

MEETING: 06/06/2013

ANNEX NUMBER: 1

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Accessible London

Wac Arts

Ref: 11632

Amount requested: £149,760

Adv: Ciaran Rafferty

Base: Camden

Amount recommended: £120,000

Benefit: Several London boroughs

Purpose of grant request: To support disadvantaged young people to engage with, and perform in, the arts, through a structured artistic programme and support system.

Background

Wac Arts – previously known as the InterChange Trust – was established in 1974 and has always occupied the Old Town Hall in Belsize Park and which it bought outright in the 1990s. It describes itself as a “performing arts and media college” and provides training and participation in the arts for children and young people up to the age of 25 – including career and personal development projects for those aged 18+. It is a large organisation (turnover of c.£2m; 35 f/t staff) which gives it the reach and scope to provide for hundreds of young people from across London. It targets those who are “gifted” in terms of ability but who also face challenges and/or hardship, including NEETs. Most of its programmes and activities are inclusive (incorporating those with and without disabilities) but it also provides bespoke support and training for those who may need it.

Funding History

In 1996 you awarded £300,000 as capital towards the purchase and refurbishment of the Old Town Hall building.

Current Application

This application is for support towards the costs of Wac’s work with disabled young people aged from 5 to 25. In common with the organisation’s ethos most of this work is integrated with non-disabled children, though some of it is specific where needed. A comprehensive programme of arts-based activity can often be made meaningful to those with severe disabilities through deploying new technology (eg movement sensors) and the organisation was able to tell your officers of some remarkable case-stories where children who had been completely uncommunicative had developed into young adults pursuing independent living and holding down jobs.

The aim of the project is to use the arts to support disabled young people to develop their skills and abilities to live independently. Where they may

be quite withdrawn, for example, their communication and social skills will be enhanced, whilst they will also have the chance to develop practical and employment-related skills. Working within an inclusive and integrated framework enables non-disabled young people to "buddy-up" with disabled partners, enriching the experience of both parties.

Financial Observations

Accounts for the year ended 30th September 2012 show a deficit of £122,475 (5.7% of turnover) of which £73k was in unrestricted funds.

The charity's reserves policy is to hold a minimum of three months' current expenditure, which equates to £592,514. Free unrestricted reserves at the 30th September 2012 stood at £75,669, equivalent to 1.5 weeks' worth of current year expenditure.

The charity has advised that during 2011/12 the organisation undertook a major strategic operational review which has led to the implementation of a three-year plan aimed at: developing new sources of income (e.g. through alumni and charitable trusts); reducing costs where possible and raising the profile of the organisation. This review appears to be producing some signs of financial improvement as the latest forecast for the current year to 30th September 2013 predicts a small surplus of £10,000, all of which will be on unrestricted funds.

Officer's Appraisal

Whilst the organisation's free reserves are very low the strategic review undertaken in 2012 and the financial management systems currently in place (eg where the chairman of the finance sub-committee meets fortnightly with the financial director) inspire confidence in Wac's ability to reconfigure and strengthen its income base and to slowly but surely build its free reserves. The work undertaken is of a very high quality and of benefit to hundreds of young people from across London. For the project presented in this application over 200 disabled young people will benefit, learning skills and developing qualities which will greatly enhance their capacity to live full and independent adult lives.

The grant requested is for the full salary costs both of a full-time and a part-time worker. As it is your usual practice not to fund more than the equivalent of one f/t post at any one time a lesser grant than that requested is advised, to cover the cost of the Disability Officer plus some general project costs. This has been explained to the organisation and it would be very happy to accept a grant at this level should you agree it.

Recommendation

£120,000 over three years (3 x £40,000) for the salary costs of a f/t Disability Officer plus some general project costs.



The City Bridge Trust

Charity Registration Number: 1035628

Working with Londoners: Application for a grant

Please read the guidance notes before completing this form

Reference:
(office use only)

11632

Date Received:

28/01/13

Programme
Area:

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1. About your organisation

Name of organisation applying for grant: Wac Arts (previously registered as the InterChange Trust)	
If the organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name? n/a	
Address for correspondence Old Town Hall, 213 Haverstock Hill, London	
Postcode: NW3 4QP Is this your home address? No	
Contact person: Ms Celia Greenwood	Position: Founder and Director
Phone: 020 7692 5888	Fax: n/a
E-mail: celia@wac.co.uk	
Website: www.wac.co.uk	
Legal status of organisation: Company limited by guarantee	
If registered, please give charity number: 267043	
Year and month organisation established: January 1974	

