



Cultural Investment Programme 2023-2027

Making arts and culture available to everyone



Easy read booklet

Who we are and what we do



We are Bristol City Council.

We give money to people and organisations in Bristol. This money is called a **grant**.



People can use the money to pay for things they do or create like music, history and events. We call these things **art** and **culture**.



This booklet is about the type of things we will give money for.

It tells you how to apply for a grant.



We asked people if they thought we give out our grants in a fair way. We want to get better at doing this.

What is the Cultural Investment Programme



The Cultural Investment Programme is how we give out public money to support arts and culture.

There are **2** ways we give out money for art and culture



1. Restricted funding – this money can only be used for **1** type of project.

2. Unrestricted funding - this can be used for **any** type of project or activity.

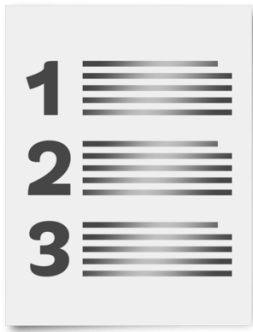


We want to make sure it is easy for everyone to take part in arts and culture.



You can read more about our [plans on our website.](#)

What do we want from the Cultural Investment Programme



We want everyone to enjoy arts and culture. This is called **our vision**.

We also have 3 **aims**. These are the things we want to do in the years **2023** to **2027**.



Aim 1 - Make sure everyone in Bristol can enjoy arts and culture

- ✓ People from all different backgrounds and with **protected characteristics** like race, religion and sex
- ✓ People who live in areas of Bristol where people have less money.
These are **called priority areas**.



Aim 2 - Support Bristol as a city where people are creative and have good ideas

- ✓ Create new types of art and culture that will be enjoyed by everyone
- ✓ Work together with others and share learning.

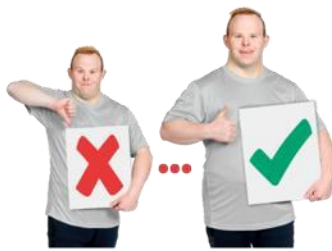


More about our aims



Aim 3 - Give money to people, places and partnerships to help change people's lives.

- ✓ Create community events that will bring people together to make new friends
- ✓ Help make people's health and wellbeing better.



There are other things we want to do too. For example



We want to keep Bristol safe from problems caused by things like hotter weather and flooding. This is called **climate change**.



We want to make sure the things we do don't hurt the **environment**. This is things like rivers, trees and the air we breathe.

We will make sure we spend our money well. We will write a report telling people how we do this.

What Cultural Investment Grants are there to apply for



The **Cultural Investment Programme 2023 to 2027** has **3 grants** you can apply for.

1. Originators - which gives money for 1 year. The total fund is **£366,336**



2. Imagination which gives money for 2 years. The total fund is **£610,560**



3. Openness which gives money for 4 years. The total fund is **£1,465,344**

We have set up our programme in this way so that people will find it easier to get funding. People can apply for a small grant then work their way up to apply for a bigger grant.



The total amount of money for the Cultural Investment Programme 2023 to 2027 is **£2,442,240**.

About the Openness Grant



The Openness grant gives money up to **£30,000** each year. This money is available for up to **4** years.

The amount you can apply for must be no more than 7% of your **annual turnover**.



The most amount of money you can apply for is **£120,000**.

Your **annual turnover** is the total amount of money your company makes in 1 year.



This grant is for

- ✓ Bristol-based arts and cultural organisations who can show at least **12 months** of accounts
- ✓ Organisations who can show their projects support 3 of our aims, objectives and principle.



You can apply for this grant between **March 2022 and June 2022**

About the Imagination Grant



The Imagination grant is between **£5,000 to £15,000**. It lasts up to **2 years**.

The most amount of money you can apply for is **£30,000**.



