

FUNDING RESOURCES – VISUAL ARTS

This factsheet aims to highlight key sources of funding available to support any self-employed person or business working in the visual arts sector in Scotland. The funds listed include those to support professional development, business start-up, as well as activities such as skills training.

Sources of funding available to those working across the general business sector can be found within our 'Funding Sources – General Business' factsheet. Funding sources specific to those working across the creative industries are listed within the 'Funding Sources – General Creative' factsheet.

Funding Directories

We do not intend to replicate the content of already existing and comprehensive funding databases, and suggest you consult those for broader insight into the fundraising landscape. These are directories we regularly signpost to:

Free Access

- **Artquest** – funding directory searchable by 'Visual Arts', 'Design & Crafts' and 'Lens Based' sector: www.artquest.org.uk/money/funding
- **Electronic Design Technology Support Centre** – directory of government grant funding support for design technology businesses: www.e-design-scotland.org.uk/company_support_grant_funding.htm
- **Interface** – Funding Solutions page covering funds for companies wishing to work in partnership between universities and research institutes. Covers design and innovation companies: www.interface-online.org.uk/2094
- **Jerwood Visual Arts** – list of cross discipline visual arts prizes including Applied Arts, Drawing, Sculpture sectors: www.jerwoodvisualarts.org
- **Public Art Online** – list of UK wide funding sources for public art work: www.publicartonline.org.uk/resources/practicaladvice/funding
- **RSA** – variety of small to medium awards for exhibiting work including 'Annual Exhibition Awards List', 'RSA Annual Student Exhibition': www.royalscottishacademy.org (click 'Scholarships and Awards')

Public Funding

The following links are a selection of the types of funds you can access nationally and regionally to support your business or project:

National

- **British Council Scotland** – 'Grants to Artists' to support the costs of transporting work to an exhibition in a gallery abroad: <http://www.britishcouncil.org/arts-grants-to-artists>

- **National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies** – NADFAS grants are made from three funds: 'NDFAS Areas and Societies' for projects (including web development), 'Grants for Students' which includes postgraduate CPD study and 'Apprentices' for organisations looking to train staff: www.nadfas.org.uk (click 'Grant Giving')
- **Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland** – 'Scottish Community Projects Fund / Grant' for community led organisations who wish to employ an architect or other professional to prepare a feasibility study for building or environmental improvement projects or employment and other initiatives giving social benefit: www.rias.org.uk (click 'About the RIAS' > 'RIAS Grants and Legacies')
- **Royal Scottish Academy** – 'Friends Bursary' for artists to continue and extend their creative development. Preference will be given to applicants over 35 years of age and / or who can demonstrate sustained commitment to the development of their art for at least ten years since qualification: www.royalscottishacademy.org/pages/friendsframe.html
- **Scottish Arts Council: Crafts** – funding for individuals and organisations: www.scottisharts.org.uk (click on 'Funding' > 'Apply' > 'Individuals / Organisations' > 'Crafts')
- **Scottish Arts Council: Visual Arts** – funding for both individuals and organisations: www.scottisharts.org.uk (click on 'Funding' > 'Apply' > 'Individuals / Organisations' > 'Visual Arts')
- **Sust** – a small number of grants available to community groups to assist putting sustainable design into practice: www.sust.org (click 'Professional Training + Support' > 'Grant Aid')

Regional

Grant provision differs considerably per region therefore it is essential that you check directly with your own local authority for details of any schemes provided.

- **Scottish Arts Council** – 'Artists and Craft Maker Awards Partnership Schemes' in Scotland are listed under local authority regions of Scotland. Funds are given to support artists in their creative and professional development at a local level. Support to encourage the research, creation and presenting of quality new work by artists working in all forms of visual arts practice and at any stage in their career: www.scottisharts.org.uk
- **Aberdeenshire Council** – 'Visual Artists Award Scheme': <http://www.aberdeenshirearts.org.uk/funding/funding.htm>
- **City of Edinburgh Council** – 'City of Edinburgh Council - Visual Arts Awards and Craft Maker Awards': www.edinburgh.gov.uk/internet/leisure/arts_and_entertainment (click 'Arts & Development' > 'Grants Programme')
- **Culture & Sport Glasgow** – 'Visual Artist Grant Scheme': www.csghlasgow.org/services/ArtsDevelopment (click 'Cultural Grants')
- **Dumfries and Galloway Council** – 'Visual Artists Awards and Craft Maker Awards Scheme': www.artandcraftsouthwestscotland.com (click 'Grant Awards')
- **Dundee Visual Arts Award Scheme** – www.dvaa.info (click 'Award')

- **Stirling Council** – ‘Visual Artist Awards and Craft Makers Awards Scheme’: contact Carolyn Paterson (Visual Artists) patersonc3@stirling.gov.uk and Emma Hamilton (Craft Makers) hamiltone@stirling.gov.uk
- **Hi-Arts** – ‘Visual Artists’ Award Scheme’: http://www.hi-arts.co.uk/artists_award_scheme.htm and ‘Craft Makers Award Scheme’ <http://www.hi-arts.co.uk/craft-makers-award-scheme.htm>
- **Orkney Island Council** – ‘Art Grants’ available to individuals, arts organisations, crafts businesses and festivals: www.orkney.gov.uk (click ‘service directory’ > ‘Community, Life and Leisure > ‘ Art Development’)

