



Visual Artist and Craft Maker Awards: *Perth and Kinross*

in partnership with Creative Scotland
#VACMAScotland

Application Guidelines 2018/19

Creative Scotland has established small grant schemes with a number of local authorities across Scotland to support visual artists and craft practitioners in their creative and professional development.

Perthshire Creates as part of Culture Perth and Kinross and in partnership with Creative Scotland are to deliver local Visual Artist and Craft Maker Awards (VACMA). The awards available are from £500 and any amount up to a maximum of £1,500, and are intended to support professional and creative practitioners living/and or working in Perth & Kinross, who have demonstrated a commitment to their work and to developing their practice.

The following guidelines will take you through the process of making an application and how funding decisions will be taken and communicated. Processes have been kept as simple as possible and turnaround times are short to support access to the scheme. Information on the awards can also be found on the Creative Scotland website <http://www.creativescotland.com/funding/funding-programmes/funds-delivered-by-partners/visual-arts-and-crafts-awards>.

Who can apply?

Applicants for funding must be living and working as an artist or maker¹ within the Perth and Kinross Council boundaries. Applicants who live outside Perth and Kinross but maintain studio space within its boundaries may also apply.

What will the Awards Fund?

The purpose of the scheme is to encourage individual creative practice - through research and professional development activity. The award should be used to develop an individual's creative practice and applications should detail the impact on practice you hope to achieve and how this will be evidenced (for example through use of a new technique, production method or collaboration).

What will the Awards not Fund?

Please note that hiring a gallery to show your work is not a priority for these funds. As stated earlier, the focus of this fund is to support new opportunities for creative development and the change this can bring to your practice.

¹ VACMA P+K supports Visual Artists working in the fields of drawing, painting, sculpture, print making, photography, moving image and filmmaking.

VACMA P+K also supports Craft Practitioners and adheres to the Creative Scotland definition of crafts: contemporary creative work conceived, designed and made by individual practitioners in ceramics, jewellery and metalwork, furniture and wood, glass, lettering, musical instruments, textiles and basket-making.

Whilst we recognise that artists/makers time is crucial to creating new work or undertaking professional development activities, we are not able through this fund to support day-to-day living costs or replace other income.

For the purposes of this application, any time contribution is viewed as an in-kind contribution and part of your professional practice. However, we would like to better understand the nature of this contribution so please provide the information as indicated on the application form. For more information on rates of pay, see the Scottish Artists Union guidance: www.sau.org.uk/rights/pay/

In addition:

- 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
- Applicants cannot apply to the Visual Artist and Craft Maker Awards Perth and Kinross and Creative Scotland for support for the same project
- Applicants may not apply to this award scheme in the same financial year as receiving an award from Creative Scotland Artists Awards Schemes or another Local Authority Artist Award Partnership Scheme
- Applications to run community and/or educational projects are not eligible
- Applications for film-making projects that fall outwith the visual arts context are not eligible
- Successful applicants must complete their project and submit a final report before applying to the scheme again

What we're looking for in your application

We want to hear about your work, your ideas, and your track record. When we make decisions we give priority to the applications that demonstrate the quality of work most clearly, the opportunity for development as well as an ongoing commitment to developing a visual arts or crafts practice.

Funding is provided to support artist/makers to take advantage of specific opportunities or that can progress their creative and professional development. Applicants should outline how the funding applied for will further develop their work or practice and how that specific project or development will support progression.

We will give priority to applicants who can best demonstrate the following:

• **Quality of work in relation to contemporary practice.**

Quality of work is extremely important and we will assess this from your written application, your CV and the supporting visual material. Providing clearly written text which is explanatory but also concise will help us to understand your work to date and what you are applying to do. Think about how your work relates to current, recent and historical practice as this will help us to assess your work within a wider context.