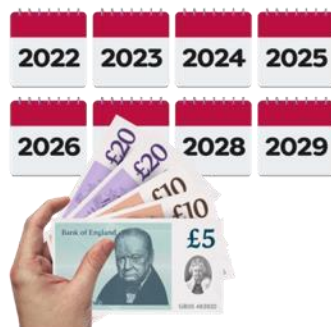
This grant is for

- ✓ Arts and cultural organisations in Bristol who can show at least **6 months** of accounts



- ✓ **Restricted** project funding for medium-sized arts projects or festivals

- ✓ **Unrestricted** funding for 2 years.



You must show how your work supports **2** of our aims, objectives and principle.

Apply for this grant between **October 2024 – December 2024** for **May 2025 to April 2027**.

About the Originators Grant



The Originators gives money of between **£500** to **£5,000**.

This money is for **1 year**.

This grant is for



- ✓ Individuals and artists, community groups and organisations in Bristol who make art and culture.

The types of projects people can apply for are



- ✓ Small arts and culture projects, events and festivals
- ✓ Ways that will help people and organisations work better
- ✓ Trying out new ideas to see what happens
- ✓ You must show how the project supports **1** of our aims, objectives and principle.



Apply for this grant in **2023, 2024, 2025** and **2026**

Who can apply for the Cultural Investment Programme 2023-2027



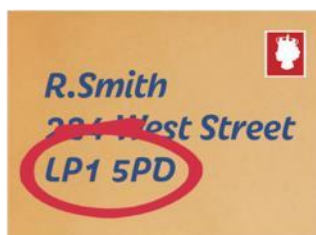
You can apply to the programme if

1. You work as an individual artist or creative practitioner on your own **OR** you work in a not-forprofit organisation based within Bristol.
2. You want to run arts, events or cultural activities.



To apply as an **individual** you must have a home, studio or work address in your local authority area.

To apply as an **organisation** your registered address must be within Bristol City Council's local area.



Check if you are within the right area by typing your postcode into this website

www.gov.uk/find-local-council

Applying for a grant as an individual



You **can** apply for the **Originators** grant if you are aged 18 or over.



Individuals **cannot** apply for our **Imagination grant** or **Openness grant**.

Applying as an organisation



Organisations can apply for the if they are not-for-profit and are

- ✓ Registered Charities
- ✓ Community Interest Companies limited by Guarantee
- ✓ Community Interest Companies limited by share
- ✓ Companies limited by guarantee
- ✓ Registered Societies (Including Co-operative and Community Benefit Societies)
- ✓ Charitable Incorporated Organisations
- ✓ Unincorporated organisations (These can only apply to the Originators Fund).



Your organisation is not-for-profit if you use the money you make to help others or use it to keep your business running.

More about applying for a grant



Every organisation will need to show they are able to meet our standards. A standard shows you are able to do something in a good way.



You can apply for a grant with another organisation. This is called applying in **partnership**.



You will need to decide which partner will get the grant payments paid to them. They will be called the **lead partner**. You can't apply in partnership for Openness grants.

If you have had a grant from the Cultural Investment Programme in the past, you can apply for a new grant.



If you have had an Originators grant before, you will need to apply for something else this time.

Who cannot apply

You cannot apply for the grant funding if you are



- × Organisations/individual who are based outside Bristol. If applying as a partnership the lead partner must be based in Bristol



- × Schools. Projects may include schools in a partnership, but a school can't be the lead partner

- × Public sector organisations

- × Private sector organisations who make money



- × Housing associations and registered Social Landlords. These types of organisations can be in a partnership but cannot be the lead partners



- × Students

- × Organisations whose trustees or managers would make money if the organisation was given a grant.

Activities we cannot fund



- × Activities which are not creative or related to the arts and culture

- × Activities, equipment or events which we have already given money to someone else to provide



- × Money for buildings or equipment

- × Events that raise money like charity galas or appeals

- × Social events, parties or fireworks



- × Creative activities which do not help people in the community

- × Hobby activities, sports or food that are not related to the arts



- × Activities where people make extra money for themselves.