Fundraising, Foundations and Trusts

Routes to finance for not-for-profit individuals and organisations essentially:

- **Abbey Awards** – ‘Abbey Scholarship’ offers an emergent painter a full academic year at the British School at Rome. ‘Abbey Fellowship for Painters’ offers all-expenses-paid residencies: www.abbey.org.uk
- **Adam Reynolds Memorial Bursary** – for disabled or deaf artists based in the UK who have been making or showing work for over five years. It gives the artist an opportunity to develop their ideas and practice without pressure to deliver a particular outcome: www.shapearts.org.uk (click ‘Projects’)
- **a-n NAN Bursary** – ‘Go and See’, to support exchange between artists’ groups and networks, ‘Go and see’ bursaries support exchange between artists’ groups and networks in the UK and beyond. Awards up to £500: www.a-n.co.uk (click ‘Communities’ > ‘NAN’ > ‘NAN Bursaries’)
- **Celeste Art Prize** – open to all artists living & working in the UK or UK citizens living & working abroad; awarded for artistic excellence. There are no educational or age requirements: www.celesteartprize.co.uk
- **Craft Pottery Charitable Trust Annual Awards** – grants to persons involved in ceramics, to assist in the preparation of books, travel, film, conference attendance and organisation and other projects relevant to ceramics at the discretion of the Trustees: Contact Elizabeth Gale, Trustee & Secretary, Craft Pottery Charitable Trust, Taplands Farm Cottage, Webbs Green, Soberton, Southampton SO32 3PY T: (023) 9263 2686
- **Inches Carr Trust** – bursaries are open to craft workers working in Scotland who have been working in their craft for at least 5 years who are looking to develop their skills or a particular aspect of their work: www.inchescarr.org.uk/craft.htm
- **J D Fergusson Arts Award Trust** – awards towards travel costs related to developing work: www.pkc.gov.uk (Click ‘Education and learning’ > ‘Museums and galleries’ > ‘ Fergusson Gallery’ > ‘Visitor Information’ > ‘J D Fergusson Arts Award Trust’)
- **Jerwood Artists Platform** – for those professional artists who could be substantially supported through an immediate one-person exhibition in central London: www.jerwood.org (click ‘Jerwood Visual Arts’ > ‘Artist’s Platform’)
- **Miss M O Taylor’s Trust Fund** – for the relief of “for the relief of impoverished artists of sufficient standing to deserve the title”: www.royal.scottishacademy.org (click “Scholarships and Awards”)
- **Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust** – grants for crafts training to help further careers. No age limit but must demonstrate high level of skill and commitment: www.gest.org.uk

- **The Edward Marshall Trust** – awards to sponsor progressive ideas and action in the fields of design, design philosophy, craftsmanship and the creation and production of useable objects, the qualities of which will help to redefine and invigorate culture: www.edtrust.org.uk
- **The Foyle Foundation** – support for UK charities in either the performing or visual arts towards developing artistic vision. Other priorities are to help make the arts more accessible by developing new audiences, supporting tours, festivals and arts educational projects; by encouraging new work and supporting young and emerging artists. Building and infrastructure projects to construct new arts facilities, improve or re-equip existing venues will also be considered: www.foylefoundation.org.uk
- **The John Ellerman Foundation** – support for UK charities working in museum and galleries (among other art forms) towards excellence within the field, commitment to attracting new audiences and wider public access, youth participation and motivation, originality and creativity in design, production and / or presentation and lasting impact. Generally the Foundation does not support educational projects, festivals, productions or tours: www.ellerman.org.uk
- **The Over Arup Foundation** – grant aid for smaller projects or activity that disseminate knowledge of matters associated with the built environment with emphasis on the multi-disciplinary nature of design in engineering and architecture: www.theovearupfoundation.com (click 'Our Work' and 'Applying for Grant Aid')
- **The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust** – grants for British Citizens resident in the UK to acquire knowledge and experience abroad through a specific project lasting between 4 to 8 weeks: www.wcmt.org.uk
- **Woo Charitable Foundation** – 'Achievement Arts Bursary' for established artists who have completed their full time education at least ten years previously: 277 Green Lanes, London, N13 4XS

International Funding

Key sources of funds to support international working:

- **Roberto Cimetta Fund** – in collaboration with the European Cultural Foundation, this is for travel grants for professionals that have a strong Mediterranean connection. It promotes artistic exchange and the mobility of professional in the field of contemporary performing arts and visual arts within the Mediterranean area: www.cimettafund.org/EN
- **The Pollock-Krasner Foundation, Inc.** – criteria for grants are recognisable artistic merit and financial need, whether professional, personal or both. Funds international based artists as well as US residents: www.pkf.org/foundation.html
- **UNESCO-Aschberg Bursaries for Artists** – the Programme offers residencies to young artists (between 25 and 35 years old) worldwide in music, creative writing and visual arts: <http://portal.unesco.org/culture>

Disclaimer: Cultural Enterprise Office is not responsible for any advice or information provided by any external organisation referenced in this factsheet.