

Funding for Creative Arts

This document is a collection of potential funding opportunities for those organisations involved in working with Creative Activities.

The text on each potential funding body is compiled from extracts from their respective websites at the date stated in the document's filename.

Some of the funding opportunities listed below were closed at the date of the searches. If they are closed permanently then they have been omitted, but those that are likely to re-open later in the year have been included.

This document is not meant to be exhaustive, nor complete. It is a snapshot of the most relevant funding opportunities at that particular time.

Arts Council

<http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/funding/grants-arts/>

The Arts Council runs a range of grant programmes including Grants for the Arts. Grants for the Arts is their open access funding programme for individuals, art organisations and other people who use the arts in their work.

They offer awards from £1,000 to £100,000 to support a wide variety of arts-related activities, from dance to visual arts, literature to theatre, music to combined arts.

Their funding includes audio-visual, broadcast and transmission, buildings and infrastructure, capacity building, commissioning, digital creation, diversity and equality, education and learning, exhibition, festival, organisational development, original work, participation, performance, production, professional development, publishing, research and development, sector development, talent development, touring.

Grants for the Arts is a rolling programme with no deadlines. Decisions on applications for £15,000 or less take six weeks. Decisions on applications of over £15,000 take 12 weeks.

Elephant Trust for the Arts

<http://elephanttrust.org.uk/docs/theguide.html>

The Elephant Trust for the Arts was set up to make it possible for artists and those presenting their work to undertake and complete projects when frustrated by lack of funds. It is committed to helping artists and art institutions/galleries that depart from the routine and signal new, distinct and imaginative sets of possibilities.

Priority is given to artists in the fine arts and small organisations and galleries who should submit well argued, imaginative proposals for making or producing new work or exhibitions.

The following categories are not supported:

- Arts Festivals
- Group Exhibitions
- Charities organising community projects
- Students
- Educational or other studies
- Residencies or research
- Symposia or conferences
- Theatres
- Catalogues
- Projects taking place outside the UK

Grants have usually been limited to £2,000, but with the recent addition of the Shelagh Wakely Bequest some larger grants of up to £5,000 may be awarded.

The Space

<https://www.thespace.org/commissioning>

The Space works with artists and arts organisations to create great art and reach new audiences using digital technologies and platforms. They commission arts projects which deepen the experience, extend the reach and enhance the quality of the arts using digital. To be eligible to apply you must be a UK-based arts/cultural organisation or artist aged 18 or over. Organisations can include museums and libraries if the proposal is primarily arts focused. They encourage individual artists to partner with a UK-based arts or cultural organisation.

They are looking to commission projects that can be published to an online audience between December 2016 and March 2018. In some circumstances they may be able to commission projects with an earlier live date.

In this commissioning round they are looking for projects that fall into one or more of three areas of interest:

- They use digital technologies, content and platforms to open up the arts to wider or more diverse audiences or which increase representation of different people, places, communities or points of view; and/or
- They are focused on dance or visual arts; and/or
- They are led by UK organisations or artists from outside London
- Although they are particularly interested in dance or visual arts projects, proposals from organisations working in other art forms are also welcome if they meet one or more of the criteria outlined above.
- There are 3 strands of work which they commission under:
- Capture projects are those which digitally capture live arts performances, events, exhibitions or other experiences for wider distribution in order to increase audiences for existing work.
- Extend projects are those which extend and deepen the audience experience of existing artists' work, arts events or activities through digital media, platforms and technologies.
- Create Digital encompasses new works which have digital at the heart of the creative process. They explore new forms of digital storytelling, interactivity and participation.

The Space is able to 100% finance projects or partner with other funders. They will typically provide up to £70,000 of finance. In exceptional circumstances they may agree finance over £100,000. In addition to financial investment they provide advice and support including for project planning, production, online publication and audience development.

Awards for All, England

<http://www.awardsforall.org.uk/england/index.html>

Awards for All, England offers grants of between £300 and £10,000 for projects that improve communities, and the lives of people within them. It is for voluntary and community groups, schools and health organisations, parish and town councils.

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation

<http://gulbenkian.org.uk/open-fund/fund.html>

Their open fund is temporarily suspended. This is because they have recently undertaken open calls for proposals for strands of work.

In general, they are proactive as opposed to reactive in identifying the partners with whom they wish to work on the basis of extensive research. However, they also scan the horizon for innovative projects using our open fund.