2. Request for funds

Under which of the Trust's themes are you applying (see our website or brochure for further details)? Accessible London - arts
Purpose for which funds are requested: (25 words maximum) To support disadvantaged young people to engage with, and perform in, the arts, through a structured artistic programme and support system.
How much funding is requested? Year 1: £49,920 Year 2: £49,920 Year 3: £49,920 Total: £149,760

3. Aims of your organisation

Wac Arts is a dynamic, multi-functional charity that aims to support gifted young people facing exceptional challenges and hardship, including those with mild to severe disabilities, to discover their talents and fulfil their potential through arts and media programmes devised and created at the charity's vibrant community hub based at Hampstead Town Hall. Whilst Wac Arts supports and engages with a range of different groups of children and young people (whether these be those at disadvantage, the next generation of artists or those with disabilities) the charity aims to provide a wholly holistic and inclusive offering which ensures that children and young people from all groups take part in activities alongside each other. This ensures that those who would otherwise be denied access to high quality services across the spectrum of arts and media, education, social welfare, training and advice are able to gain appropriate access - including those contending with disabilities who are often precluded from accessing high quality activities.

4. Main activities of your organisation

Wac Arts' aim is to support gifted young people who face exceptional challenges and hardship to develop their life opportunities and aspirations through arts and media. The main activities of Wac Arts are divided into four central delivery programmes:
'Incubate' - Young People Arts & Media - (the programme considered by this application) Empowering young people to change their world through opportunities in arts and media;
'Develop' - Artist Development - Nurturing artists, training and support for emerging practitioners;
'Evolve' - Life Skills and Talent Development - Offering apprenticeships, enterprise skills, social enterprise development;
'Engage' - Community - Focussing on family and community engagement, workshops and arts activities.
Additionally, the charity provides an events management service with hire-able spaces available for functions such as weddings, Christmas parties, elegant dinners, exhibitions, conferences, trade shows, fashion shows, photo shoots and dance and theatre performances. The organisation also rents out office space to corporate bodies.

5. Number of staff

Full-time	Part-time	Management committee members	Active volunteers
35	170	11	40

6. How do you support your volunteers?

Our volunteers are taken both from outside the programme, and also from within it, through our successful buddying system, supported through a close-knit community, as well as specific training. Our staff responsibly handle all issues as they arise.

7. Property occupied by your organisation

Is the main property owned or leased/rented by your organisation?	If leased/rented, how long is the outstanding lease/rental agreement?
Leased	85 years

8. Finance

From your most recent audited or independently examined accounts, complete the following:

Financial year ended – **30** Month: **September**

Year: **2012**

Income received from:	£
Voluntary income	1,297,765
Activities for generating funds	822,907
Investment income	2,012
Income from charitable activities	0
Other sources	31,007
Total Incoming Resources	2,153,691

Expenditure:	£
Charitable activities	2,263,666
Governance costs	12,500
Cost of generating funds	0
Other	0
Total Resources Expended	2,276,166
Net (Deficit)/Surplus:	(122,475)
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)	0
Net Movement in Funds	(122,475)

Asset position at year end	£
Fixed assets	51,736
Investments	110,875
Net current assets/(liabilities)	48,834
Long-term liabilities	(84,040)
*Total A	127,405

Reserves at year end	£
Unrestricted funds	127,405
Restricted funds	0
Endowment funds	0
*Total B	127,405

9. Statutory funding

For the financial year above, what % of your income was from statutory sources?
c.50%

10. Material changes

Describe any material changes to the organisation's activities, structure or financial position since the date of the most recent accounts:

(WAC Arts undertook an extensive review of its operations in summer 2012 which led to the development of a three-year plan with a focus on sustainability.

11. Previous applications to the Trust

Have you applied to the Trust before? If so, please give details:					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Month/Year: - Nov 1996 / 2002	Ref: 96-148	Grant received: £300,000	OR application rejected	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Month/Year: - / -	Ref:	Grant received: £	OR application rejected	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Month/Year: - / -	Ref:	Grant received: £	OR application rejected	<input type="checkbox"/>	

12. Previous funding received

Funding received by your organisation from the following sources during the last **THREE** years:
(i) City of London (other than the City Bridge Trust) **(ii)** London boroughs **(iii)** London Councils (formerly ALG)
(iv) Health authorities **(v)** Central government departments **(vi)** Other statutory bodies (e.g. Housing Corporation, Arts Council) - List source, years and annual amounts:

	Year: 2010	Year: 2011	Year: 2012
(i) London Borough of Camden	174,873	149,000	96,561
(ii) ACE	112,571	111,356	51,475
(iii) LB Camden Social Services	252,937	256,127	175,388
(iv) European Social Fund- Leonardo	109,591	52,623	6,730
(v) London Development Agency	194,109	685,380	360,159
(vi) Skills Funding Agency	91,034	102,252	164,818

13. Previous grants received

Grants received by your organisation from charitable trusts and foundations (other than the City Bridge Trust) during the last **TWO** years. List source, years and annual amounts:

	Year: 2011	Year: 2012
Equitable Charitable Trust	5,000	5,000
Help a Capital Child	41,485	-
Jack Petchey Foundation	2,400	1,200
BBC Children in Need	103,935	117,108
Garfield Weston	50,000	-
Execution Trust	25,000	25,000

14. What steps is your organisation taking to reduce its carbon footprint?

Wac Arts is a comparatively small organisation, but is conscious of its carbon footprint implements a series of small steps to address this. Examples include:

- Minimising travel through the use of conference calls
- Recycling of materials
- Encouraging energy efficiency within the building (including specific activities aimed at increasing efficiency of heating and electrical systems)
- Supporting and encouraging all participants and partner organisations to become more energy conscious

15. Purpose

Complete this section whatever the amount of grant requested. **In addition**, if the request is for £25,000 or more in total, a fuller proposal should be sent with this form. Also, if your application is for all or part of new or existing post(s), please enclose a copy of the relevant job description(s) including the salary level.

In order to provide the right information, please refer to guidance note 15 before completing this section.

THE NEED: According to recent MENCAP research there are multiple benefits of artistic programmes provided to those with profound and multiple learning disabilities, which include:

- Promoting community inclusion - People with high support needs are often denied access to community activity;
- Supporting those with disabilities to express themselves non-verbally - People who communicate non-verbally can be supported to express emotions and ideas through different art forms;
- Increasing self-confidence;
- The development of useful social skills, such as taking turns, listening to others, eye contact and other forms of interaction. These skills form the basis of valuable and meaningful relationships.

WHY WAC?: Since 1978, Wac Arts has built an unrivalled track record of helping over 20,000 disadvantaged young people from Camden discover their talents and fulfil their potential, and has extensive experience in using the arts to improve the wellbeing of disabled young people, through a programme of inclusive, diverse, artistic opportunities.

PROGRAMME DELIVERY: The Incubate programme aims to offer a wide range of high quality multi arts and media activities (offering music, drama, theatre, film, circus and creative media) combined with a holistic package of support (including personal and social support and a network of mentors and role models) to young people. The Incubate programme is split into three distinct strands (to which those with disabilities play a full role within each strand):

- Wac Arts – Providing first access to the arts for those aged 5 – 25, through artistic activities to support young people to develop a life-long interest in the arts as a participant/performer/audience member, including using specialist technology to develop communication and interpersonal skills;
 - Wac Arts + – Providing an initial progression route for young people aged 14-25 with previous experience within the arts, Wac Arts + offers affordable access to high quality arts and media activities for young people who are seeking a career in the creative industries;
 - Wac ArtsXtra – Providing professional training within the arts for young people aged 14-25, Wac ArtsXtra, offers artistic opportunities and support for young people through level 1,2 and 3 arts and media courses (helping young people progress to further/higher education and top conservatoires).
- AIMS:
- 255 disabled young people will have increased their personal, social, creative and communication skills through a package of arts and media training and holistic support;
 - 255 disabled children and young people will have developed their skills and confidence in the arts and the creative media through access to high quality arts and media activities;
 - 100 disabled young people will have developed aspirations for careers within the creative arts; and
 - 100 disabled young people will have accessed professional qualifications at level 1-3.

The evaluation framework includes round-tables for young people to develop the programme.

MEETING THE THEME, & GOOD PRACTICE REQUIRMENTS: A unique strength of the programme lies in its ability to integrate disabled young people (of all backgrounds and abilities) into a successful mainstream offering, thereby providing them with new artistic opportunities and improving their physical and mental well-being. Whilst specific help is aimed at helping those with disability to overcome the myriad challenges facing them (such as specific activities for those with more severe disabilities - including a unique sensory pod), integration and inclusion are crucial to maximising the benefits of the arts to disabled young people. Wac Arts place great emphasis on our 'buddying' system, which pairs those with a disability with those more physically or mentally able and which encourages young beneficiaries to volunteer within the programme, providing additional help and support to disabled participants. Young people with disabilities will be encouraged to take a lead role in developing the programme, including managing and leading activities where appropriate. The programme's structure ensures that its various elements, whilst distinct, and offering a clear holistic progression pathway, feed into each other, whilst the diverse individuals that the programme supports (aspiring artists, those at risk and those with disabilities), are strongly encouraged to work together as individuals in to strengthen the development of all the participants as a team, and foster a strong community spirit.

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16. Explain how you will monitor and evaluate both your own outcomes and those of the programme under which you are applying.

