

The City Bridge Trust

Investing In Londoners: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Name of your organisation: Tara Arts Group Ltd	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Wandsworth	
Contact person: Mr Neil Debnam	Position: Development Director
Website: http://www.tara-arts.com	
Legal status of organisation: Registered Charity	Charity, Charitable Incorporated Company or company number: 295547
When was your organisation established? 21/07/1981	
<p>Aims of your organisation:</p> <p>Founded in 1977 by Jatinder Verma, Tara Arts (charity number: 295547) is the UK's longest standing Asian-led theatre company. For nearly forty years, Tara Arts has been a catalyst for cross-cultural theatre in the UK, both as a small-scale producing house and as a thought-leader and focus for career development for minority theatre artists.</p> <p>We strive to make our work accessible to the widest possible and most diverse audiences and participants, promoting the ethos of cross-cultural exchange and mutual understanding throughout all of our activities. Our championing of creative diversity includes a commitment to work with and for people with disabilities and in support of this, we work both with community groups and with some of the UK's leading disability arts organisations to deliver our creative programme.</p>	
<p>Main activities of your organisation:</p> <p>From Tara Theatre in Earlsfield in south-west London, we:</p> <p>Produce classic and new plays, as well as plays for children. Many of these productions tour throughout the UK and beyond</p> <p>Nurture the talents of early and mid-career theatre artists, producers, technicians and designers, in particular those from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) backgrounds</p> <p>Present a dynamic programme of work by new and established companies from across the globe, underpinned by a diverse programme of workshops, talks and events</p> <p>In 2012/13, we attracted an audience of 16,690 people, worked with 55 UK and international theatre companies and with 947 artists, 76% of whom were from non-white backgrounds. Our youth theatre programme engages disadvantaged local young people in creative skills development, and our formal education and development work is delivered in partnership with the Academy of Live and Recorded Artists and with Roehampton and London Southbank Universities.</p>	

Number of staff

Full-time:	Part-time:	Management committee members:	Active volunteers:
3	5	5	25

Property occupied by your organisation

Is the main property owned, leased or rented by your organisation?	If leased/rented, how long is the outstanding agreement?
Owned	

Environmental Impact

City Bridge Trust wants to help voluntary sector organisations to have a positive environmental impact. Please tell us how much your organisation is already doing to have a positive environmental impact using the definitions below to help you decide.

Making progress: We have reviewed our organisation's environmental impact and have started to carry out a plan of improvements.

Grant Request

Details of grant request

Under which of City Bridge Trust's programmes are you applying?

Making London More Inclusive

Which of the programme outcome(s) does your application aim to achieve?

Community buildings that are more accessible and as a result

Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence.

To make our theatre and its work more accessible to disabled people by installing an accessible platform lift as part of our renovation project

When will the funding be required? **01/05/2014**

How much funding are you requesting?

Year 1: **£40,000**

Year 2: **£0**

Year 3: **£0**

Total: £40,000

Do you plan to continue the activity beyond the period for which you are requesting funding? If so, how do you intend to fund it?

We are requesting funding for one-off capital investment.

If you need any planning or other statutory consents for the project to proceed, what stage have the applications reached?

The project received full planning permission from Wandsworth Council in November 2012. Our theatre building is not listed and is not within a designated conservation area, and the project does not require further consents to proceed.

Summary of grant request

We are requesting a grant from the City Bridge Trust towards the costs of installing an accessible lift as part of our project to renovate Tara Theatre.

Our renovation plan will create a landmark new UK centre of excellence for small-scale, cross-cultural theatre. Improving access is critical to our renovation plan. Alongside helping us achieve substantial improvements to our levels of physical and sensory access, the project will transform our ability to produce, present and tour contemporary theatre and enhance our capacity to meet the career development needs of emerging and mid-career theatre artists of all abilities, especially those from BAME backgrounds.

The pressing need to improve physical access has been identified by our users and partners, underpinned by the findings of a formal Access Audit conducted by disability access specialists Shape. The limited accessibility of our current premises constrains our ability to fully engage people with disabilities as performers, audience-members or participants in our work. More broadly, our renovation project is a direct response to the findings of Baroness Lola Young's 2005 Report 'Whose Theatre' which presented a compelling case for the need to increase the level of physical resources available to historically under-resourced BAME artists in England.

Project delivery is being overseen by our experienced external Project Manager, managed by our Artistic Director and overseen by our Board's Finance Sub-Committee. Our Professional and Technical Team is led by architects Arts Team (part of the global firm RHWL) and includes theatre equipment consultants Theatreplan, acousticians Arup Acoustic, structural engineers Jane Wernick Associates and environmental design consultants Atelier Ten. Construction will be undertaken by project contractors who will be appointed through a public tendering process due to commence in late 2013.

