

Press Release

Close Brothers Asset Management to train new cohort of arts charity Trustees

This week, Close Brothers Asset Management (CBAM) launches the third round of its successful Trustee Leadership Programme.

The programme works to support and develop charities in need of greater support on their governing bodies by pairing them with skilled individuals interested in supporting charities as Trustees. The latest development of the programme focusses specifically on gaps within the arts, culture and museum sectors.

Through a partnership with pioneering social enterprise *Cause4* and in conjunction with the Clothworkers' Company, the Trustee Leadership programme, one of a number of offerings within Close Brothers' philanthropy service, gives professionals of all ages the confidence and know-how that they need to join an arts charity as a Trustee. The programme covers the regulatory issues involved, financial management and strategic planning.

Running across five evenings over a three month period, the programme also includes insights from charity experts from the arts and culture sector and concludes with a final 'matching event.' On this evening, potential Trustees are paired according to their own skills and interests with charities looking to fulfil Trustee roles.

The sessions are structured around the central question "How can I become an effective Board member in the Arts?" and participants are encouraged to understand the unique challenges faced by Trustees in the arts sector and to identify how to overcome them.

The programme forms part of CBAM's wider Philanthropic Service, which is dedicated to guiding charities, entrepreneurs and philanthropic organisations and helping them with their investment decisions. CBAM also runs a broader educational programme, which includes financial advice to senior executives, initiatives such as its Future Leaders Programme and Next Generation Training Programme, and financial planning, retirement and investment seminars.

Penny Lovell, Head of Private Client Services, Close Brothers Asset Management, said: “We have now had two very successful rounds of our Trustee Leadership Programme and, as a natural progression of our long-standing work with charities, we are turning our focus to the arts world. In any charity sector, having a strong board of Trustees is paramount if it is to grow and improve its offering, and arts charities are crying out for motivated people who can offer fresh insight and energy to their management. However, it can often be a struggle to recruit at Trustee level, particularly when it comes to the arts, as many will not realise the roles available to them. It’s therefore vital that we support these individuals to find areas that match their skills, and ensure that the charities themselves are able to develop.

“This programme has been created by staff as more than just a generic philanthropy service, and is something both staff and clients feel engaged with and passionate about. But it also goes beyond our charity clients - we are working with all charities, and believe this will have a significant impact on the sector in time.”

Michelle Wright, CEO of *Cause4* says: “The vision to create this programme by Close Brothers and the support of the Clothworker’s Company has been phenomenal. In creating a programme that covers the key elements of Trusteeship, along with the chance for candidates to meet a range of charities we have uncovered a real appetite from employees working in the City and beyond to become Trustees. We are inundated with applications to the programme, with many participants having wanted to become Trustees for a while, but having found themselves unable to break in to these charity roles. Similarly, we know that some 50% of charities have vacancies on their Boards, so it really is a match made in heaven.

We look forward to running further programmes and are also looking at new initiatives such as a programme for Emerging Chairs, to support those wanting to take up governance leadership roles in the future”.

The course runs from the 1st September to 17th November 2015.

Tuesday 1 September: Overview of the Arts Sector and the Importance of Trustees

Wednesday 23 September: Governance and Strategic Planning

Tuesday 6 October: Financial Management

Tuesday 27 October: An Introduction to Fundraising in the Arts

Tuesday 17 November: Meet Charity Leaders seeking new Trustees

- Ends -

Enquiries

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About Close Brothers Asset Management

Close Brothers Asset Management provides a full range of advice, investment management and self-directed services to private and corporate clients and professional advisers. The business operates out of offices in London, Bristol, Manchester, Cuckfield, Newcastle, Northwich, Edinburgh and Glasgow.

Close Brothers Asset Management is a trading name of Close Asset Management Limited and is part of Close Brothers Group plc. Close Asset Management Limited is registered in England and Wales and authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Registered number: 01644127. Registered office: 10 Crown Place, London EC2A 4FT. VAT registration number: 245 5013.

Close Brothers is a leading UK merchant banking group providing lending, deposit taking, wealth management services, and securities trading. We employ 2,700 people, principally in the UK. Close Brothers Group plc is listed on the London Stock Exchange and is a member of the FTSE 250.

About Cause4 – www.cause4.co.uk

Established in May 2009, social enterprise *Cause4* supports charities, social enterprises and philanthropists in development and fundraising across the charity, arts, sports and education sectors in the UK and internationally.

Cause4 champions disruptive philanthropy and new ways of scaling up charities and social enterprises, learning lessons from the private sector to benefit not-for-profit organisations. *Cause4* also helps attract the best graduate talent to work on some of the world's most pressing issues. Provoking change is at the heart of company's mission.

Cause4 is an entrepreneur incubator, providing training and support to help people succeed in important charitable projects, innovative businesses and social enterprises, and to raise vital funds. Since May 2009, *Cause4* has raised over £40 million for clients, regularly raising over £750,000 in charitable income per month.

Cause4 has won a string of awards including for founder Michelle Wright, as female entrepreneur of the year at the Natwest Start Up Awards 2011 and a winner in the 2012 Startups 100 list for most innovative small businesses across the UK. In 2014 *Cause4* has also won a gold and silver international Stevie Award for innovation, was a winner in the O2 Smarta 100 awards and was the first UK recipient of the international IWEA award for entrepreneurial excellence. The company has been selected as a National Champion representing the UK in the 2014 European Business Awards and won a bronze award for Social Enterprise of the Year at the Great British Entrepreneur Awards.

Cause4 was also recognised as one of the top 25 Hyper-growth organisations in the UK having joined the Government's Growth Accelerator Programme in early 2013 and was invited to be part of Accelerate 250 – an invitation by Lord Young of Graffham (PM's enterprise advisor) for the UK's top 6% of small businesses showing high growth potential. In 2013 *Cause4* was awarded a fast-growth Award from Unltd and was also recognised in the Silicon Valley UK 100 list for the top 100 UK companies showing potential to generate multi-million pound revenues. In September 2015, Cause4's CEO Michelle Wright was selected as a Compassionate Business Leader by Salt Magazine.

More information about *Cause4*'s strategic development programmes and talent development initiatives can be found at www.cause4.co.uk.