

Financing Creativity

A guide to fundraising for the arts



Annan History Town Summer Festival, Photo Credit Colin Hattersley.





Looking out from Allanton Peace Sanctuary, Auldgirth.

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Background

Arts and culture ignite creative curiosity; support the well-being of individuals; encourage diverse and welcoming communities; aid dynamic, innovative thought processes; and add depth, colour and joy to our lives.

DG Unlimited (DGU) has put together this guide, *Financing Creativity*, as part of the Growing Ambition strand of **Creatives Unlimited**, a project that supports individual creative practitioners and organisations across Dumfries and Galloway to fulfill their potential. Creatives Unlimited enables the region's creative sector to enhance its sustainability and resilience; raise ambition; stimulate growth and increase capacity.

DGU is the day-to-day operating name of Dumfries and Galloway Chamber of the Arts, an independent arts organisation established in 2012, becoming a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation in 2013. Free and open to anyone with an interest in the arts, it is a membership organisation with over 500 members.

DGU champions, advocates, and supports the arts in every part of Dumfries and Galloway by working closely with artists, creative practitioners, and stakeholders to provide a strong and independent voice for the region's creative sector. The organisation's independence and neutrality within the region's creative sector gives us the credibility to work with individual practitioners and all our arts organisations to define sector needs, broker partnerships, meet specific community and artistic needs, and exploit areas of mutual interest for public benefit and the creative sector itself.

DGU's vision is

‘To make Dumfries and Galloway the destination place, where all artists and arts organisations want to live, work and make a living.’

DGU's mission is

‘We seek to create Scotland's leading rural arts network by supporting creative practitioners and organisations to help themselves and each other; providing a collective voice; celebrating and nurturing talent; and growing the next generation of creative practitioners.’



Introduction

There are many approaches to financing creative activities. Whether you are a 'beginner' or more experienced in raising funds, it can be a daunting prospect pulling together all the information you need to make informed choices about how to approach supporting your creative idea or project.

Help is at hand; there are a variety of resources available that will support you to tell your story and help generate the funds and resources needed to make your creative project a reality. This guide along with the accompanying Sources of Support and Funding will assist newcomers as well as signposting the more experienced to sources of advice, guidance, support, and examples of funding/finance providers. It is for individual creative practitioners and those working for cultural organisations.

Maggie Broadley, DGU Programmes Manager

Before you begin

Relax and don't set too tight a time frame - putting together successful funding strategies and bids does not happen overnight. Research and preparation ensure you will have the best possible chance of communicating what your idea or project is about and what you will achieve with the right support.

Asking for help and advice is a strength which will pay dividends. Support organisations, funding providers, charities and trusts are keen to listen and give advice before you start the process, so don't feel you need to do it all alone.

Throughout this guide, we have included advice gleaned from a wide range of practitioners and professionals involved in developing and delivering creative projects.

Knowledge is power... but preparation is key!

Barbara Chalmers, one-time ESpark chiclet, Creative Consultant and service designer. Founder of award-winning Final Fling.

“Jim Duffy* told me that when he first secured a meeting with (Lord) Willie Haughey to present his idea for ESpark, he turned up ill-prepared. He got a roasting. Willie Haughey was smart enough to know a good thing though and contributed office space to incubate ESpark's new start businesses, but it was a lesson Jim shared with me and other 'chiclets' in the hatchery.”

“My takeaway - Do your homework... rehearse your one-minute pitch... clarify your 'ask'... know your numbers.”

*Jim co-founded the hugely successful Entrepreneurial Spark - the world's largest free business accelerator offering business support to start-up companies

There can be an element of fortune involved in any funding application. However, planning well in advance, only applying for funds that are closely connected to your own purpose or strategy and being prepared to ask for and act on feedback (whether successful or not) can help stack the odds in your favour. At the start, be completely honest with yourself and your organisation, ask the right questions and invest your precious time wisely.

Applying for Funding - Are You Ready?

Grant funding is one great way of raising money to develop your own creative practice or fund creative projects, activities and events. But it isn't always the right place to start. Work through the following list to see if grant funding will be the right thing for you at this time.

Are you eligible?

- Seems basic but many hours are wasted writing up applications that are ineligible for funding so do check the eligibility criteria - some funders will only fund charities or organisations whilst others will fund individuals.
- Certain activities will be covered by funders whilst others won't - again, check the eligibility criteria and read the guide notes for each fund carefully before you start.

Looking after your money

- Do you have a bank account or does your group or organisation have a bank account with two or more signatories - or could you get one easily for yourself or your organisation?
- You must have a bank account or a plan to get one before you start looking for grants.

Individual Practitioners

At what stage are you with your creative or professional development? Is your interest primarily in continuing to develop your practice as a leisure activity? Are you still studying or recently graduated?

- Whatever your stage, whether you have a formal training or not, funders will want to know that you have the necessary skills and experience to handle all elements of a project, including finance. You should have a clear idea of how you want to work; whether on your own, collaborating with another creative practitioner or becoming part of a bigger team.
- Funders will be more likely to support applications that are well planned and show commitment and longer term ambitions to develop creative practice, support others to develop their creative practice or a professional career within the arts, or those aiming to harness the arts and creative activities in support of individual and community well-being.

Organisations

Are you clear about what type of organisation you are? Do you have a constitution or set of rules that you use to run your organisation?

- Almost all grant funders will need you to have a constitution. Different funders will fund different types of organisation; some only fund registered charities whilst others fund a much wider range of organisations with different constitutions. This includes clubs and societies (called unincorporated organisations), partnerships, companies (known as limited by guarantee), social enterprises and others.
- If you are not a charity, many funders will expect you to have a 'not for profit' statement in your constitution. There are however some grants that are open to profit-making businesses.

Are you clear about your purpose?

Do you have a compelling artist statement? As an organisation, do you have a clear mission statement?

- Your artist statement should give a better understanding of where your practice and interests come from, influences on you or your work, and support the interpretation of what you do.
- Your mission should be unique and specify what you plan to accomplish. Funders will not fund organisations that duplicate or overlap similar services in their particular geographic area. Your mission must also be achievable.

Do you have capable leadership?

- If you are a creative organisation or community group, you need to satisfy funders that your organisation has a structure in place with good leadership and management.
- Forward planning, communication and reporting back within your board or organisation committee must be good, with records kept.

Do you have an efficient operation and good support systems?

If you have staff or volunteers, you must have procedures and support systems in place.

Do you have adequate facilities?

- This is not just about basic physical facilities but also technical ones. If you are a creative practitioner, do you have sufficient tools and studio or workroom space to create and complete your artwork or lead workshops?
- If an organisation with premises, are they compliant with Health & Safety and employment law. Do you have an updated computer system and financial management system - you should have the tools and equipment to function well.

Do you have a track record?

- Evidence your development and career by providing an up-to-date CV and biography, including images of work, press articles, critical responses, audience feedback to your work and testimonials.

- Measure the results of your activities or projects so that you can point to verifiable results. Seek out other experienced creative practitioners or creative organisations to collaborate on the project for which you propose to apply for funding. This is especially useful if you are a newer creative practitioner or creative organisation.
- Collect letters of support from established creative practitioners or organisations, community leaders and organisations.

Timing

Will you be starting to write up your application well in advance of the deadline?

Will your project start after the decision on applications is made?