A key aim of the renovation is to enable us to better meet our commitment to diverse cultural activities and to fully engage a wider pool of disabled and non-disabled people in our work, as staff, volunteers, artists, audiences and participants. We want to build on our current work with local community organisations and with leading disability arts organisations to ensure that our renovated theatre, which will be a national resource for multicultural theatre, is extensively used by disabled people.

We are the right organisation to deliver the work because of our demonstrated commitment to inclusion and diversity and because the renovated Tara Theatre's strategic position as a 'London Hub' for the development, presentation and promotion of work by BAME artists nationally, means that it is critical that it is fully accessible by people with disabilities.

Our project will squarely meet the outcome related to community buildings that are more accessible and more widely used by disabled people. The installation of the lift is a critical element in a renovation project that will vastly improve the accessibility of the theatre's public and office areas and will directly facilitate increased participation and improved levels of comfort for the disabled people that attend, participate or work at Tara Theatre.

Valuing diversity and promoting mutual understanding are at the heart of our work. Disabled members of our Board have helped scope our plans, and our disabled users and partner organisations will be integral to our future creative programme. We have a particularly strong track record in working with volunteers of all ages and abilities, recently winning an award for our work with young volunteers. We are longstanding members of the Ecoveneue Initiative, and have been working to monitor and reduce our carbon footprint as part of the Industry Green project overseen by Julie's Bicycle.

Outputs and outcomes

What are the main activities or outputs you want to deliver? Please include no more than 5. By activities or outputs we mean the services, products or facilities you plan to deliver. If you plan to deliver work over more than one year you should include activities over the full grant period requested. Try to be specific.

Installation of a fully accessible passenger lift as a key component of Tara Theatre's renovation

What main differences or outcomes do you hope the activities you have described above will achieve? Please include no more than 5. By differences or outcomes we mean the changes, benefits, learning or other effects that result from the work your project would deliver. These might be for individuals, families, communities or the environment.

Wheelchair users and people with mobility impairments will have full access to all of Tara Theatre's public spaces and creative programme

We will be able to engage a wider pool of individual disabled people in our work as volunteers, artists, audiences, participants and employees

Our creative theatre programme will be significantly enhanced by being able to host, collaborate with and present the work of more specialist disability arts organisations

Who will benefit?

About your beneficiaries

How many people will benefit directly from the grant per year?

3,500

In which Greater London borough(s) or areas of London will your beneficiaries live?

Wandsworth (45%)

London-wide (55%)

What age group(s) will benefit?

All ages

What gender will beneficiaries be?

All

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

A range of ethnic groups

If Other ethnic group, please give details:

What proportion of the beneficiaries will be disabled people?

91-100%

Funding required for the project

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

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Accessibility (Platform Passenger Lift)	40,000	0	0	0
Other Construction Costs	1,257,175	314,294	0	0
Furniture Fittings & Equipment		10,000	0	0
Specialist Theatre Equipment		117,060	0	0
Professional Fees & Charges	372,755	93,189	0	0
Client Costs including Consultancies & Legal Fees	88,643	22,161	0	0
Contingency & Inflation	64,000	16,000	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	1,822,574	572,703	0	0

What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Arts Council England	1,365,000	455,000	0	0
Trusts & Foundations	275,930	68,983	0	0
Individual Donations	115,910	28,978	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	1,756,841	552,960	0	0

What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
The Clore Duffield Foundation	10,000		0	0
Peltz Trust	5,000		0	0
The Gosling Foundation		2,000	0	0
Helen Roll Charitable Trust	2,000		0	0
Boris Karloff Charitable Foundation	2,000			
John S Cohen Foundation	2,000			
GNC Trust	2,000			
John Coates Charitable Trust	2,000			
Henry C Hoare Charitable Trust	1,000			
Wandsworth Community Fund		3,000		
Garfield Weston		15,000		
TOTAL:	26,000	20,000	0	0

How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Accessibility	40,000	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	40,000	0	0	0

Previous funding received

Please list the funding received by your organisation from the following statutory sources during the last THREE years.

	2010 £	2011 £	2012 £
City of London (except City Bridge Trust)	0	0	0
London Local Authorities	7,645	24,175	16,037
London Councils	36,484	13,682	0
Health Authorities	0	0	0
Central Government departments	6,100	0	0
Other statutory bodies	232,899	248,046	364,744

Previous grants received

Please list the grants received by your organisation from charitable trusts and foundations (other than City Bridge Trust) during the last THREE years. List source, years and annual amounts. Please include the 5 largest only.

Name of Funder	2010 £	2011 £	2012 £
Columbia Foundation	0	0	31,903
Garfield Weston Foundation	0	0	10,000
Foyle Foundation	10,000	0	0
Ernest Cook Trust	0	2,500	0
John Thaw Foundation	0	4,000	4,000

Declaration

I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge, all the information I have provided in this application form is correct. I fully understand that City Bridge Trust has zero tolerance towards fraud and will seek to prosecute and recover funds in every instance.

Please confirm: Yes Full Name: **Neil Debnam**

Role within **Development Director**
Organisation: