

The City Bridge Trust

Investing In Londoners: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Name of your organisation: Pursuing Independent Paths	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Westminster	
Contact person: Mr Bill Feeney	Position: Chief Executive
Website: http://www.piponline.org.uk	
Legal status of organisation: Registered Charity	Charity, Charitable Incorporated Company or company number: 1088592
When was your organisation established? 01/01/1984	

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? Work supporting young disabled people (aged 16-25) in the transition to adulthood and/or independent living Disabled people reporting increased well-being as a result of taking part in the arts or sport
Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence. 3-year support for our Performing Arts project; promoting skills, confidence and health for learning disabled young people in the difficult transition to adulthood and independence.
When will the funding be required? 01/09/2015
How much funding are you requesting? Year 1: £32,890 Year 2: £32,058 Year 3: £32,416 Total: £97,364

Summary of grant request

Grant funding from the City Bridge Trust would be used to deliver a complete performing arts project over three years, incorporating weekly Drama sessions, Dance sessions, two public performances each year (devised by PIP students), involvement in public dance events, film-making and cultural trips. Drama sessions were grant funded from 2012-14 by Westminster Libraries and Culture Unit but this is no longer available.

The Performing Arts are an incredible outlet for our service users, providing a non-judgemental environment in which they can explore thoughts, feelings and experiences. Dance develops their coordination, fitness and communication skills. Drama sessions involve spoken language, working with others, tackling personal issues and learning to cooperate. Sessions will build the confidence of students, many of whom are fearful of performing in front of an audience.

Our last student survey showed that drama sessions are the most popular of all that we offer, although we urgently need funding to enable us to deliver them. Dance sessions have also attracted a high number of regular attendees in the past but we have only delivered short dance projects with small grants (E.g. from Money for Life).

In November 2014, a drama focus group demonstrated that students felt they had learned: "Acting, making stories, how to show feelings, and how to talk in a group."

A dance focus group (November 2014) found that dancing makes students feel "happy, healthy, cool and good" and all would like to do dance once per week. Dance sessions would be better if they involved "different dances" and "being in the studio [at Jubilee Sports Centre]".

We have built ten Digital Media sessions into this project following collaboration with BBC Outreach in summer 2014. Industry professionals worked with PIP students to compose and record a song and music video at Maida Vale studios. Students said: "I'm proud", "I feel great" and "Working with the BBC is exciting, it's a new experience".

PIP students feel that Digital Media sessions teach them: "How to focus" and "To be confident performing in front of each other" (Focus group, November 2014). One student said that sessions would be better "if we had a video camera".

Art and movement therapies for people with LDs can "build self-esteem and self-confidence" and provide "a safe space for reflection" (Heenan, 2006). Art therapies promote a healthy mental state and -despite little empirical research- anecdotal evidence indicates that interventions such as dance movement therapy can alleviate negative feelings about body image and appearance, encourage social interaction and encourage a sense of achievement (Mind, 2013).

We involve PIP students in all aspects of project planning; through continual liaison with student reps, focus groups and the annual student survey. We also encourage students to lead on aspects of each session. A user-centred approach enables us to meet complex individual needs. An ex-service user is employed with us in an Administrative role and has demonstrated increasing independence in her work and significantly increased confidence.

Students have a broad range of LDs and dual diagnoses and are from a wide range of backgrounds. Our 53 active volunteers are central to our service delivery and fundraising. PIP was 'Carbon Smart' silver certified in 2012 and working towards PQASSO Level 2 has seen us update our environmental sustainability policy and implement an improvement plan.

Our staff and volunteers are passionate about supporting PIP students to achieve their potential and we are privileged to work with such an inspirational group! Recent expansion enabled us to improve our facilities with in-kind corporate support and small grants and,

since September 2014, we have taken on more new students and a number have transitioned.

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

Do you have a Vulnerable Adults policy? **Yes**

What Quality Marks does your organisation currently hold?

We are currently working towards PQASSO level 2 and we are Carbon Smart Silver Certified (2012).

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.

43 Drama sessions per year, each lasting 2 hours. Drama Therapist to facilitate 36 sessions and the PIP Drama Coordinator to lead the other 7 (15 students per session). We will also run two cultural trips (e.g. to a theatre performance/back stage) each year with 15 students participating in each.

35 Dance sessions per year, each lasting 2 hours with a break. Dance sessions will be led by a PIP Development Worker. We expect to see up to 15 regular attendees at dance sessions.

