Arts Council of Wales

Sharing Together 2022/23

Arts Council of Wales Strategic Initiative to encourage the Development of Networking Opportunities

Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru
Arts Council of Wales

Noddir gan
Lywodraeth Cymru
Sponsored by
Welsh Government

Contents

Arts Council of Wales makes information available in large print, braille, audio, Easy Read and British Sign Language. We'll also try to provide information in languages other than Welsh or English on request.

Arts Council of Wales operates an equal opportunities policy.

Introduction

The Arts Council of Wales wants to fund ideas which encourage the creation of new networks, and which strengthen existing networking opportunities.

As we all try to cope with the consequences of Covid 19, it's becoming increasingly important that we connect across the arts and cultural sectors, and that we provide support for the sharing and exchange of information.

We're particularly interested in initiatives which focus on promoting and strengthening diversity and inclusion throughout the arts sector, and on widening engagement with diverse communities. We want all voices to be heard, and to matter. We feel it's important that communities and debates arising from #BlackLivesMatter and #WeShallNotBeRemoved are able to continue, to inform, enrich and broaden the arts sector here in Wales.

We're open to different sorts of ideas. However, this might include networks which focus on:

- Engaging and developing diverse audiences

- Supporting diverse voices across the sector to make themselves heard.
  We are particularly interested in supporting networks from Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent communities and/or Ethnically and Culturally Diverse communities.

- Increasing participation in the Arts, particularly for those who feel separated or disconnected for a number of reasons – including, but not restricted to, economic, social and geographical considerations.

Networks come in all shapes and sizes. Some are more formal than others; some large, others small. Networks may choose to meet on a regular basis, others as and when the members feel it necessary. Networks don't have to depend on face to face meetings – they can be created and run online. You will, however, need to consider and fully comply with current restrictions around social interaction due to Covid-19.

We see networks as being important to facilitate the following:

- sharing skills, knowledge and expertise;

- providing support;

- encouraging collaborative working;

- sharing resources;

- debating issues and discussing ideas

Supporting new and existing networks

We're keen to encourage the creation of new networks that bring together people and organisations with shared needs and interests. We feel that these are far more likely to develop and prosper if they grow organically from within the sector rather than being created by a third party, such as the Arts Council of Wales.

So it's over to you. We can provide small sums of money on a one-off basis towards:

- Costs of meetings to bring together individuals or organisations sharing a common purpose with a view to creating a network

- Set up costs towards the creation of online forums/communities

We don't want to exclude existing networks, and we're keen to explore with them ways of developing the support they offer their members. This may, for example, result in providing some funding towards a one-off event that will enhance the capabilities of the group or offer an opportunity to increase the number of members.

We're open to supporting a range of different types of networks: local/regional groups; artist led groups or networks connected by art form or activity types. In supporting the development of new networks, we're particularly concerned that evidence of a clear common purpose or shared need among potential members can be demonstrated. We also need to feel sure that subsequent activity will be self-sustaining.

Applying for funds

We have funds available for small scale one-off projects in 2022/23. We can provide up to £2,000 per project.

You'll need to use our online portal to make an application. If you haven't done so already, you'll need to register for access to the portal. You can find out how to do this here.

If you're unable to access the online form or require further assistance, please contact grants@arts.wales.

You should:

1. Complete a Sharing Together 2022-23 application form on our online portal.

2. Upload the following additional material in your submission:

A description of your project, taking into account the scheme guidance above on what kind of activity we're able to support including:

- A description of what you want to do and the reasons why

- Evidence of the need for this project

- The number of organisations/individuals you envisage will want to take part and how you will attract members

- The benefits to those of taking part

This can be in provided as text or audio/video format. It should be a maximum of 2 sides of A4 or 4 minutes of audio or video. This submission should be contained in a single file (Word or pdf). Text should be no smaller than 12pt, and files should not exceed 250MB.

All video and audio material must be provided as links to your website, Vimeo or YouTube. Please remember to include security information if links are password protected.

3. Submit a budget to outline how you would use the funding, clearly showing estimated expenditure and income.

We will fund 100% of your project costs as long as they do not exceed £2,000. The types of costs that we can help with include:

- Room Hire

- Catering

- Speaker/Facilitator fees and expenses

- Translation Fees (if required)

- Access costs

- Hire of equipment

- Purchase of appropriate software or up to 1year's access to an online platform

- PPE/Covid specific expenditure (such as gloves, masks or antibacterial gel)

Further Information

We can only meet the travel costs and expenses of individuals taking a formal role in the meeting, for example as a guest speaker, facilitator etc.

It doesn't matter if you haven't received funding from us in the past. As long as you can show the need among potential participants, we'll consider your proposal.

We'll consider proposals from organisations based outside Wales that wish to create a network based in Wales. We'll also consider proposals for networks that include organisations from beyond Wales within their membership.

What we'll expect from you if we award you funding

We'll ask all those who received our support to provide a brief report on the meeting/ activity that takes place. This might include details of the number of people who took part, the types of organisations represented, a description of what took place and an outline of any future plans that might have been discussed either on the day or subsequently.

We will retain 10% of your funding to be paid after we have received your report.

Selection Process

Decisions will be made by a Panel of Arts Council of Wales Officers, including up to 3 Development Officers and chaired by a Portfolio Manager.

We will do our best to let you know the decision no later than six weeks after the published deadline date. If the number of applications we receive means that this isn't achievable, we'll let you know as soon as possible.

Deadline for proposals:
Thursday 9 June 2022 & Thursday 6 October 2022

The deadline is **5.00pm** on the dates stated.

Applications must be complete. We won't accept further supporting information after you've submitted your application (other than what's requested as part of the application process).

Need to Get in Touch?

Should you have any technical issues with the application form or your portal account, please contact our Grants and Information team: grants@arts.wales

You can contact us in a number of ways:

email grants@arts.wales

telephone on 03301 242733 (All calls charged at local rates).

9.00am - 5.00pm Monday – Thursday;

9.00am - 4.30pm Friday

Twitter: @Arts_Wales_

Website: arts.wales

You can find further information on how to **contact us** here

Contacts

To discuss details of your proposal please contact either:

Amanda Loosemore
Portfolio Manager, Engagement & Participation

Email: amanda.loosemore@arts.wales

Tel: 01267 230337/07967 161763

Lisa Williams
Team Co-Ordinator, Engagement & Participation

Email: lisa.williams@arts.wales

Tel: 029 2044 1349

Accessibility

If you have any **access** needs and are thinking about making an application, we can help to make sure that you're supported during the application process. Please contact us at grants@arts.wales to discuss how we can help with specific access needs.