They use the Open Fund to receive applications from organisations with ideas for exceptional projects and which are a good fit with their strategic priorities:

- Gathering evidence, testing pilot initiatives and supporting strategic advocacy aimed at increasing knowledge about transitions in later life and securing more appropriate responses to the issues they create for people as they age, particularly in terms of the psychological and emotional challenges faced.
- Fostering sector collaboration, building the evidence base and identifying and supporting models of best practice and originality in the area of participatory/socially-engaged performing arts to raise the profile of this arts practice.
- They are looking for projects that:
 - Scope a new idea to address a specified need or implement new approaches that are already successfully applied in other sectors or outside the UK
 - Are relevant to their new strategic priorities
 - Have a clearly articulated vision of how the work will impact beyond the project lifetime
 - Address and evidence a clearly identified need

As a guide, grants are likely to average between £10,000 and £30,000.

Funding is given for the specific activity proposed and not for general core costs.

They are open to co-funding projects but not where our contribution is a small part of a much larger budget.

Fenton Arts Trust

<http://www.fentonartstrust.org.uk/index.html>

The Fenton Arts Trust is an arts charity, one which focusses its efforts specifically on the support of artists at the beginning of their careers. The Trust's overall aim is to give encouragement and financial support to those actively contributing to the creative arts in the U.K. It seeks to assist individuals and organisations who are making a worthwhile contribution to the artistic and cultural life of this country.

The objectives of the Trust include:

- the provision of grants which will support or reward work or performance by individuals early in their careers
- the provision of grants for institutions or organisations that share these aims.

Grants are available to support individual works, activities, performances or prizes in the fields of drama, painting, sculpture, ballet, music, poetry and architecture.

An application may come from a group, company or institution, or from an individual so long as the application does not involve support of an individual's initial professional training.

A list of recent grants is at:

<http://www.fentonartstrust.org.uk/recentwork.html>

Grants appear to be up to £5,000. Trustees meet three times a year to consider applications.

Michael Tippett Musical Foundation

<http://www.tippettfoundation.org.uk/>

The Michael Tippett Musical Foundation provides funding for the development of group music making especially involving young people, with composition central to the project.

Their single priority is the development of group music making, especially involving young people in projects incorporating composition and creative ideas.

Because of their link with a major composer, the Trustees wish to see composition as central to projects put forward for support. These can include applications from organisations for group projects working with young composers, perhaps at postgraduate or early professional level, offering innovative ways for young composers to develop their talents and experience through engaging with group musical activity.

Grants awarded will be made towards creative musical activity, not instruments or equipment. Projects might be first-time initiatives or the development of existing projects and must be based in the UK.

For an application to be successful the Trustees will pay particular attention to:

- projects involving young people: Trustees hope to see applications which aim to open young people's ears, to stimulate creativity in sound and provide a springboard for young composers to move forward with aspiration.
- the project's musical aspirations: Trustees want to see that the project is aiming for music making of high quality within the project context. They recognise that creative projects may take many different styles and forms.
- projects taking place in or out of school, college or university, or in community settings will be considered. Projects involving young composers should indicate how the project will assist their professional development.
- the artistic leadership of the project: Trustees believe strongly in the importance of a project's artistic leadership. The artistic leader/s involved in the project (i.e. composer, musician, conductor, director, workshop leader etc.) should be clearly identified and named in the application.
- how the project will be planned, managed and evaluated: Trustees want to know who is responsible for the management of the schedule, the participants, appointment of the leaders, evaluation and the budget. If your application is successful they will ask for a report on the project when it is completed, so plans for evaluation should be made from the start.

The Trustees regret they cannot consider requests for funding towards purchase of musical instruments or equipment; computer hardware, software or accessories; or towards capital purchase or development.

They also regret that funds are unfortunately not large enough to respond to other needs such as study fees or maintenance costs for individuals, or general performance or recording costs, or commissions for solely professional performance.

Grants are likely to be between £500 and £4,000, with the average grant in the region of £2,000.

Youth Music

<http://network.youthmusic.org.uk/Funding/about-youth-musics-grants-programme>

Youth Music's grants programme provides funding for music-making projects in England. It is made up of three separate funds:

Fund A offers small grants for high quality music-making projects and involves a simple application process.

Fund B offers medium-sized grants for larger programmes of work.

Fund C offers grants for strategic programmes to help embed sustainable, inclusive music-making across a local area.

Youth Music's vision is that life-changing music-making is available to all children and young people.

Youth Music defines 'musical inclusion' as an approach to music learning that includes everyone and all types of music. This means that they want to see a true diversity of styles, genres, and approaches to learning available to children and young people from all backgrounds. They believe in supporting young musicians beyond first access, progressing on their individual journeys within environments that are equipped to meet their needs. Being musically inclusive means challenging our ideas of what music is for, who music is for, and what role it can have in all our lives.

They believe that true musical inclusion can only happen if there are opportunities for all children and young people to be supported as musicians across all genres and styles, by practitioners who understand their needs and worldviews and who are equipped to help them on their individual learning journeys.

They would like you to apply for funding with a very clear idea of what changes you are trying to bring about (i.e. your intended outcomes). They know that things don't always go to plan, and there will be lots of outcomes that you might not even be able to imagine right now. However, they know that the most successful projects do well when they have made a commitment to project planning and have a shared understanding of what they are trying to achieve, and how.

Youth Music-funded projects work across five outcome areas. These relate to children and young people themselves (musical, personal or social outcomes), and to those supporting them (workforce and organisational outcomes).

Fund A applicants are required to work towards three intended outcomes from any of the outcome areas displayed below.

Fund B applicants are expected to work towards five intended outcomes from any of the outcome areas.

Fund C applicants must work towards five to ten intended outcomes from all five outcome areas.

Esmee Fairbairn Foundation

<http://esmeefairbairn.org.uk/what-we-fund/arts/>

They recognise the power of culture to give opportunity and visibility to people who may otherwise be marginalised. They want to support the artistic and financial sustainability of the sector and make sure that the widest range of people can participate. We are prepared to support core costs, periods of transition and risk-taking.

Funding priorities:

Organisations at a pivotal point - organisationally or artistically

They fund successful, stable organisations trying out new business models, governance or staffing structures or artistic programmes. Ideally they will be working together with other organisations to develop new innovative collaborations and partnerships. They are interested in how these changes can help organisations become sustainable and resilient and how this might encourage the broader sector to adopt new models. They therefore expect an organisation approaching us for core funding to be able to provide a clear exit from our funding.

Development of emerging talent

They fund established arts organisations to nurture the next generation of artists. They expect open and accessible recruitment process and an awareness of potential barriers, for example for artists with a disability. These programmes will provide genuine support and contact and offer progression routes or good signposting opportunities after they have ended. There should be a link between the emerging artists and the organisation's main artistic programme. This funding will support professional artists' schemes and is not intended to support artistic training programmes.

Art as an instrument for social change, community cohesion or participation

They fund programmes that use the arts to address social change. They should offer artistic excellence and social impact. They are looking for programmes that address difficult issues and/or increase the participation, involvement and engagement of harder to reach groups. They are particularly interested in projects that link arts and social change organisations and offer opportunities for further development.

As a result of our funding, we hope to see:

- Organisations and artists testing out new practice without compromising their financial situation and/or artistic reputation.

- A better long-term artistic future for the organisation or individual, with a wider funding/earned income base and an enhanced profile, skills and network.
- A better experience for audiences and participants as a result of the organisation's new model/practice.
- Genuine, long term social change, with future pathways/sign-posting for participants.
- Opportunities for engagement to continue and the breaking down of barriers through the participants' involvement with the arts organisation.

Recent grants have ranged from £5,000 to £300,000. There are no deadlines – you can apply at anytime.

Foyle Foundation

<http://www.foylefoundation.org.uk/>

The Foundation seeks applications that make a strong artistic case for support in either the performing or visual arts. Their Arts programme has a twofold purpose to help sustain the arts and to support projects that particularly help to deliver artistic vision. They look for value for money, long term benefit and sustainability in projects that they support. Typical areas of support include:

- helping to make the arts more accessible by developing new audiences, supporting tours, festivals and arts educational projects;
- encouraging new work and supporting young and emerging artists;
- building projects that improve or re-equip existing arts venues (rather than construction of new facilities, although this will not be excluded);
- projects that encourage sustainability by reducing overheads or which help generate additional revenue.

Generally, they make grants for specific projects/activities. They will consider applications for core funding (but generally only from smaller organisations or from those not receiving recurrent revenue funding from the Arts Council or local authorities).

Please note that community arts activity will not generally be supported. Applications are accepted all year round.

Small Grants Scheme

Their Small Grants Scheme is designed to support smaller charities in the UK, especially those working at grass roots and local community level, in any field, across a wide range of activities. Please note they are not able to support individuals.

Applications are welcomed from charities that have an annual turnover of less than £100,000 per annum. Larger or national charities will normally not be considered under this scheme. Nor will the Scheme generally support charities that are able consistently to generate operational surpluses or which have been able to build up unrestricted reserves to a level equivalent to three months turnover.

If applying on behalf of a state school please refer to the state schools webpage at:

<http://www.foylefoundation.org.uk/how-to-apply/state-schools.php>

They plan to make one year grants of between £1,000 and £10,000 to charities which can demonstrate that such a grant will make a significant difference to their work. If you cannot demonstrate this, your application will be declined. Please note that demonstrating ongoing sustainability is also important, particularly if you have recently lost local authority or other regular funding. No multi-year funding awards will be made.

Paul Hamlyn Foundation

<http://www.phf.org.uk/our-work-in-the-uk/>

They want to widen access and deepen participation in the arts

They continue to believe in the enduring power of the Arts as a force for change, enriching people's lives and communities.

