

# Visual Artist & Craft Maker Awards: Highlands & Moray

## Application Guidelines 2018/2019

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In order to advance the Highland Culture Strategic Board's cultural strategy '*Highland Culture: take part, take pride*' High Life Highland in partnership with Creative Scotland have established a scheme of funding that addresses current gaps in resources available to individual artists/makers.

### Purpose of Scheme

The Visual Artist & Craft Maker Awards scheme offer grants to Highland-based artists/craft makers towards the costs of developing new work. The purpose of the scheme is to encourage innovative professional practice - through research and professional development activity.

This scheme is aimed at visual arts practitioners working in the fields of drawing, painting, sculpture, print-making, photography, moving image/filmmaking and craft makers creating contemporary work conceived, designed and made by individual practitioners in ceramics, jewellery and metalwork, furniture and wood, glass, textiles and basket-making.

### Funds Available

Grants from £500 up to a maximum of £1500 are available. Artists/craft makers are encouraged to request a sum appropriate to their project and not expect to receive the maximum grant available.

New for this year we've introduced the Emergent Bursary – this is an award of £500 to support the professional development of a recent graduate (up to 2 years out art school) and under the age of 30.

### Deadlines for Applications

- Tuesday 2 October 2018
- Tuesday 5 February 2019

The awards panel aims to meet within three weeks of the deadline dates and applicants should receive notification of the panel's decision within four weeks of the panel meeting.

### Who Can Apply?

The scheme is open to:

- Highland and Moray based visual artists/craft makers, living within the Councils' boundaries.
- Visual artists/craft makers who work in and/or maintain a studio space within the Highlands or Moray Councils' boundaries.

Applicants may be of any age and at any stage of their career, but must be outwith full time education.



## Criteria

The quality of applicant's work is key. Successful applicants will have demonstrated a level of commitment to their practice, having developed their skills and ideas and achieved a body of work outwith formal education. Applicants will be assessed against the following criteria:

- ***the quality of the applicant's work in relation to contemporary practice***  
We will assess this from your written application, CV and supporting visual material (see guidance below).
- ***commitment to the development of practice both conceptually and technically***  
We are interested in your ideas and the methods you use to make work. Explaining your ideas in a straightforward way will help us to understand your application better. Consider how your proposal will help you to develop your work both practically and in relation to your ideas. The stage within your career or timing of proposal is also useful to think about.
- ***that funding would have a positive impact on the long term development of practice which would be difficult to achieve without such support***  
Please give a clear outline as to how funding at this point will impact on your ongoing practice and your wider professional development as an artist. This is not a breakdown of your financial situation, personal circumstances or previous funding bids but rather how your project (or plan) may help your long term creative and professional development.
- ***a clear plan of proposed activity that shows how funds might be used***  
Make sure the budgeted costs of the project are accurate and realistic. For artists applying to develop work specifically for an exhibition, it helps the panel to see the contribution from the gallery/organising venue involved. Additionally, please note that hiring galleries to show your work is not a priority for this fund. For craft applicants the plan should include a strong business case with anticipated benefits.

The award panel will also consider how the application will broadly benefit the artistic community of the Highlands.

## Exclusions

- Applicants will not be considered for projects already started or planned to start before the panel meeting date.
- Funding will not be awarded to students in full time education.
- Applications for the applicant's own time are not eligible.
- Applications to run community and/or educational projects are not eligible.
- Applications for business development or marketing will not be considered eg. trade fairs.
- Applications for ongoing living costs, childcare, studio/gallery hire or framing costs are not eligible.
- Applications for film-making projects that fall outwith the visual arts context are not eligible.
- Applicants cannot apply to this Scheme and the Moray Artist Bursary or Creative Scotland for the same project.
- Previous successful applicants cannot reapply for an additional award within the same financial year.
- Successful applicants must complete their project and submit a final report before applying to the scheme again.

## How to Apply

Applications should be submitted using the Application Form on High Life Highland's website. When completing the form on your own word processing system please ensure that the format remains the same. Applications must be submitted via email only.

Applications must be accompanied by a CV, the *Equalities Monitoring Form* and *Visual Material* that shows examples of work undertaken within the last 2 years, please include examples of more than one piece of work. Applications will not be considered unless supporting visual material is submitted. Supporting visual material supplied should be itemised on the *Artwork Submission Form*.

- **Images:** we request that you select images based on their relevance to your written application. 6-8 images should be supplied as JPEG and attached to the email submission. Please make sure that image files are titled with your name and are ideally no more than 600KB per image.
- **Moving Image:** should last no longer than 8 minutes in total, but may include edited pieces covering a variety of work. For digital submissions we are able to view moving image work via *Vimeo* only and weblinks can be supplied with the *Artwork Submission Form*.
- **CV:** your CV helps to show your track record as an artist or maker. In your CV put newest things first and take out any non-art related activities.
- **Quotes:** for high value item requests where elements of the project are provided by a third party e.g. air travel or equipment, two reliable quotes must be submitted with your application. If quotes are not provided your application may not be considered. For any application requesting funding towards equipment applicants must clearly justify why the equipment needs to be purchased rather than resourced in other ways ie. rental.
- **Letter of Support:** if you are applying for support for the development of work for an exhibition or for a residency, please provide a letter of support from the gallery/arts organisation which clearly states what they will be providing.

Original artwork, catalogues and other print material will not be accepted as support to any application. Visual material from successful candidates may be copied and held for use in reports and publicity material.

Completed applications should be emailed with the subject line 'Visual Artist & Craft Maker Awards scheme application' to: [kirsten.body@highlifehighland.com](mailto:kirsten.body@highlifehighland.com)

We are unable to accept late applications.

**\*Please note** that if you do not received confirmation of your application from us within 48 hours then phone Kirsten Body on 01463 732435. Occasionally applications which have large attachments do not get through our IT system so please make sure you meet the image size criteria and that all attachments do not exceed a total of 8MB.

## Decisions

Your application will be considered by a selection panel made up of High Life Highland's Exhibition Unit, Creative Scotland as well as invited artists and curators selected for their relevant experience in visual arts and craft. The scheme is administered and panel meetings chaired by High Life Highland.

Applicants will be notified within 6 weeks of the deadline on the outcome of their application. You will be contacted if there is any change to this timetable.