

arts@leeds investment programme overview

The **arts@leeds programme** provides support for cultural, voluntary and community organisations to create opportunities for residents from across the city to engage in cultural activity as a participant, an attendee or a creator. We have redesigned the scheme and divided it into levels of support to allow organisations to grow, develop and become more resilient, applicants can apply for funding for up to four years from 2018 to 2022 inclusive.

The **arts@leeds investment programme** aims to support larger organisations, who in turn can support the city to achieve a range of ambitions and objectives, creating a greater quality of life for residents across the city, raising our international profile and changing perceptions and attitudes towards culture and the arts, thereby moving the focus from what they cost to what they create.

Grant aid: £50,000 - £600,000 per financial year

Business support programme:

Business planning	Access to workshops and seminars
Access to networks	Potential support with rate relief
Access to temporary spaces	

Applications open: Monday 21 August 2017

Applications close: Thursday 12 October (noon) 2017

Website: www.artsatleeds.co.uk (live from Friday 18 August)

Application form: <http://artsatleeds.co.uk/investment/> (live from Friday 18 August)

Funding surgeries: please contact arts@leeds.gov.uk to arrange a meeting. We cannot review draft applications, plans or proposals.

Duration of programme: The programme is for up to 4 years funding from April 2018 - March 2022. All grants are offered subject to funds being available from Leeds City Council and organisations delivering against their agreed objectives. There will be a 2 year review for each organisation in 2020 to ensure the organisation is still suitable for the scheme.

Organisations considering this fund are requested to complete an initial application form before being invited for an interview to discuss their application, how they plan to support smaller organisations and the nature of support required for their future development.

In return for this investment recipients will be asked to support smaller organisations in the city. As a council we will work with a range of internal departments to embed culture across policy areas and help the city to deliver the ambitions set out in the **Culture Strategy for Leeds 2017-2030**.

The new **Culture Strategy for Leeds 2017-2030** (www.leedsculturestrategy.co.uk) was adopted by Leeds City Council's Executive Board on 17th July 2017. The strategy aims to place culture, in its many forms, at the heart of policy and decision making across a range of areas from economic development and employment to regeneration, health, and adult and children's services.

The aims and objectives of the Culture Strategy are outlined below. The arts@leeds programme is an action of the strategy. We do not expect organisations to meet all of them and ask that rather than view them as criteria to meet, you consider those which are most appropriate to your organisation and how you will help the city to meet these aims and objectives when completing your application form.

Culture Strategy aims:

- Change perceptions and attitudes towards culture and the arts, moving the focus from what they cost to what they create.
- Ensure that culture is celebrated, runs through our DNA and is inextricably linked to who we are and what we do.
- Value and respect artists and creativity considering both vital to the growth and prosperity of Leeds and ensuring that they are promoted as part of our diverse economy.
- Become open to the cultures of the world, internationally connected, and play an active role in shaping global policy and leadership.
- Embrace and celebrate the differences in our communities, inviting artists and thinkers from all corners of the world to sit alongside our communities and find new connections with Leeds.

Culture Strategy objectives:

- For the city to value and prioritise cultural activity, utilising it as a means of improving the quality of life experienced by every person and every community in Leeds.
- For culture to build respect, cohesion and coexistence between and within communities and individuals.
- For people, whatever their background, to be supported to be creative through school, informal learning, training and employment, ensuring that culture can be created and experienced by anyone.
- For Leeds to be nationally and internationally recognised as a liveable city and a thriving, internationally connected cultural hub open to collaboration.
- For Leeds to be at the forefront of cultural innovation, making the most of new and emerging technologies.
- For the culture sector to grow and increase its contribution to Leeds' economy, by placing culture at the heart of the city's narrative.
- For established cultural organisations to be resilient, and to create an environment where new cultural organisations can flourish.

In order to be eligible for this scheme, organisations must also be able to demonstrate that they uphold the values of the Culture Strategy which include:

- Bravery
- Generosity
- Resilience
- Curiosity
- Respect
- Honesty

For further details on the Culture Strategy please visit: www.leedsculturestrategy.co.uk

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Who can apply: Applications are welcomed from non-profit making organisations involved in arts and cultural activities in Leeds.

We are committed to supporting a diverse portfolio of organisation delivering on a range of objectives for the city. With this in mind we have separated our criteria into essential and desired characteristics.

To be eligible for this scheme organisations must:	(ESSENTIAL)
Operate within the values outlined in the Culture Strategy for Leeds 2017-2030	
Be currently funded by arts@leeds	
Have a permanent venue	
Have an international profile, host international work, or tour internationally	
Currently work with three communities in Leeds	
Ensure that the vision, ambition and objectives of the organisation align with the seven objectives of the Culture Strategy for Leeds	

To be eligible for this scheme organisations are desired to:	(DESIRABLE)
Be part of the ACE NPO scheme	
Have an education and outreach programme and team with the capacity to deliver Leeds City Council priorities	
Currently offer paid internships or placements	

Who can not apply:

- Organisations not currently funded by arts@leeds

How much can you apply for:

- Minimum grant award: £50,000
- Maximum grant award: £600,000

The arts@leeds grant scheme has always been heavily oversubscribed and is therefore very competitive.

We recommend our current recipients request standstill funding however we will consider uplift requests on a case by case basis. Please note in the last round we received applications to a total value of c£2.9m against a revised available budget of c£1.9m

Match funding: You will need a minimum of 50% external cash match funding (per year) for the duration of the scheme from other funding sources.

In kind support or other LCC related grant aid will not be accepted as match funding

arts@leeds investment programme notes