Arts access and participation

Through this strategic priority, their objective is to support organisations that have ambitious plans to widen access to and deepen participation in the arts. It will not be enough simply to increase numbers: their emphasis is on addressing inequalities of opportunity. Within this priority, they will build on our previous work, including the continuation, development and evaluation of several existing programmes.

The purpose of the Fund

They want to use their funding to support organisations to test, implement and develop ambitious plans to widen access to and deepen participation in the arts. It will not be enough to simply increase numbers – our emphasis is on addressing inequalities of opportunity. They want to help organisations to build stronger evidence about what works so that they can improve practice and achieve greater impact.

They will consider applications for:

- New ways of working, or work with new audiences and participants – together with a strong commitment to learning about these approaches and sharing your learning
- Work that involves any of the following: crafts, dance, design, digital arts and media, film, literature (including creative writing and poetry), music, opera, photography, theatre, the visual arts, and cross-arts practices
- Work that is focused on improving access to the arts as a social good in itself, promoting enjoyment, increased attendance and participation by people facing disadvantage and inequality of access
- Work that uses access to and participation in the arts to help achieve other social benefits (e.g. skills development, employability, educational achievement, social development, community cohesion, well-being, etc.)
- Work that includes an element of training for artists working in a participatory setting
- Work that supports organisations to embed digital solutions in widening access and participation in the arts
- Two types of grant are available to support work at different stages of development:
- Access and participation ‘explore and test’ grants – offering funding for up to two years to help test new approaches or gather evidence for the first time about approaches that have been used before
- Access and participation ‘more and better’ grants – offering longer, larger grants to help increase the impact and effectiveness of work which has already shown promise or positive impact

Education & learning through the arts

They want to improve people’s education and learning through the arts

The arts play an important role in enriching young people’s learning and educational experiences. Learning through the arts can engage and inspire young people, support key educational outcomes and develop skills that prepare young people for life beyond school. For many young people, particularly those experiencing the most disadvantage, the only opportunity to gain access to arts education is at school.

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Exposure to the arts can help to unlock potential in young people, developing skills in communication, problem solving and collaboration. Arts education can increase young people’s interest in school and learning. All this is in addition to the joy the arts can bring to their growing lives and the enrichment it can bring as they get older.

Where good practice exists in schools, colleges and the arts organisations that work with them, the benefits for young people are significant. In an increasingly fragmented school system, there is an appetite for collaboration between teachers and arts organisations to improve their practice and the impact for young people. We are responding as well to

teachers' interest in increased opportunities to develop their skills and professional practice in arts teaching.

They are building on their experience of supporting work to address different educational issues affecting young people. In this strategic plan, they want to sharpen their focus and thus have a stronger impact. Their funding will support the arts in educational settings, to enhance the lives and achievements of young people.

Garfield Weston Foundation

<http://www.garfieldweston.org/>

They make grants across the UK to organisations in a wide range of categories including the Arts.

The Foundation continues to support organisations that delight and inspire audiences across the UK. From small community theatre groups to national art galleries, the Foundation has long supported the nation's cultural life. They recognise that fundraising for what can sometimes be deemed intangible is challenging, so the Foundation continues to make both revenue and Capital grants to organisations that engage with a variety of audiences and that can demonstrate excellence and impact.

The Foundation expects applicants to have secured 40-50% of funds required before an application will be considered by their Trustees. The Foundation makes grants from £1,000 upwards. If you are considering applying for £100,000 and above, please note that it is advisable to send a short, preliminary letter to their Director, Philippa Charles, introducing your organisation and summarising the project and fundraising plans. This is especially important if you have not received a grant from them in the past. They will then contact you and explore this further.

Baring Foundation

<http://www.baringfoundation.org.uk/>

Grants are made by invitation, unless an open programme is advertised on their website. No programmes are currently open to applications.

Engaging the talent, experience and enthusiasm of older people in the creative arts
Since 2010 they have focused our programme on participatory arts with people over 60 and usually those facing disadvantage or discrimination. They believe that everyone has a right to take part in cultural activities, but that these also bring benefits in terms of personal health and well-being, as well as community development.

Much of their work takes place in partnership with others and they currently have funding relationships with all four Arts Councils in the UK.

Clare Duffield Foundation

<http://www.clareduffield.org.uk/poetry-and-literature-awards>

The Clare Poetry & Literature Awards fund poetry and literature initiatives for children and young people, under the age of 19, across the UK. Individual Awards range from £1,000 to £10,000.

The Clare Duffield Foundation has created these Awards with the aim of providing children and young people with opportunities to experience poetry and literature in exciting and compelling ways, in and out of school.

Round 8 of the Awards closed on 7 March 2016. The programme is not accepting any applications at this time.