- × Using or buying tobacco/ alcohol

- × Political or religious activities.

How to apply for the grant funding



We think a lot of people will apply to the Cultural Investment Programme.

We are sorry but we cannot fund all the applications.



We don't want you to spend lots of time applying if your project or organisation doesn't meet our **aims** and **objectives**.



Please make sure you read our **aims** and **objectives** and this booklet carefully. You must check we are the right funder for you.



We will let you know if your application is successful or unsuccessful.

If you are unsuccessful, you can ask us to tell you why.

Important dates for Imagination Grant



These dates are **for Imagination 2025 to 2027**

Applications open on **Monday 14th October 2024**



Applications close on **Monday 9th December 2024 at 4pm**



In **January 2025** we will let you know if your application is moving to the next stage. We will also tell you if it is not going to be funded.

In **March 2025**, we will look at your application again. We will tell you if you are going to get a grant.



If you do, we will send you a funding agreement in **April 2025**

Your grant will start in **May 2025**.

Important dates for the Originators Grant



These dates are for **Originators 2025 to 2026.**



Applications open **Monday 14th October 2024**

Applications close **Monday 9th December 2024 at 4pm.**

We will look at your funding applications from **December 2024 – January 2025.**



We will let you know if we are going to give you a grant in **March 2025.**

If we give you a grant, we will send you a funding agreement in **April 2025.**

Your grant will start in **May 2025.**

You can find out more details about the Originators grant [on our website.](#)



How we decide who will get a grant



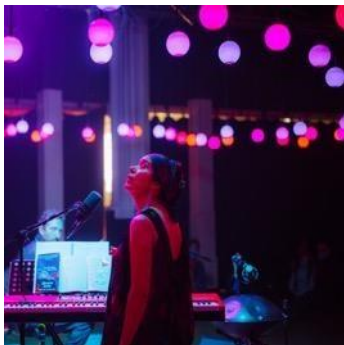
Your application will be read by members of the Arts & Events Team. We will score your answers between 0 and 3.

High scoring applications will then be looked at by a group of people called a panel. The panel includes people from the Council like the Arts and Events Team.



The panel look at

- Where the project or activity will take place
- The type of art project like music dance, theatre or festivals
- If people with protected characteristics can easily take part.



Applications for the Imagination and Openness grants will also be looked at by a group of Bristol City Councillors.

This group is called a **Committee**. The Committee will decide which applications will get funding.

How to contact us



To get help with applying for the **Cultural Investment Programme** you can contact Bristol City Council's Arts Development Team.

You can send an email to



cityartsfund@bristol.gov.uk



You can ask for a copy of our **Frequently Asked Questions** or **FAQs** for short. **FAQs** give answers to the questions that people ask us the most.

Our pictures



Paraorchestra
SMOOSH! © Paul Blakemore



Many Minds, I've Been Waiting,
© Jack Offord



© acta



MAYK, SESSION by Still House,
Steppaz and Empire Sounds at
The Station. ©Paul Blakemore

Thank you to Photosymbols for the
images



Spike Island, Pacita Abad, Life in the Margins (2020) Works courtesy the Pacita Abad Art Estate. © Lisa Whiting



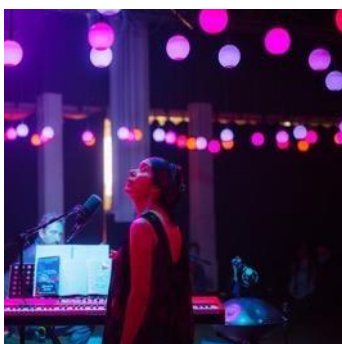
Travelling Light Theatre Company, Youth Theatre Showcase, ©Camilla Adams



Oh Europa Bristol, Action Hero Photograph © Bnar Sardar



© Graft



Trinity Community Arts, Roxana Vilc, Lullabies, © Khali Ackford