Two PIP Theatre Productions each year, to be performed publicly (one at the Victoria and Albert Museum and one at another venue). Productions will be devised by PIP students and incorporate music, dance, physical theatre and dialogue. Ticket sales will be fed back into the Performing Arts Project.

Ten Digital Media sessions, each lasting 1.5 hours providing students with the opportunity to get involved in all aspects of film-making; from appearing in front of camera to camera operation, animation and editing. These sessions will link with what is learned Drama and Dance sessions.

Participation in a minimum of one public dance event per year - e.g. Paddington Festival, Westminster Arts and Well-being event.

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.

Young adults with LDs report and demonstrate increased confidence and improved self-understanding.

Young adults with LDs report and demonstrate gaining transferable, practical skills in drama, dance and multimedia.

Young adults with LDs report and demonstrate improved physical abilities including coordination and fitness.

Young adults with LDs report and demonstrate improved communication skills and cooperation with others.

The public will develop a greater understanding of LDs, with different communities brought together at PIP performances.

Do you plan to continue the activity beyond the period for which you are requesting funding? If so, how do you intend to sustain it? If not, what is your exit strategy?

We rely on the generosity of trusts and our staff's hard work to raise funds. In 2014, our Mountain Bike Challenge raised an incredible £27,000 and we recently received our first legacy. We strive to diversify funding and will approach other grant-makers to support this project after three years. Income through Theatre ticket sales will feed back into the project.

Who will benefit?

About your beneficiaries

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

36

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

Westminster (93%)

Several NW London (7%)

What age group(s) will benefit?

16-24

25-44

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
Staffing	21,450	21,744	22,043	65,238
Volunteers	1,780	1,780	1,780	5,340
Venue hire	1,260	1,285	1,311	3,856
Cultural trips and travel expenses	1,568	1,599	1,631	4,799
Equipment, props and costumes	1,282	500	500	2,282
Overheads	7,350	6,950	6,950	21,250
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	34,690	33,858	34,216	102,764

What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Ticket sales from PIP Theatre Performances	1,800	1,800	1,800	5,400
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	1,800	1,800	1,800	5,400

What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	0	0	0	0

How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Staffing	21,450	21,744	22,043	65,238
Volunteers	1,780	1,780	1,780	5,340
Venue hire	1,260	1,285	1,311	3,856
Cultural trips and travel expenses	1,568	1,599	1,631	4,799
Equipment, props and costumes	1,282	500	500	2,282
Overheads	5,550	5,150	5,150	15,850
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	32,890	32,058	32,416	97,364

Finance details

Please complete using your most recent audited or independently examined accounts.

Financial year ended:	Month: March	Year: 2015
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Income received from:	£
Voluntary income	91,297
Activities for generating funds	
Investment income	296
Income from charitable activities	464,633
Other sources	0
Total Income:	556,226

Expenditure:	£
Charitable activities	540,325
Governance costs	11,187
Cost of generating funds	7,073
Other	0
Total Expenditure:	558,585
Net (deficit)/surplus:	(2,359)
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses):	0
Net Movement in Funds:	(2,359)

Asset position at year end	£
Fixed assets	17,546
Investments	0
Net current assets	191,447
Long-term liabilities	
*Total Assets (A):	208,993

Reserves at year end	£
Endowment funds	0
Restricted funds	0
Unrestricted funds	208,993
*Total Reserves (B):	

* Please note that total Assets (A) and Total Reserves (B) should be the same.

Statutory funding

For your most recent financial year, what % of your income was from statutory sources?

Organisational changes

Describe any significant changes to your structure, financial position or core activities since the date of your most recent accounts:

The previous grants received section below does not show a number of new grant awards received over the last year: Continuation funding from BIG Lottery Fund (£244,698); Further core funding from the John Lyon's Charity (£75,000); numerous smaller grants.

Previous funding received

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

	2012 £	2013 £	2014 £
City of London (except City Bridge Trust)	0	0	0
London Local Authorities	267,243	333,771	315,369
London Councils	0	0	0
Health Authorities	0	0	0
Central Government departments	0	0	0
Other statutory bodies	62,967	68,971	63,530

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	2012 £	2013 £	2014 £
BIG Lottery Fund	46,560	63,057	31,234
St James' Place Foundation	0	30,000	30,000
John Lyon's Charity	30,000	0	0
Lloyds TSB	15,000	0	0
Baily Thomas Charitable Fund	0	0	10,000

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: **Bill Feeney**

Role within **Director**
Organisation: