Board of Directors

Position Description

About Us

At History Cambridge, we use history to catalyze the connections that make Cambridge, Massachusetts more vibrant and cohesive. We are shifting the traditional historical society model to become a truly community-driven organization. Through our hyper-local public programming, we aim to shed light on untold stories and silenced voices, ensuring everyone feels a part of the historical record.

Cambridge 400

This is a pivotal moment to join our leadership team. History Cambridge is actively steering a multi-year, citywide engagement strategy leading up to Cambridge 400 in 2030—the 400th anniversary of the city's founding. Rather than a singular retrospective event, this initiative is a massive effort to foster dialogue, bridge neighborhood divides, highlight under-represented histories, and build a more inclusive civic identity for the next century. As a board member, your leadership will directly shape this monumental milestone.

About the Role

The History Cambridge Board of Directors is an active governing body. Directors serve renewable three-year terms and play a direct role in driving organizational strategy, civic engagement, and institutional oversight.

What You Will Gain

- **Strategic Leadership & Governance Experience:** Develop high-level skills in nonprofit governance, strategic planning, financial oversight, and campaign execution around a major civic milestone.
- **Civic & Subject Matter Engagement:** Deepen your knowledge of hyper-local public history, community engagement practices, and regional civic networks.
- **Expanded Professional Network:** Collaborate with a dedicated group of civic leaders, community organizers, and local professionals committed to Cambridge's future.
- **Tangible Civic Impact:** Play a direct role in reshaping local history and ensuring all voices are permanently integrated into the city's narrative.

Key Responsibilities

- **Governance & Strategy:** Attend monthly board meetings and contribute actively to strategic planning and policy decisions
- **Committee Leadership:** Serve actively on at least one standing committee (e.g., Governance, Development, or Communications)
- **Community Representation:** Serve as an ambassador for History Cambridge at public events, engaging directly with community members and supporting event presence
- **Outreach & Advocacy:** Champion History Cambridge within your professional and personal networks to build strategic partnerships, attract financial support, and recruit new volunteers

Who We Are Seeking

We believe a diverse board is essential to capturing the true story of Cambridge, and we are actively seeking people from all life experiences. Whether you are a lifelong resident, a newcomer, a community organizer, or a professional, your unique perspective is valuable to us.

To help round out our current leadership team, we are prioritizing candidates who bring a collaborative spirit and a willingness to step in where needed. Specific expertise in legal affairs or marketing and communications is a strong asset.

Commitments

- Passion for Cambridge's multi-layered history and community
- Professional or lived expertise applicable to organizational growth
- An estimated time investment of 5 to 10 hours per month, including meeting preparation, committee work, and event support
- Considering History Cambridge as one of your top three philanthropic priorities

Timeline

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through late January 2027. New board members will be voted on at our Annual Meeting in March 2027.

Get in touch!

If you have questions about the position, have someone to suggest, or would like to have an informal conversation, please reach out to us at info@historycambridge.org.

To Apply

Please help us get to know you by completing our online form.