Wac Arts has developed a comprehensive evaluation framework to monitor and measure its impact to inform future project development, against the outcomes discussed above.

The evaluation framework includes: round-tables for young people to develop the programme every six months, with young people taking important project decisions; conducting before and after interviews with participants, monitoring increased access to the creative arts and key indicators such as confidence, and a desire for responsibility and self esteem; undertaking progression-led reviews annually of participants' artistic skills led by project managers, mentors and tutors; undertaking interviews and questionnaires with project workers, youth workers, mentors and tutors; collecting anecdotal views on the value of the project with all young people.

Additionally, the success of the project will be assessed through its ability to inspire and engage hard to reach young people. This will be measured through observing recruitment to the project and success of students undertaking activities.

The results of the programme will be shared widely across Wac Arts' network and with key stakeholders within the arts world (including Arts Council England) to develop a model of best practice for engaging a range of children and young people in arts and media activity.

17. Beneficiaries

How many people will benefit from the grant per year?

255

In which local authority is your organisation based?

Camden Council

Which borough(s) of Greater London will benefit from this grant?

(if more than one, please give % for each)

Camden (80%) Haringey, Islington, Westminster, Barnet all refer young people (20% split between)

At what address will the activity be located? **Wac Performing Arts and Media College, NW3 4QP**

What age group will benefit? **5-25**

What will the ethnic grouping(s) of the beneficiaries be?

	%		%
White - British	29	Black - Caribbean	14
White - Irish		Black - African	16
White - Other (please describe) European	6	Black - Other (please describe)	2
Asian - Indian		Black - British	
Asian - Pakistani		Chinese	
Asian - Bangladeshi	4		
Asian - Other (please describe)		Other (please describe) Dual Heritage	29
Open to everyone			100

What proportion of the beneficiaries will be disabled people?

100%

18. Funding required for the project

What is the total cost of the proposed activity/project?

(List main expenditure headings and amounts)

Expenditure heading	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Year 3 £	Total £
Programme Director	3640	3640	3640	10920
Programme Manager	33800	33800	33800	101400
Adminstrator & Sessional Administrator	24482	24482	24482	73446
Disability Officer	35100	35100	35100	105300
Media and Disability Coordinator	27144	27144	27144	81432
Out of School Coordinator	14820	14820	14820	44460
Advocacy worker	14820	14820	14820	44460
Student Support Officer	6630	6630	6630	19890
Tutor Fees	230096	230096	230096	690288
Materials and Equipment	12244	12244	12244	36732
Beneficiary travel expenses (trips)	47300	47300	47300	141900
Venure costs (activity room hire)	50220	50220	50220	150660
Misc activity costs & misc staff costs	20841	20841	20841	32220
Administration & Overheads	51580	51580	51580	154740
TOTAL	572717	572717	572717	1718151

What income has already been raised?

(List amounts and main sources)

Source	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Year 3 £	Total £
Grants and statutory contracts	503221	456946	406946	1367113
TOTAL	503221	456946	406946	1367113

What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

JP Getty, Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, Garfield Weston. We are also currently undertaking a larger exercise to identify further trusts and foundations.

19. Funding requested from the Trust

How much is requested from the Trust? (List main expenditure headings and amounts)

Expenditure heading	Year 1 £	Year 2 £	Year 3 £	Total £
Advocacy Worker	14820	14820	14820	44460
Disability Officer	35100	35100	35100	105300
				30303
TOTAL	49,920	49,920	49,920	149,760

20. Funding requested from the Trust (continued)

When will the funding be required? **As soon as is reasonably possible.**

Is the activity to continue beyond the period for which funding is requested?
 If so, how will it be resourced? **Yes. Funding will be obtained from statutory sources, trusts and foundations, as well as through corporate sponsorship, and philanthropic donations from distinguished alumni, and members of the public.**

If any planning or other statutory consents are required for the project to proceed, what stage have the applications reached? **n/a**

Declaration on behalf of applicant organisation

I, **Celia Greenwood** (your name)
 am an authorised representative of
Wac Arts (your organisation)
 within which I am **Director** (your position)

To the best of my knowledge, all the information that I have provided in this application form is correct

Signature *Celia Greenwood* Date **25/01/13**

Return the completed form to: The City Bridge Trust
 City of London
 PO Box 270
 Guildhall
 London EC2P 2EJ

- Please
- **do not send this application by fax or e-mail** - unless applying online, applications must be posted to the Trust
 - **do send the information in the checklist** - if items are missing, your application will be returned to you
 - **do send only the information in the checklist** - if further information is required, we will contact you
 - **do ensure you have signed and dated this form** - we cannot accept forms which have not been signed and dated
 - **do use the correct postage** - the completed form and additional materials are likely to exceed 100g in weight