- Most grant funders do not operate on a 'rapid turnaround' basis. Funders will not usually fund projects that have already started or will have started before they have made a decision.
- Funders do provide very specific guidelines as to the time it will take to notify applicants if they have been successful or not - and adhere to the deadlines they provide. These deadlines are determined by each individual funder and can also vary within a single funder dependent upon which programme is being applied to and the value of the award requested.
- Even if you have raised funds in the past, it can take longer than you think to pull together all the supporting information and write up your funding application. Whether you are submitting your application online, via the postal service or a courier, there are a range of issues that can disrupt services and potentially lead to deadlines being missed.

Eskdalemuir Community Hub & Cafe looking out across the Valley of the White Esk.



Time to make a start - stay true to yourself

Once you have considered all your options and decided to apply for funding, remind yourself of why you want to develop your creative practice, programme or organisation, what the rewards will be and who will benefit.

Be realistic, plan well...and don't lose sight of your end goal.

Graeme Galloway, Programme Director – Developing the Young Workforce, Dumfries and Galloway

“Starting with a quote from T.E. Lawrence, aka Lawrence of Arabia: ‘but the dreamers of the day are dangerous, for they may act on their dreams with open eyes to make them all possible’

Never give up on your dreams, your vision, what you want to achieve. Engage with those who support your concept but don't be afraid to be challenged for this allows clarity to be brought in how you achieve your intended outcomes. It also helps in imagining who potential funders and collaborators could be, who in effect would be willing to share your journey with you.”

What comes first - the chicken or the egg?

In the case of funding applications, the egg definitely comes first. Wait until you have a very clear idea of what you want to do, how you will do it and you have the evidence to back up why you want to do it and what the benefits will be. A fully worked-up and costed project plan, either as an individual or as part of a group or organisation, is essential to give any approach to funders a fighting chance of success.

It is worth remembering, first and foremost, that the purpose of a funding proposal is persuasion, NOT description. So, while you will need to describe you or your organisation and the proposed project, you need to do so in a way that will convince a funder to give you money:

- Show your passion and perseverance
- Show you are caring and committed
- Show you are organised and thorough
- Show you want to make a difference
- Show you are ready to start

Know your potential funders and supporters

Funders come in many shapes and sizes; some disburse relatively small grants whilst others also fund projects with larger costs. Funders need to know their grants are being spent in the best way possible. For those successful in applying for funding, awards will come with specific management and reporting requirements; these are in place to ensure the best possible results will be achieved for both funders and the individuals/organisations whose work they are supporting. Generally, the more ambitious the project and higher the funding award, the more regular and detailed the management and reporting requirements; projects funded by public money also tend to have more reporting requirements.

Public Funding

Creative Scotland distributes public funding from two primary sources, the Scottish Government and the UK National Lottery. This funding is used to support a portfolio of organisations across Scotland, including Screen Scotland. Creative Scotland also helps with the development of individuals, funding ideas and projects and delivers specific activity with partners. These partners include Local Authorities, who themselves also distribute public funds in support of creative practitioners, organisations and community groups.

List of partners: <https://www.creativescotland.com/funding/funding-programmes/funds-delivered-by-partners>

Corporate Foundations, Private and Family Foundations

Charitable corporate foundations are charities established by commercial companies. This is just one of the ways in which commercial companies can engage in or support charitable giving.

A private individual or family foundation is a type set up by and funded with the individual's or family's assets, often with the individual or family members helping to run and also participate in its charitable grant-making. This is one way to create a framework for giving that can enable the creation of a philanthropic legacy.

Before approaching any funder, think carefully about the scale of the project you need to fund; will you need additional equipment or premises, what are the human resources as well as the financial resources needed to deliver and achieve your goals. **It is really important that you also consider what resources or support will be needed to research and write your funding application, including your own time**; take advice from those who have experience in writing funding bids and make sure that your time/your organisation's time is invested in line with the potential value to be gained.

However tempting it might be to cast your net wide, take the time to research and select those funds or funders that will be right for your creative development or project, not the other way around.

Cathy Agnew, Arts Development Consultant.

“Never change your project specifically to fit someone else's funding criteria. Provided you can clearly evidence a need, the money will follow.”

Check the guidelines

A simple, obvious 'top-tip' that is surprisingly often forgotten in our haste to make a start - always check the application guidelines before you start to put together your application. As mentioned in the checklist at the start, leave plenty of time to proof-read, fact check and complete your application. Submit it in plenty of time, ideally at least 5 full working days before the deadline to allow for any last minute issues or technical hitches.

Maggie Broadley, DGU Programmes Manager

"In my previous role as Craft Town Scotland's Executive Director, I'd been tasked with researching and working up a major capital and revenue application to Big Lottery Fund Scotland (Now called The National Lottery Community Fund). Responsible for managing all operational aspect of the organisation at the same time, I'd juggled competing pressures and pushed myself right up to the wire. Ready to submit on the day before the application deadline, I started to transfer the information from my own word document onto the application form.

Absolute disaster - formats didn't match. I ended up working throughout the night re-typing the application. Luckily, happy ending and the bid succeeded... however, it's better to carve out dedicated time for yourself so you can focus on completing your application before the due submission date or, if you are an organisation, make sure you consider providing additional support to your funding bid writer well in advance.

BE AN 'EARLY BIRD'!!

Know how to ‘sell’ yourself

Funders have various motivations for distributing their awards - looking to improve lives; looking to add or share knowledge and understanding; looking to add value to their intervention; and looking to increase their influence and make a difference. In investment terms, funders look to fund individuals or projects that are likely to deliver in whatever area they operate. Application forms always include sections where you are asked to talk about yourself or organisation and detail why you are the right person or organisation to deliver your project. Some of what you should include has been touched on in the ‘checklist’ section, but here’s an overview and reminder.

Individual Practitioners

- Have a well written, persuasive artist statement that gives a better understanding of where your practice and interests come from, influences on you or your work, and supports the interpretation of what you do - make it from the heart as well as the head.
- Evidence your development and career by providing an up-to-date CV and biography, including images or links to work, press articles, critical responses and audience feedback to your work.
- Collect letters of support for you from established creative practitioners or organisations, community leaders and organisations.
- If you are collaborating with other experienced creative practitioners or creative organisations on the project, include their CV’s, testimonials and letters of support.

- Show you are self-aware, can work to your strengths and mitigate against any weaknesses, and have the relevant financial and organisational skills to develop and deliver your project - and the funder’s outcomes.
- Show you are aware of what is needed to deliver your project - for example confirm you have adequate facilities; this is not just about basic physical facilities but also technical ones. If you are including buying these in your application, make sure this is covered by your funder - some do not fund capital equipment costs or only do so if these directly connect to delivering the project.

Organisations

- Have a compelling mission statement that states your overall goal for the organisation, why it exists, who it intends to benefit, how it is connected to its intended beneficiaries and what your organisation wants to achieve through its activities.
- Provide your organisation’s governing document, or Memorandum and Articles of Association, having first checked it is the correct legal framework for your organisation.
- If you are an unincorporated organisation, i.e. not a legally constituted organisation or local group, you will still have to provide a written document which sets out the ‘rules’ of your organisation - your overall goal, why, who and how. **Always check before starting the application process as some funders do not award funds to unincorporated/unconstituted groups.**

- Show you are managed well and have people with the correct skills and experience. Include your organisational and operational structure, the names and experience of your board members or committee and copies of your latest annual or other report. If you have key staff or volunteers working with you, provide a brief biography and show why they are a good fit for the project.
- Show you have planned ahead and considered your organisational performance; there are management tools to help you do this, for example undertaking a **SWOT** Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) and a **PESTEL** Analysis (Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Environmental, Legal)

Know what you want to say

While you or your organisation may not be a commercial business, driven purely by profit and increasing customers or sales, you are still 'selling' yourself or your organisation and services to funders in a competitive funding environment.

- Your story needs to be engaging - language is important. If your statements are overly long or use too much jargon it will put readers off.
- Your story should make a connection - you have

to connect emotionally, talking about ideas and projects people can relate to.

- Your story should give enough detail - but not provide too much. It should concentrate on the most important points and expand on these; showcasing how, with the funders support, you or your organisation can achieve positive, worthwhile results.

You need to tell a compelling story that helps your bid stand out and connect with your funder; it's all about communicating how the project will be delivered, the benefits of the project, the numbers involved, what others think and supporting evidence.

Duncan Bremner, Development Officer, Creative Lives (formerly Voluntary Arts Scotland)

"Tips to writing a Compelling Story;

- Do your homework
- Think about your 'audience'
- De-junk your language
- Keep it simple
- Don't assume anything

Always remember..... Consider your words!

Don't just throw them in there, well considered words will help to add meaning to your story. A positive tone will also assist. We can or will do this.... Not we might...

Keep to the word count. It's hard but funders don't want to read pages and pages of text."

Know your facts and figures

Funders will want to be sure that you have carefully thought out and costed all elements of your proposal or project, that your proposal not only delivers strong results but that it delivers good value for money. This does not mean that it's always the cheapest option that is best; do not underestimate the costs involved or prune the budget to make it fit. Similarly, not everything has to cost the earth! The object is to deliver and complete your project to the benefit of all involved, including your funder, so don't under or over sell what's required. A few simple 'rules of thumb':

- You need a bank account and someone who is responsible for overseeing the budget. Always have at least 2 signatories and make sure there is a transparent decision making process for approving expenditure.
- Always be consistent in how you keep track of your money/grant funds and make sure expenditure ties in with the conditions and results required by your funders.
- Always ask for quotes beforehand, whether you are paying for goods or services - and keep to your funders procurement requirements (most funders working with public money will have specific procurement guidelines which will include signing up as a supplier).
- Always try to pay recommended rates for staff or freelance contractors and remember to cost your own / your organisations time according to the same rates.
- Include in-kind' contributions - such as time spent in meetings of your Board, volunteers and partner organisations or materials donated by supporters.

Know the people and places you want to benefit

The Big Lottery Fund (BLF) defines need as: “the term we use to describe a problem or issue, or situation where something needs to change to make things better, for a person, a group of people, an environment or an organisation.”

Not evidencing the need for projects within your application is one of the most common reasons for applications to fail, the other being not detailing ‘outcomes’ (which we talk about in the next section).

Funders are looking for confirmation that you or your organisation has thought carefully about need when designing your project, and you are confident that people want the activities or services you are offering.

- Is the need for your project supported by good evidence or research?
- Have you consulted with relevant stakeholders (i.e. anyone connected to your project, whether they are going to directly benefit or are providing other services)? Do these stakeholders know about your project and are they supportive of it?
- Does the consultation evidence support the need?

- Do you have a good understanding of similar work already taking place?
- Can you explain how your project relates to regional and/or national plans, and strategies, if relevant?

Know how to evidence the difference you are making

In a nutshell, most funders want to know similar things in reports from funded projects; “**what did you do, what difference did you make, and what did you learn**”. How you approach this will depend on the funder you are applying to, but it is also important that it relates strongly to your own or your organisations ethos and ambitions. **Aims and Outcomes** are the specific things you want to achieve and the differences you want to make by the time the funded activities or project comes to an end.

- Your Aim should clearly and simply state in a few sentences, the project’s main purpose and sum up the change you want to make.
- Your Outcomes are measurable - How many? Who or what place? What benefit or change? What activity? (workshop, exhibition, performance), What timescale (days, weeks, months). Having started to monitor these outcomes, you will then be able to track your own or your organisation’s progress and report to your board/committee and other funders.

Some tips on writing outcomes

- It’s important when setting out your outcomes to make sure the numbers and timescales are realistic.
- Use words such as ‘improved’, ‘decreased,’ ‘reduced,’ ‘better’, ‘healthier’ and ‘enhanced’ to describe the change or difference the project will make.
- Don’t be too concerned about creating lots of outcomes, sometimes one or two can be enough

Helen Turner, The Holywood Trust

“Firstly, gathering all this information is not just for your report to a funder or stakeholder, but as a resource to help you deliver and develop what you are doing. The information will enable you to speak with certainty, confidence and purpose – you have the evidence to back up what you say. Even if something is not working out, you will be able to speak purposefully about this, because you have the facts.”

Know when to look beyond the obvious

In the past, the first 'port of call' for those looking to fund creative activities or projects would have been to investigate sources of funding specifically targeted at supporting the arts. Many creative practitioners and organisations work in ways that impact beyond their own creative practice or activities; there are also growing numbers of non-arts based organisations who work with creative practitioners and organisations.

The wider value of the arts and culture in positively contributing to our economy, health and wellbeing, society and education is widely acknowledged. This is reflected in a more diverse range of public and private sector funders and trust funders who will support creative activities that also deliver their own objectives, for example creative regeneration projects and health care projects caring for those with dementia. Don't limit your search for support to those funders who are known primarily for supporting the arts; there are more routes to fund creative activities.

Ailsa Watson, Future Woodlands Scotland.

“Remember to look outside of your sector - creative practitioners don't need to stay within the confines of arts funding. If your practice is concerned with the environment, look into rural communities, heritage or wildlife funding and make use of opportunities to collaborate with local and national groups.

You could help to build your own funding environment to suit you. If you're interested in societal debate, promote your creative point of view to policymakers who would welcome a fresh pair of eyes and renewed modes of thinking. There may not appear to be funding available but use your unique point of view to create pockets of money or commissions.

Collaboration, particularly across sectors, can be just as invigorating for your practice as it is for your bank balance. Make sure it's true to your purpose though, be wary of getting locked into activity that isn't really what you want to do.”

The Public May Have Access Over Maryholm Bridge' - Irvine Street, Dumfries.

Community Fundraising

Community Fundraising, when large groups of people give many small donations towards a good cause, is a well-known form of fundraising. From a strategic perspective, it can be one of the least cost-effective ways to raise funds as the donor often gets something in return for example a prize in a raffle or ticket to an event. Whilst community fundraising makes up a very small percentage of charity income, it has a value beyond the immediate donation. It can be a great opportunity for community development, can put you in touch with your supporter base, reach more potential donors, help raise your profile with your local audience and build credibility.

Be aware that whilst rewarding, it can also be a challenging task. It's not just a case of deciding to set up a tombola stand at a local fair or organise a fundraising social evening, you must ensure that all required licenses and permissions are in place, including licenses for trading, selling alcohol, or preparing and selling food. There are also licenses required to run raffles, prize draws or regular prize winning schemes.

Community Shares

Community shares are a way for people to invest in what matters to them. Community members buy shares in enterprises providing goods and services that meet their needs. About more than just profit, they work best for people who want to

get involved and support a cause or a project they really care about, often because it has a positive social impact for the community it serves. To offer community shares a group has to be registered as, or convert to, either:

- A Community Benefit Society
- A Charitable Community Benefit Society
- A Co-operative

Community shares are a great fundraising solution for community businesses, charities and organisations, particularly if they need substantial capital, for example have plans to develop a new arts venue or artist's studios and have a network of supporters.

Crowdfunding

Crowdfunding for start-ups is a common practice, and it's also often used by inventors, entrepreneurs, musicians, filmmakers, artists, and charities. There are many types of crowdfunding available. Here's a quick look at three of the main ones.

