

Grant Guidelines



This is a summary of our grant-making criteria and should answer most of the questions you may have. Further guidance can be found in the FAQs document. Please read both documents carefully to help you decide if your organisation and project are a good fit for Scops Arts Trust.

Who

The types of organisation we support are generally registered charities, but we will consider applications from social enterprises, community groups, etc, if they are formally constituted and have clear charitable purposes. Whilst we do not exclude large charities, applications from small to medium sized organisations will be looked on more favourably.

Where

We support organisations located in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

What

Our current areas of interest are:

- Improving the provision and quality of music education in schools
- Extending the opportunities for children and young people to engage with music outside of school
- Widening access to the arts for everyone, regardless of any disadvantage they face because of their health, financial or social circumstances
- Reaching audiences in parts of the country where arts events are not usually found

When

We only support projects or programmes which have yet to begin; we do not fund retrospectively.

Why

Our overarching aim is to give people of all ages a better quality of life by enabling them to understand, participate in and enjoy the arts, particularly music, drama, opera and dance. It's important that you bear this in mind at each stage of the application process and try to communicate how your organisation and project will do this.

How

Our grants typically range from £2,000 up to £30,000 with the potential in some cases for repeat funding up to 3 years (maximum award £90,000). Most of our grants are for specific projects but we will consider contributions towards the core costs of smaller organisations where a grant from Scops Arts Trust could make an impact.

Exclusions – what we do not fund

Grant requests which the Trustees will not normally support are:

- Contributions to general appeals
- Religious activity which is not for wider public benefit
- Public bodies to carry out their statutory obligations
- Activities which have already taken place
- Grant-making by other organisations
- Privately owned and profit-distributing companies
- Individuals

Application and assessment process

This is what to expect if you decide to apply for a grant to Scops Arts Trust.

- Pre-application stage - applicants should take the Eligibility Quiz
- If you are successful, you will be invited to make a Stage 1 application via email
- Your Stage 1 application will be reviewed by at least two Trustees
- A Stage 2 shortlist will be drawn up and the selected applicants will be invited to complete a Stage 2 online application form
- Applications must present a strong case for support, clearly explaining what you will do with the grant, who will benefit, how you know that the work you are proposing will make a difference to the beneficiaries and how you will be able to measure this
- During the assessment phase of Stage 2 applications, applicants may be contacted by one of our Trustees and/or the Administrator to request additional information; our Trustees may also conduct assessment visits or calls, as Scops Arts Trust aims to be an engaged funder
- A final shortlist of applications will then be presented to the Board of Trustees at a quarterly meeting for their consideration
- Our decisions are final and unsuccessful applicants have no right of appeal
- Before paying any grants, we will make due diligence checks on your organisation's governance and finance
- You will find a timeline for this process in the FAQs document