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Creative Scotland Update

July 2021

Creative Scotland – What we do

- Creative Scotland is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works or visits here.
- We enable people and organisations to work in and experience the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland by helping others to develop great ideas and bring them to life.
- We distribute funding from the Scottish Government and The National Lottery. Annual budget c.£90m* (Covid exceptional year +£70m, 10 x awards)

Who We Are





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Our Funding

- Open Fund: Sustaining Creative Development – open for applications
- Touring Fund for Theatre & Dance – latest round opening this summer
- Create Inclusion
- Regularly Funded Organisations
- Targeted Funding (art-form/specialism specific)
- Funds Delivered by Partners



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Our activity since March 2020

Covid Response or adapted Funding

- Bridging Bursary Fund: £2m (Mar 20)
- Hardship Fund for Creative Freelancers: £8m (Oct 20) & £9m (Mar 21) (grants of up to £2000 per applicant)
- Grassroots Music Venues Stabilisation Fund: £2.2m (Aug 20)
- Additional £3.5m for Open Fund
- Culture Collective: £1.5m (Nov 20)
- Youth Arts Funding: £3m (Nov 20)
- Performing Arts Venue Relief Fund: Round 1 (£12m Sept 21) & Round 2 (£12m – June – Aug 21)
- Culture Organisations and Venue Recovery Fund: Round 1 (£15m) (& Round 2 (£13m - June)
- Touring Fund for Theatre & Dance - Outdoor and non-conventional: £600k (Feb 21)
- Further targeted funds for Screen, heritage and creative industries

Strategic Planning

- Revising the Open Fund for Individuals to Sustaining Creative Development
- Published Annual Plan 2021/22
- Refreshed Strategy and Funding Framework
- Digital Transformation

Open Fund: Sustaining Creative Development

- Funding available for between £1k and £100k*
- The fund can support a wide range of research, development and project activity
- The fund aims to enable individuals and organisations to explore ways of working that will help them to adapt and respond to the current changing circumstances and sustain themselves/their practice
- The overall budget for the Open Fund for **Individuals** and the Open Fund for **Organisations** totals £7.5m* of National Lottery funding (average year)
- There are separate funding strands for Individuals and Organisations, to ensure that individuals will not be in direct competition with organisations for funding
- The fund is open all year round, with no deadlines and can support activity for up to 12 months*

Simplifying Our Open Fund for Individuals and Key Dates

- 27th July: Publication of Refreshed Open Fund for Individuals Guidance
- 3rd Aug: Deadline to submit applications to current Open Fund for Individuals
- 10th Aug: Refreshed Open Fund for Individuals opens for online applications
- Improvements include:
 - An online portal allowing applicants to edit and save applications and check eligibility before submitting
 - A proportionate application process, with questions and responses based on the proposed activity and level of funding being sought
 - A more straightforward approach to accepting applications in video and audio for those with access needs
 - A published list of specific priorities to increase transparency in the panel decision making process

Funding Review and Future Funding Framework

- 2019/20: Examined historical Creative Scotland funding decisions, undertook research and consultation to shape future funding framework
- 2020/21: Activity pivoted to Covid response and recovery
- July 21: Annual Plan published and refreshed priorities
- 21/22: Refreshed priorities:
 - Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion
 - Sustainable Development
 - Fair Work
 - International

Funding Review and Future Funding Framework

- Key differences to future funding approach:
 - A broader base of organisations receiving funding regularly
 - Strengthening relationships and taking a partnership approach to developing arts and creativity
 - Improved decision-making processes linked to priorities
 - Support for individual artists
 - Simpler and more transparent processes
- You can read full details in our [Annual Plan](#) and on our [website](#).



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Next steps

- August 21: Open Fund for Individuals will move to an online application process
- October 21: Further details of transition year 2022/23 and future funding approaches
- April 22: Full details of new funding framework
- 22/23: Transition year to new funding framework



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Thank You

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