- Reward-Based Crowdfunding - this is one of the most popular forms of crowdfunding and is when people pledge money in exchange for a certain benefit or package.
- Equity-Based Crowdfunding - this is when an investor receives a portion of the company in return for their investment. Equity-based crowdfunding enables people to become part owners of the project or venture – sharing both the risks and rewards.
- Donation-Based Crowdfunding - this form of crowdfunding is when supporters freely

donate money without any reward or monetary incentive. As a result, donation-based crowdfunding is usually employed by charitable causes.

Make sure you can support the time and resources required to launch a crowdfunding campaign. There is a high level of planning and preparation needed to run it successfully, with a great deal of thought and effort invested in creating compelling content, developing a targeted marketing campaign and promoting your project. Generally speaking, you should already have a supporter base (or understand how to connect with groups of potential supporters) and be confident that you can generate enough interest and donations - at the start of your campaign to drive other investors to your project. Also be aware that time and effort will be required throughout your Crowdfunding campaign.



Business support for the Arts

Sponsorship has been seen as a good and traditional way for businesses to help local arts and cultural programs. There are many levels and forms that sponsorship can take. Some include in-kind sponsorships, where goods or services are donated; advertisements bought in programs of performing arts companies and, of course, individual event or season sponsorships. In addition to being a sponsor, there are far more engaging ways that a company can support these organisations, such as encouraging the people in their company to get themselves involved in the arts community.

Another solution lies in developing strategic collaborations. Arts organisations are leveraging their limited resources by aligning with organisations ranging from other non-profit arts groups to community groups to businesses. A strategic collaboration is a major opportunity for both non-profit arts organisations and their partners, provided they understand clearly what it is, when it can be useful, and how and with whom it can be achieved.

It's not always about 'hard cash'

Alex McQuiston, Absolute Classics.

“Look at your budget to see if there is anything that you can ask a business to give in-kind sponsorship. Building relationships with corporate sponsors is always nicer if the conversation doesn't revolve around them having to spend money. Think outside of the box, create a partnership that helps you both reach your goals.”

As mentioned at the start of this guide, there are many different avenues to finding support for your creative idea or project - sometimes making a start can seem like a leap of faith. It is worth considering the moment you sit down to start work on your application form as the last stage rather than the first. Like the proverbial iceberg, the research and preparation work you will have done 'under the surface' will make completing and submitting your application less of a challenge.

Knowledge is power....but preparation is key! Be realistic, plan well...and don't lose sight of your end goal.

Financing Creativity

Sources of Support and Funding



Sketchbook - Stephen Kirkpatrick, Lochside, Dumfries.

Online Funding Databases/Resources

Sources of Support and Funding will help in the search for sources of advice, guidance, support, funding and finance providers. Aimed at both aspiring and more experienced fundraisers, it is for individual creative practitioners and those working for cultural organisations.

The information provided was correct at the time of publication and we will update the content on a regular basis. However, please double check with individual organisations or funding providers before investing your time - the funding landscape can shift and priorities change within a relatively short space of time.

The Community Toolkit Funder Finder database lists funding and grants, with an option to search for funding specifically relevant for projects concerned with 'arts, heritage and culture'. The toolkit is owned and maintained by Skye and Lochalsh Council for Voluntary Organisations and has been adopted by local voluntary sector support organisations across Scotland.

www.community-toolkit.org.uk

Foundation Scotland distributes grants and funding to community organisations across Scotland. Search their funding database using the interactive map on their website or contact their grants team. (See [Local Funders](#) for more details).

www.foundationscotland.org.uk

Funding Scotland – This free online funding search engine maintained by the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) provides information on over 1,300 funds and includes grants, loans, prizes and other financial support. There is a search function which allows you to look for Arts & Cultural specific funding - there are filters which help you refine your search to geographic areas etc.

<https://funding.scot/search>

The **Directory for Social Change** has developed a vast funding website with over 8,000 funders that can be accessed on a subscription basis, ranging from £180 for one week's access to £420 for a year. But you can access their 'Top Tips for Trust Fund applications' for free.

www.dsc.org.uk/funding-website

Local Funders

Dumfries & Galloway Council Regional Arts Fund

The purpose of [Dumfries and Galloway Regional Arts Fund](#) is to increase the volume and impact of high quality arts projects for the public and economic benefit of Dumfries and Galloway. The investment priorities were developed by [DG Unlimited](#) (The Dumfries and Galloway Chamber of the Arts) on behalf of the arts sector in the region.

- Available funding - £50,000 per year available to support projects across the region, with a maximum award to successful applicants of £7,000.
- Who Can Apply - Constituted Third Sector, community or voluntary groups, registered charities and social enterprises who meet our funding criteria can apply for project funding.

DG Unlimited

Innovate - Create - Cultivate

<https://www.dgunlimited.com/innovate-create-cultivate.html>

This practice development fund is open to individuals across all art forms except for visual artists and craftmakers (who can access the Visual Art and Craft Maker Awards fund).

Innovate Create Cultivate is a simple way for established and emerging creative practitioners living and working in Dumfries and Galloway to apply for up to £750.

The purpose of this fund is to enable creative practitioners to:

- **Research** and develop their practice;
- **Generate** bold new ideas;
- **Test** new ideas or creative direction;
- **Create** new work(s) of high quality;
- **Enhance** and/or learn new skills;
- **Inspire** audiences and communities;
- **Contribute** to the region's economy.

Visual Artist and Craft Maker Awards (VACMA)

Awards of between £500 and £1,500

[VACMA](#) offers small grants to visual artists and craft makers for their creative development at all stages of their career. These awards are supported by Creative Scotland through funding from the National Lottery in partnership with [Live Borders](#); [Dumfries and Galloway Council](#); [DG Unlimited](#); and [Upland](#).

Foundation Scotland

[Foundation Scotland](#) has a diverse range of funding programmes benefitting communities across Scotland. Some of the funds are available on a Scotland-wide basis, and others are aimed at specific geographical areas or themes. You'll find grant size and criteria information on each fund's page, together with any unique criteria. The organisation also has a 'Need help with an application?' page, with guidance and support for potential applicants.

Here's a list of grants available to specific localities in Dumfries & Galloway:

[Annandale and Nithsdale Community Benefit Company](#)

- Grant size: Up to £20,000
- This fund is provided by ScottishPower Renewables community benefit fund for Harestanes Windfarm in Dumfries and Galloway. It primarily supports community projects within the community council areas in Annandale and Nithsdale.

[Cairnryan Community Fund](#)

- Grant size: Up to £10,000
- This fund will support community-led activity in Cairnryan with an emphasis on rural regeneration. Applications must benefit the community of Cairnryan, Dumfries & Galloway.

[Carscreugh Renewable Energy Park Ltd \(CREPL\)](#)

- Grant size: Up to £2,500
- Six community councils are eligible for funding through the CREPL Community Fund: Cree Valley; Kirkcowan; New Luce; Port William; Stoneykirk; Old Luce.

[Kilgallioch Community Fund](#)

- Grant size: Up to £10,000
- The Kilgallioch Community Fund is part of the Kilgallioch Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund, which is provided by ScottishPower Renewables, from their Kilgallioch Windfarm.

Minnygap Community Fund

- Grant size: Up to £10,000
- The Minnygap Community Fund supports community projects benefitting those living in the community council areas of Johnstone, Templeland and Kirkpatrick Juxta.

North Rhins Wind Farm Community Fund

- Grant size: Up to £3,500
- The North Rhins Wind Farm became operational in 2010 and it will pay community benefit for the 25-year lifetime of the wind farm. Payments are made directly to Community Councils, or similar organisations, to use or distribute to groups that are active in their communities.

Whiteside Hill Education and Training Fund

- Grant size: Up to £1,500
- This fund provides bursaries to residents of the Kirkconnel & Kelloholm and Royal Burgh of Sanquhar and District Community Council areas to improve access to training and education opportunities that better equip them with the range of skills needed to enter or retain employment. The Fund is provided by Whiteside Hill Wind Farm Community Fund.

The Holywood Trust (THT)

<https://www.hollywood-trust.org.uk>

The Holywood Trust is a charitable organisation which aims to help young people in Dumfries and Galloway. It gives grants to individuals and organisations, creating opportunities for young people in the region. THT wants to help young people throughout Dumfries and Galloway fulfil their potential in cultural, educational and social aspects of their lives. They do this by providing financial grants to individual young people, and organisations which support or provide opportunities for young people in the region. The Trust is particularly interested in:

- Providing opportunities for the most disadvantaged and vulnerable young people in our region
- Encouraging talented young people in Dumfries and Galloway
- Helping improve sports and cultural opportunities across the region



Scotland/UK Funders - Arts & Culture

Creative Scotland

Creative Scotland (CS) is currently undertaking a review of its long-term, overall approach to funding therefore we strongly recommend you keep up-to-date on the progress of the organisation's funding review at: [creativescotland.com/conversations](https://www.creativescotland.com/conversations)

Here's a list of current CS funding initiatives:

Open Fund: Sustaining Creative Development

- Funding available for between £1k and £100k. 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. The overall budget for the Open Fund for Individuals and the Open Fund for Organisations totals £7.5m of National Lottery money. 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.

PLEASE NOTE: In response to feedback from applicants, CS's Open Fund for Individuals, whilst retaining its core purpose, will move to a simplified online application process from Tuesday 10 August 2021. Details [here](#)

Regular Funding is one of Creative Scotland's main funds for arts and creative organisations in Scotland, offering stable long-term funding support. It will fund ongoing running costs, helping organisations to plan, operate and deliver their work over three years. It can also be used to help the organisation change or develop their future plans. The network of organisations that this fund supports are expected to play a key role in helping Creative Scotland deliver against its overall ambitions, and to make a significant contribution to society.

Targeted Funding are funds which exist to support specific activities – as opposed to funds which are more general, supporting any activity and open to anyone to apply to. They are usually set up to help support a specific art form or type of work, or to help meet a strategic need or gap. Often the funding has only been made available because the money is 'ring-fenced' – meaning that it can only be used to fund that activity and nothing else. Some examples of Targeted Funds include:

- The **Youth Music Initiative**, which is an annual funding programme from the Scottish Government to support music-making activity for young people
- The **Screen Funds**, which support filmmakers and producers to develop and produce films, documentaries and other screen projects
- The **Made in Scotland fund**, which can support costs for Scottish theatre, dance and music projects which are planning to perform as part of the Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

The full list of Targeted Funds available can be found at this page:

https://www.creativescotland.com/funding/funding-programmes/targeted-funding?result_23479_result_page=1

Funds Delivered by Partners - Funds Delivered by Partners are funds which CS supports but the application process is overseen by another partner organisation. This activity can include funding programmes which other organisations deliver, as well as training programmes, prizes, awards or residencies that CS funded and other partners are delivering. **Check out the link above for full details;** here are some examples of these programmes:

- **Live Literature** - Support is available through Scottish Book Trust to individuals and not-for profit organisations in every part of Scotland to host events or projects with authors.
- **PRS for Music Foundation** - The UK's leading funder of new music across all genres, the PRS for Music Foundation has a range of funds and awards for musicians, songwriters, composers and music groups.
- **Publishing Scotland Go Digital** - The Go Digital fund supports Scottish-based book publishers in bringing their books to a new digital audience. It's administered by Publishing Scotland with the help of funding from Creative Scotland.
- **Regional Screen Scotland** - Local Film Festival Challenge Fund – one-off grants of £1,000–£5,000 to help develop, build or plan a new local film festival, or develop an existing one.

Sanquhar Tolbooth Museum.



- **Scotland Live** - Run by Hands Up For Trad, Scotland Live was set up to encourage new promoters to put on gigs in Scotland. Each traditional music club gets £1,600 over a year to help them get started.
- **Scottish Music Centre** - a nationally and internationally recognised organisation at the heart of Scotland's music industry whose mission is to champion Scotland's music: past, present and future.

<https://www.scottishmusiccentre.com>

- **Scottish Music Industry Association** - The Scottish Music Industry Association (SMIA) exists to strengthen, empower and unite Scotland's music industry

<https://www.smia.org.uk>

- **Screen Scotland** - Screen Scotland is the dedicated partnership for screen in Scotland, delivering enhanced support for all aspects of Scotland's screen sector.

<https://www.screen.scot>

- **TASGADH – Small Grants for Traditional Arts** - is managed by Fèisean nan Gàidheal and open to organisations and individuals. Tasgadh is designed to provide support for traditional artists and organisations to create, perform, tour and showcase work.

For more support and guidance, check out Creative Scotland's 'Help With Your Application' section covering:

- Who Can Apply?
- Help With Your Budget,
- How to Submit Your Supporting Materials, Alternative Formats, Languages and Access Support
- Funding Frequently Asked Questions
- Funding Documents (such as Equalities Monitoring/Project Monitoring/Rates of Pay Guidance)

There's also a **Latest Information page** which includes the most recent funding updates and an '**Other Sources of Support**' page providing information on other organisations and websites that provide help and support. All of the support above can be accessed on CS Funding page: <https://www.creativescotland.com/funding>

It's good to make direct contact in advance with the appropriate art form team or officer. Although its telephone services are unavailable during Covid-19, you can contact Creative Scotland's Enquiries Service at: enquiries@creativescotland.com. If you need to speak to someone direct, email this address to arrange a call back.

There's a **staff contacts list** as well as a **general contact form** so that you can quickly submit enquiries to different departments in the organisation: <https://www.creativescotland.com/contact-us/staff-contacts>

Remember: Sign up to CS Newsletter for monthly updates on funding and industry news at <https://www.creativescotland.com/what-we-do/latest-news/newsletter-sign-up> and sign up to its 'Opportunities' page at <https://opportunities.creativescotland.com>

Lottery Funding

The National Lottery Community Fund

The National Lottery Community Fund has several funding streams, most of which are open year-round with no deadlines. You don't need to be a charity to apply, and funds range from £300–£1m over 1–5 years. Current strands include 'National Lottery Awards For All Scotland (between £300 and £10,000)', 'Our Place', 'Improving Lives' and 'Community Assets'. It is worth noting that, during Covid-19, there is an ongoing focus on supporting individuals and communities most adversely impacted.

www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk

The National Lottery Heritage Fund

Formerly known as the Heritage Lottery Fund, the National Lottery Heritage Fund uses money raised by National Lottery players to help support the natural, cultural and intangible heritage of Scotland. With funding starting at £3,000, projects should enable people and communities to engage and enjoy heritage – from Scotland's traditional stories and skills to the historic towns, landscapes and buildings that mean so much to so many. Community groups, partnerships and charities can apply. www.heritagefund.org.uk

People's Postcode Lottery

32% of every Postcode Lottery ticket sold goes to charity, resulting in over £393m donated to good causes since 2005. Four charity trusts distribute this money. Visit the following websites for deadlines and criteria:

People's Postcode Trust –

www.postcodetrust.org.uk

Postcode Community Trust –

www.postcodecommunitytrust.org.uk

Postcode Local Trust –

www.postcodelocaltrust.org.uk

Postcode Dream Trust –

www.postcodedreamtrust.org.uk



Annan History Town Summer Festival, Photo Credit Colin Hattersley.

Charitable Trusts and Foundations

There are a myriad of charitable trusts, many of whom are also listed in the online funding databases/resources at the start of this document, but here are some of the larger ones distributing funds across Scotland and the UK.

BBC Children in Need

Awards grants to charities and not-for-profit organisations supporting disadvantaged children and young people in the UK. Small Grants Programme: up to £10,000 per year and Main Grants Programme: over £10,000 – both for up to three years. As always, there is great demand for funding, and BBC want to make sure funding reaches the whole of the UK. The recent programmes received on average five times more applications than could be funded; BBC ask that you please consider its guidance carefully before making an application.

Website: <https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/grants/apply/>

Clore Duffield Foundation

Most of the foundation's support is directed towards the cultural sector, in particular the creation of learning spaces within arts and heritage organisations. Grants range from £10,000 to over £1m - the fund has halted awards in 2021 whilst it reviews its priorities www.cloreduffield.org.uk

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

The foundation has published a new strategic plan for 2020 - 2025 and has formulated its mission and three supporting aims: 'Our Natural World', 'A Fairer Future' and 'Creative, Confident Communities', to balance long-term and immediate need, with clear priorities over the next five years.

- For 'A Fairer Future' and 'Creative, Confident Communities', the strategy builds on the organisations long history of funding the arts, children and young people and social change.
- The strategy combines what has been most impactful with what is now most needed, guided by the needs of climate change, racial justice, and recovery from COVID-19. Over the next year the foundation will be developing this part of its strategy and it is likely to evolve. As with Our Natural World, the focus will be to identify where we can make the most effective contribution.

Apply for funding: <https://esmeefairbairn.org.uk/applications/>

Help Musicians Scotland

As well as offering their own grants for music-makers, you can also search for funding using the Help Musicians UK online 'Funding Wizard'.

The charity works to create a sustainable future for all musicians by offering health and welfare services and creative and professional development through grants and funding. As an independent charity, funds raised in Scotland go back into Help Musicians Scotland. Through its dedicated team, Help Musicians Scotland reaches the entire country, to support, reflect and celebrate the diversity and impact of Scottish music.

Website: <https://www.helpmusicians.org.uk/creative-programme/current-opportunities>
Scotland office: 0141 404 9502; email scotland@helpmusicians.org.uk

Jerwood Arts

Jerwood is the leading independent funder dedicated to supporting UK artists, curators and producers. The Foundation collaborates with organisations across art forms to imagine a more sustainable sector. The programmes provide transformative opportunities for early-career individuals; all funding is for individuals through awards, fellowships and commissions. The Foundation presents exhibitions in its gallery in London and on tour nationally.

In response to ongoing Covid-19 developments, the Foundation's funding opportunities are currently under review. This work is ongoing and it expects a refreshed approach to funding in 2021 will focus on the impact of Covid-19, equity, diversity and inclusion and environmental sustainability. Call for entries will appear on their page when the Foundation re-opens for applications. Sign up for the newsletter to hear about their new opportunities when they are announced.

Apply/newsletter: <https://jerwoodarts.org/apply/>

Mickel Fund

The fund only donates to registered charities and aims to improve people's lives in and around Scotland through major donations of £5,000–£10,000 or an annual donation of £500–£2,000. One of its areas of interest is 'Advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science'.

Apply for funding: <https://www.mickelfund.org.uk/apply-for-funding/>

Ragdoll Foundation

The foundation's Open Grants programme supports organisations working with children and young people using the arts and creative media. They welcome applications of up to £50,000, although the majority of grants are likely to be in the region of £5,000–£20,000.

Website: <https://www.ragdollfoundation.org.uk/portfolio/grant-giving>

Scottish Book Trust - a national charity that believes books, reading and writing have the power to change lives.

<https://www.scottishbooktrust.com>

Steel Charitable Trust

The trust funds UK registered charities who focus on one or more of the following areas: Arts and Heritage; Economic or Social Disadvantage; Education; Environment; Health. Grants are generally between £2,500 and £25,000.

Website: www.steelcharitabletrust.org.uk

Trusthouse Charitable Foundation

The foundation gives grants to small, well established UK organisations who address local issues in areas of extreme urban deprivation, or in remote and fragile rural communities. Applications working in the field of 'Community

Support' and/or 'Arts, Education and Heritage' are of particular interest.

The foundation also has funding to support capital projects at community centres/village halls in deprived communities. Grants range from £2,000–£60,000.

Website: <https://www.trusthousecharitablefoundation.org.uk/our-grants>

The Agar Trust

The trust supports young people aged 8-21, resident in rural Scotland, who demonstrate exceptional musical potential and wish to further their musical education beyond their local area.

Website: <https://www.agar-trust.org.uk/How-to-apply.html>

The Dewar Arts Awards (DAA)

The DAA were set up by the then Scottish Executive in 2002 as a fitting memorial to Scotland's inaugural First Minister, Donald Dewar. The charity disburses the income from a trust fund to support talented young artists in Scotland, who do not have the financial means to pursue their ambitions. Nominations for the awards are accepted all year round, in recognition of the fact that opportunities do not always fall neatly into the financial calendar.

Eligibility criteria: <https://www.dewarawards.org/eligibility/>

The Foyle Foundation

The Foyle Foundation is an independent grantmaking trust that distributes grants to UK charities. The Foundation does not support applications from individuals. It welcomes applications from across the country and encourages applications from all areas outside

London and the South East.

The Foundation supports charities in three main areas:

- Main Grants Scheme, supporting charities whose core work covers [Arts](#) and [Learning](#)
- [The Foyle School Library Scheme](#)
- [Small Grants Scheme](#), supporting charities in all fields with a turnover of less than £150,000 per annum

The Trustees of the Foundation are keeping its grant making policy under constant review in the light of social and economic developments in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Refer to the website regularly as the Trust expects to refine the approach, depending on the length and impact of the pandemic as they affect the sectors it supports.

The organisation has re-opened the grant schemes with revised criteria for support except for applications for major capital projects (major capital scheme unlikely to re-open before autumn 2021).

How to apply: <http://www.foylefoundation.org.uk/how-to-apply/>

The Garfield Weston Foundation

The foundation aims to support charitable organisations that help those most in need. Registered charities working in the areas of welfare, youth, community, arts, faith, environment, education, health, and museums and heritage, can apply for up to £100,000 to cover capital costs, core costs and/or project work.

Website: <https://garfieldweston.org/apply-to-us/>

The Robertson Trust

The trust funds charitable organisations of all sizes and is committed to achieving positive change for individuals and communities. Its 'Open Grants' awards are covered by three strands: Care and Wellbeing, Realising Potential, and Strengthening Communities. They are a match funder and will pay towards both capital expenditures and revenue costs.

Website: <https://www.therobertsontrust.org.uk/funding/>

The Weir Charitable Trust

The trust supports Scottish-based community groups and small charities who carry out activities and services in sport, recreational facilities, animal welfare, health and cultural projects. Grants of up to £25,000 are available, although the average grant is £3,500.

Website: <https://weircharitabletrust.com/how-apply>

Loans and Investments

Nesta Arts & Culture Impact Fund

The Arts & Culture Impact Fund is a new £20 million impact investment fund for the UK's arts, culture and heritage social enterprises. The fund offers loans between £150,000 and £1 million repayable over a period of up to ten years.

