

MEETING: 31/01/2018

Ref: 14228

ASSESSMENT CATEGORY - Making London More Inclusive

Eye Music Trust

Adv: Jack Joslin

Amount requested: £87,960

Base: Croydon

Benefit: London-wide

Amount recommended: £87,900

The Applicant

Eye Music Trust (EMT), formerly the Nettlefold Festival Trust, was founded in 1984 by composers Lawrence Casserley and Simon Desorgher. The Nettlefold Festival delivered a contemporary music festival in South London which was dedicated to live electroacoustic music and musical theatre. In 1988, to expand their work, they formed a charitable trust to oversee their work. One of the most significant developments for the charity came in 1989 when they developed the Colourscape Music Festival on Clapham Common in collaboration with Cwmni Colourscape. In 2005 the Trust was re-structured as a charitable company and changed its name to Eye Music Trust to reflect the connections between music and the visual arts.

The Application

Funding is sought to enable the Colour and Music installation that was created for a previous CBT grant working in care homes to be taken out to Special Educational Needs schools across London. The installation is based on a flexible architectural structure transforming any classroom or other indoor space into a new world of colour and light. Within the space are different movement sensors and new touch paintings created with touch sensitive paint. Each programme of work will take place over five days and usually stretch over a two-week period. The charity anticipates that they will work with six or more schools each year, with further follow up work to establish a legacy for the project within the schools. Funding is being sought for the sessional staff, artists and musicians along with follow up legacy workshops and associated running costs.

The Recommendation

EMT is a long-established charity which delivers a very high quality of music and visual arts provision for disabled people. This project will be building on the success of a previous grant you awarded but with a focus on a different audience and with demonstrably different outcomes. This project will provide opportunities for disabled young people to have access to the visual arts with an emphasis on developing a legacy in those schools to ensure this provision can be established year-round. Funding is recommended as follows:

£87,900 over three years (£29,300; £29,300; £29,300) toward the sessional staff, workshops, coordination, and associated running costs to deliver a mobile 'Colourscape' in Special Educational Needs Schools across London.

Funding History

Meeting Date	Decision
10/01/2013	£87,500 over three years (£36,300; £25,600; £25,600) towards the construction of music/colour sensory space and for a series of workshops in care homes benefitting those with dementia.

Background and detail of proposal

The portable Colourscape installation was originally created with funding from your Committee in 2007 for a very similar project that looked to take this work into special schools across London. That project had initial success and has now been rolled out across the Country with Arts Council funding. In 2013 a further successful application was made to your Committee to create a more developed portable programme that delivered in care homes providing older Londoners with a sensory music and colour experience where they become the visual performer.

EMT wishes to build on the success of the work with Older Londoners and take the more developed programme into SEND schools across London. The installation is based on a flexible architectural installation that will transform a classroom or other indoor space into a new world of colour and light. Within the space are different movement sensors and touch paintings that have lasers to detect movement. The young people will be able to control the sensors and create their own musical and sensory experience. Each week a school will engage the students over a five-day period culminating in a visual performance in the school or a public space. EMT works with the school to shape the project and is sensitive to the individual needs of the young people they work with. After the week-long programme has taken place a follow up meeting and workshop will take place with each school to consider the feasibility of establishing a more permanent programme within each school.

Financial Information

EMT designates a contingency fund in its reserves for Colourscape, which has been removed from the free reserves in the table below. They also have a low reserves policy as they do not have any full-time staff or office overheads. All of the charity's work is conducted on a project basis.

Year end as at 31 March	2016 Examined Accounts £	2017 Examined Accounts £	2018 Budget £
Income & expenditure:			
Income	281,281	262,337	316,205
- % of Income confirmed as at 18/10/2017	n/a	n/a	92%
Expenditure	(268,980)	(276,075)	(311,000)
Total surplus/(deficit)	12,301	(13,738)	5,205
Split between:			
- Restricted surplus/(deficit)	12,850	(22,192)	9,000
- Unrestricted surplus/(deficit)	(549)	8,454	(3,795)
	12,301	(13,738)	5,205
Cost of Raising Funds	0	3,500	3,000
- % of income	0.0%	1.3%	0.9%
Operating expenditure (unrestricted funds)	95,066	183,512	140,000
Free unrestricted reserves:			
Free unrestricted reserves held at year end	22,539	29,585	25,790
No of months of operating expenditure	2.8	1.9	2.2
Reserves policy target	23,767	17,350	17,350
No of months of operating expenditure	3.0	1.1	1.5
Free reserves over/(under) target	(1,228)	12,235	8,440