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. This guide might also help you in refining your CV:

www.artquest.org.uk/how-to-articles/artist-cv/

Your supporting material should be of a good quality and carefully selected to show your current work and back up your application. Ensure it is clearly labelled and remember to also include an image list with titles, dates, materials, dimensions and, where appropriate, the venue the work is shown in. Make sure that your visual material is well photographed and that the standard of image is

high. The panel want to see your work clearly so do avoid images that do not give a strong sense of the work. Good images show that you value your work and have a level of professionalism. If you are proposing to develop work in another medium – how does your choice of images support that move?

- **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 may also relate to other relevant projects or opportunities and how you best develop these. 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. Have a clear and real reason for applying.

Please note that these Visual Arts and Crafts Makers Awards are funded directly by Culture Perth and Kinross and Creative Scotland as part of our support for individual artists and makers. They are not intended to be used as partnership funding for other Creative Scotland funded projects and you shouldn't apply for these awards with the intention that the funding will supplement other Creative Scotland funding (ie. if you're applying to the Open Project Fund and a VACMA award for the same project, this would be considered 'double funding' and would risk making both your applications ineligible).

- **A clear plan of proposed activity that shows how funds might be used**

Please give a clear budget that has a clear plan of how the funds may be used to support the development of your practice. Make sure the costs of the project are accurate and realistic. Some otherwise strong applications fall down on the budget being poorly thought through.

For artists applying to develop work specifically for an exhibition, it helps the panel to see the contribution from the gallery/organising venue involved. Please include this information particularly if this is a publicly funded gallery.

Making an Application

Please read the above guidelines carefully and contact Caron Ironside cironside@culturepk.org.uk at Perthshire Creates with any queries.

- Applications should be made on the downloadable VACMA P+K Application Form and submitted by email to cironside@culturepk.org.uk .
- Along with your application you can submit up to 8 supporting images clearly labelled with your name
- Attach your Artist CV, please note applications will not be accepted without an accompanying CV

There are two deadlines for applications:

- **Tuesday 2 October 2018 @ 5pm**
- **Tuesday 5 February 2019 @ 5pm**

Applications will be considered by members of the VACMA P+K Panel. Membership of the panel is made up of invited artists, a member of Culture Perth & Kinross, Perthshire Creates, Creative Scotland and has a maximum membership of 5.

In advance of the panel meeting, the panel will have read and considered the written applications and will normally have had access to the visual material. It is important that your written application and visual material support one another and the relationship between them is clear. An image list should be enclosed with your application in order to give the panel all the information they need. Remember the panel members may not be familiar with your work or the ideas or methods you are using.

During the panel meeting, the visual and written material is reviewed and assessed against the stated criteria for the funds. The recommendations for awards are based on these discussions.

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

Successful applicants will be expected to:

- complete their project and submit an end of project report to Perthshire Creates by the end date given on their application
- credit the scheme on any publicity including the Creative Scotland, Perthshire Creates, Culture Perth & Kinross logos
- submit a copy of any publicity produced as a result of the project
- agree for images of their project to be used by Creative Scotland, Perthshire Creates and Culture Perth & Kinross on any publicity relating to the scheme.

Please remember that these funds are competitive which means that not all applications that meet the criteria will be funded. If you are unsuccessful you may be successful in another round so please do not be deterred from applying for the next suitable opportunity. Feedback will be available on request if unsuccessful, not being awarded funding is not necessarily a comment on the quality of your work, but rather the strength of your proposal, and taking the feedback on board may assist if you plan to re-apply to this scheme.

Privacy Notice

The information provided by you in your application will be used by Perthshire Creates & Culture Perth & Kinross (CPK) to share with the VACMA Panel Members including Creative Scotland for the purposes of evaluating your application. CPK may check information provided by you with other information held by us. We may also get information from certain third parties or share your information with them in order to verify its accuracy, prevent or detect crime, protect public funds or where required by law. *For further information, please look at our website www.cpk.org.uk/dataprotection; email enquiries@cpk.org.uk or phone 01738 444949.*