Find out more and apply on the [Arts & Culture Finance website](#).



Peter Pan Moat Brae Trust, Dumfries.

Sponsorship, In-Kind & Corporate Giving

Arts & Business/Culture & Business Fund

The Culture & Business Fund Scotland (CBFS) enables businesses and arts or heritage organisations to come together and build effective, sustainable partnerships, bringing creative projects – large and small – vividly to life. Funded by the Scottish Government via Creative Scotland and Historic Environment Scotland, and managed by Arts & Business Scotland, the CBFS provides critical £ for £ match funding – making the journey from a great idea, to a great project, possible.

The CBFS offers £ for £ match funding for eligible projects, whether support is in-cash or in-kind, sponsored by eligible businesses, and has a clear set of aims to:

- support arts and heritage organisations and businesses to build new or cement existing cross-sector partnerships;
- entice new businesses to sponsor or invest in arts or heritage activities in Scotland;
- encourage and enable businesses already sponsoring or investing in arts or heritage activities to continue to do so with existing and / or new culture sector partners;
- support existing cross-sector partnerships to enable and encourage them to continue to work together;
- attract non-Scottish based companies to sponsor arts and heritage activities in Scotland, and;

- encourage and support businesses to continue to invest in or sponsor the activities of an arts or heritage organisation within Scotland over a two or three-year period.

Website: <https://www.aandbscotland.org.uk/funding/>

Inspiring Scotland

Inspiring Scotland is a venture philanthropy organisation. This means it applies venture capital principles – such as long-term investment and tailored development support – to the voluntary sector.

Inspiring Scotland helps voluntary groups by arranging:

- Pro bono support – it has a network of professional volunteers that can be matched up with charities and voluntary organisations looking for extra support and expert advice. These volunteers include lawyers, business managers, accountants, HR professionals, photographers, leadership coaches and marketing specialists.
- Support and Advice – it offers a consultancy service for charities. Led by an in-house staff, this service can help charities to develop, become more resilient or guide them through particular challenges.

For more information on Inspiring Scotland, visit <https://www.inspiringscotland.org.uk/what-we-do/our-funds/>

Materials and services donated by companies to charities.

- The B&Q Community Reuse Scheme donates unsellable products and materials to educational institutions and community groups. For more

information contact the duty manager at your local store.

Website: <https://www.diy.com/responsible-business/community>

- Community RePaint is a UK-wide scheme that collects unwanted, surplus and leftover paint from paint manufacturers, retailers, tradespeople and recycling centres and redistributes it to communities and charities in need. Search for your local Community Re-Paint scheme at www.communityrepaint.org.uk
- Reuseful UK is a network of scrapstores across the UK that together supports the redistribution and re-use of unwanted resources for the benefit of children and communities. Each scrapstore is managed independently, gathering clean, reusable scrap materials from local businesses and making these available as low-cost art and craft materials to its members. To find your nearest scrapstore, visit www.reusefuluk.org
- IT For Charities is a website that offers UK not-for-profit organisations free information on IT products, services and technology. This includes a comprehensive list of computer re-use schemes, many of which provide charities with free or low cost access to refurbished laptops, desktop computers and printing equipment.

Website: www.itforcharities.co.uk

- tt-exchange is a service created by Tech Trust, a UK charity dedicated to providing other charities with the knowledge and access they need to get the most from digital products and services. It's free to register and account holders can receive savings of up to 96% on a wide range of products from leading technology companies, such as Microsoft, Cisco, Symantec and Adobe.

Website: www.tt-exchange.org

Development Agencies and Support Organisations

There is an evolving list of organisations working in the arts, screen and creative industries who can provide support and guidance to those working in the sector. Here are some examples of sources of support; [Creative Scotland](#) has a [Professional Resources](#) page for the arts, screen and creative industries which includes [Guidance and toolkits](#); [Other Sources of Support](#); [Research](#); and a [Resource Directory for COVID-19](#)

Here are some examples of sources of support which are either sector specific or provide broader support which is also relevant to individual creative practitioners and creative organisations.

a-n The Artists Information Company

- is the largest artists' membership organisation in the UK with over 21,000 members. It supports artists and those who work with them in many practical ways, acting on behalf of its membership and the visual arts sector to improve artists' livelihoods.

Website: <https://www.a-n.co.uk>

Applied Arts Scotland - a membership organisation run by makers for makers giving an authentic, collective and professional voice for the sector and delivering tangible benefits

<https://www.appliedartsscotland.org.uk>

Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) - Third Sector Dumfries & Galloway

If you are looking for help in your local area, the CVS can also help. Third Sector Dumfries & Galloway is the single Third Sector interface for D & G. You can access news, funding information and events and training, including how to set up a charity/social enterprise/Community Interest Company (CIC).

Website: <http://thirdsectordumgal.org.uk>

Email: secretary@thirdsectorfirst.org.uk

Craft Scotland

Craft Scotland is the national development agency supporting makers and promoting craft.

<https://www.craftscotland.org>

The Maker Community Opportunities page provides sections on 'Selling Your Work', 'Funding', which lists organisations that offer support for makers in all disciplines, at all stages of their careers, and 'Research' which provides research on craft, creative industries and business.

<https://www.craftscotland.org/community/resources>

Creative Lives (formerly Voluntary Arts)

Creative Arts (Scotland) is part of Creative Lives (CL), the UK and Republic of Ireland development agency for creative cultural activity.

- CL offers a range of free resources, including 'Cash For Culture - a guide to fundraising for voluntary groups' which can be downloaded here:

<https://www.creative-lives.org/cash-for-culture-updated>

- CL also publishes regular briefings, including 'How to write a successful funding application'; 'Applying to trust funds'; 'Trustees and fundraising' and 'Accounting for worth' which can be accessed here:

<https://www.creative-lives.org/Pages/Category/briefings>

Federation of Scottish Theatre -

Scotland's membership and development body for professional dance, opera and theatre.

- FST Membership reaches over 250 independent artists, producing companies, venues, education and umbrella bodies across Scotland.
- FST brings the sector together to speak with a collective voice, to share resources and expertise and to promote collaborative working.

<https://www.scottishtheatre.org>

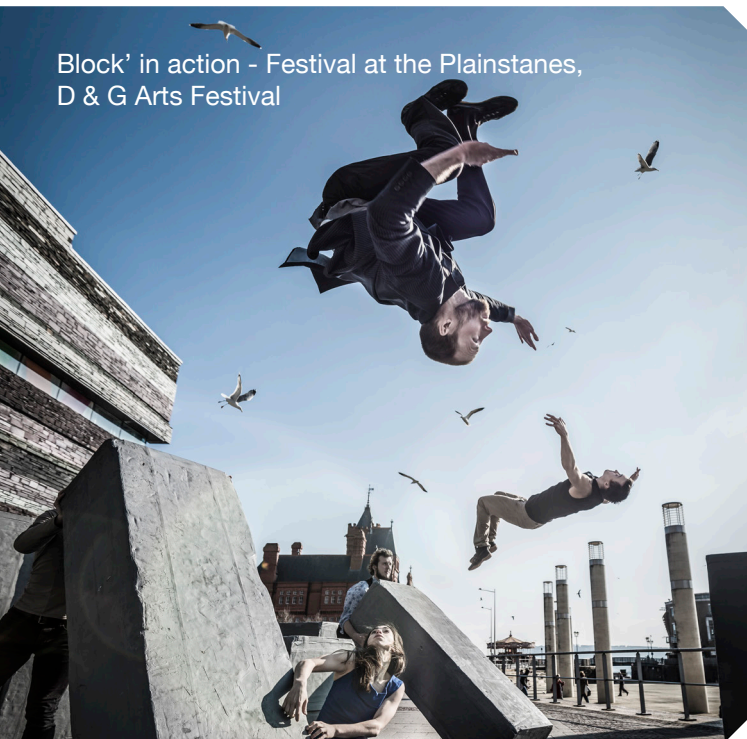
Institute of Fundraising Scotland - is

the membership body for fundraisers across the UK. The institute's work in Scotland includes representing fundraisers, promoting fundraising as a career choice, and running training courses for fundraisers of all levels, including voluntary fundraisers. It helps smaller charities and voluntary groups to navigate through any issues and members can also access legal and tax advice through partners Turcan Connell and Scott-Moncrieff, at no additional cost.

