactive, self-motivated approach
- Ability to work independently and manage time effectively to meet deadlines
- A good understanding of the UK charitable and/or arts funding landscape
- Commitment to the values of inclusivity, community engagement, and cultural participation

Desirable:

- Experience of individual giving campaigns and donor development
- Experience of working with rural or community-based arts organisations

7. How to Apply

Please email the following to fraser@eastgatearts.com by **Tuesday 8th July 2025 at 5pm:**

- Your CV (maximum 2 pages)
- A short covering note (maximum 1 page) outlining your experience and what you would bring to the role

If you have any questions or would like an informal discussion before applying, please contact Executive & Creative Director, Fraser Morrison on fraser@eastgatearts.com

Interviews will take place during mid to late July at a time to be agreed to suit the candidates. We aim to appoint promptly, with work beginning as soon as practical for the appointed freelancer.

8. Equal Opportunities

Eastgate Theatre & Arts Centre is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive working environment. We actively encourage applications from individuals of all backgrounds and identities, particularly those who are underrepresented in the arts and fundraising sectors.

If you require this information in an alternative format, or if you have access needs during the application process, please let us know.