The institute also helps to facilitate peer support through special interest and networking groups, which can be an invaluable source of help, ideas and inspiration for sole or voluntary fundraisers.

www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk

Block' in action - Festival at the Plainstones,
D & G Arts Festival



One Dance UK - is the sector support organisation leading the way to a stronger, more vibrant and diverse dance sector. It provides one clear voice to:

- Support all those working in the sector to achieve excellence in dance performance, education and management; Advocate for the increased profile and importance of dance in all its diverse forms and settings; Enhance dancers' health, well-being and performance; and Identify gaps, provide opportunities and improve conditions for dance to be learnt, discussed and seen.

<https://www.onedanceuk.org>

Playwrights' Studio Scotland -

Playwrights' Studio, Scotland is the nation's only arts organisation exclusively dedicated to the long-term support, development and promotion of Scotland's playwrights.

<https://www.playwrightsstudio.co.uk>

Scottish Artists Union - The Scottish Artists Union campaigns for better working conditions for all visual and applied artists living and working in Scotland.

<https://www.artistsunion.scot>

Scottish Contemporary Arts Network (SCAN) - connects and champions Scotland's contemporary art community. Contemporary visual art has the power to transform lives and open minds and is needed now more than ever.

<https://sca-net.org>

Scottish Council for Voluntary

Organisations (SCVO) - The SCVO is the national membership body for Scotland's vibrant voluntary sector which:

- Champions the sector, provide services and debates big issues. With a community of 2,000+ members, it believes that charities, social enterprises and voluntary groups make Scotland a better place.
- Lobbies government on policy issues, creates jobs for young people and supports organisations to embrace and promote digital skills.
- Helps with day-to-day stuff, like affordable office space, discounted training courses, funding opportunities and information and support to

help people set up and run their organisations.

<https://scvo.scot>

Scottish Enterprise - national economic development agency committed to growing the Scottish economy for the benefit of all, helping create more quality jobs and a brighter future for every region.

<https://www.scottish-enterprise.com>

South of Scotland Enterprise (also known as SOSE) - launched officially on 1 April 2020 as the Economic and Community Development Agency for Dumfries and Galloway and Scottish Borders.

<https://www.southofscotlandenterprise.com/>

The Poetry Society - was founded in 1909 to promote "a more general recognition and appreciation of poetry". Since then, it has grown into one of Britain's most dynamic arts organisations, representing British poetry both nationally and internationally. Today it has more than 5,000 members worldwide and publishes the UK's leading poetry magazine, The Poetry Review, which has been published since 1912.

<https://poetrysociety.org.uk/>

Visual Arts Scotland - is a leading platform for national and international contemporary fine and applied artists. Originally an organisation for women artists, the society since the 1980s has championed craft makers, designers and applied arts practitioners, as well as contemporary fine art practice.

<https://www.visualartsscotland.org>

General Information about Social Enterprises / CIC'S / Charities

SCVO has a helpful section on its website all about becoming a charity, which includes links to other sources of information, for example:

<https://scvo.scot/support/setting-up-a-charity>

<https://www.gov.scot/policies/third-sector/charities/>

<https://www.mygov.scot/social-enterprise/>

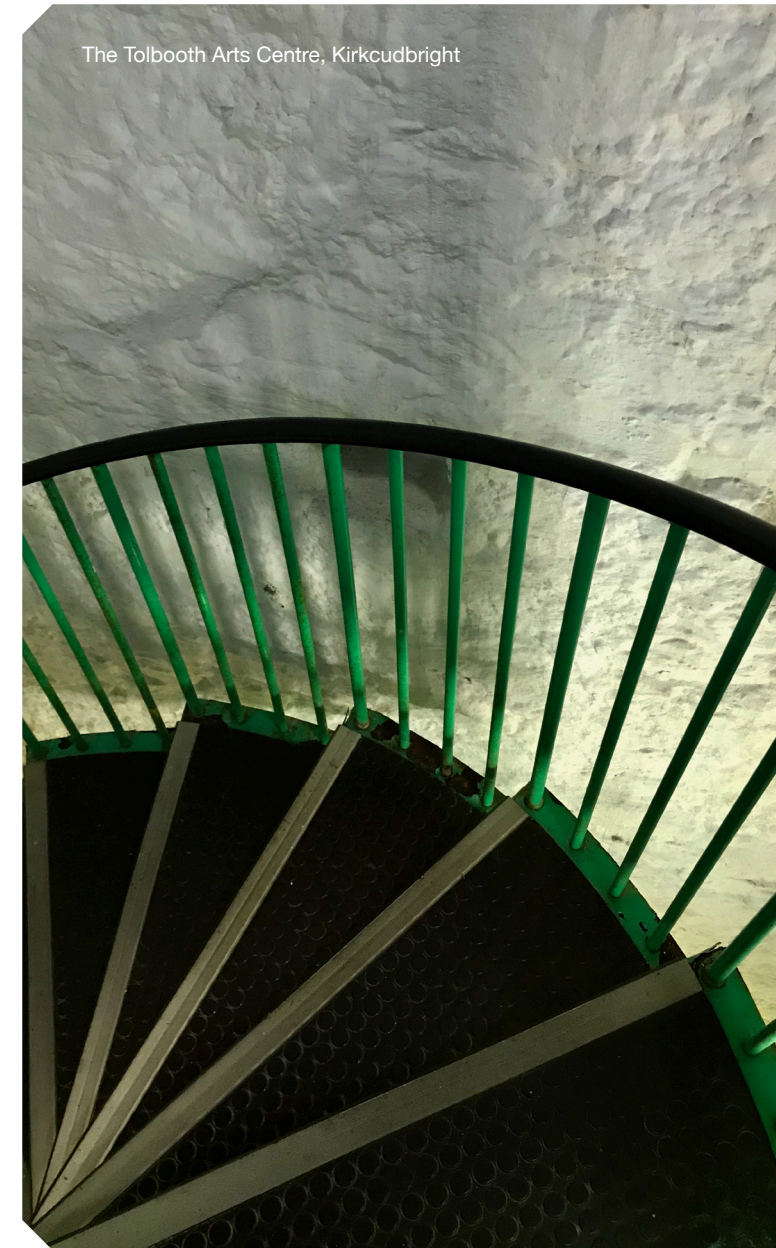
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/legal-forms-for-business-a-guide>

Specific Information about Social Enterprises / CIC'S / Charities

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/community-interest-companies-business-activities>

Legal boilerplate for social enterprises

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/31677/11-1400-guide-legal-forms-for-social-enterprise.pdf





Looking out over Big Water of Fleet at GG's Yard, Laggan.

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