

The City Bridge Trust

Investing In Londoners: Application for a grant



About your organisation

Name of your organisation: <div style="text-align: center;">Vital Xposure</div>	
If your organisation is part of a larger organisation, what is its name?	
In which London Borough is your organisation based? Hackney	
Contact person: Mr Chas de Swiet	Position: Executive Director
Website: http://www.vitalxposure.co.uk	
Legal status of organisation: Registered Charity	Charity, Charitable Incorporated Company or company number: 1161464
When was your organisation established? 11/01/2011	

Grant Request

Under which of City Bridge Trust's programmes are you applying? <div style="text-align: center;">Making London More Inclusive</div>		
Which of the programme outcome(s) does your application aim to achieve? Disabled people involved in the running and management of arts provision Disabled people actively taking part in the arts or sport		
Please describe the purpose of your funding request in one sentence. We are requesting funding to support the salary of Vital Xposure's Artistic Director, and to improve access to the arts for disabled people in London.		
When will the funding be required? 02/04/2018		
How much funding are you requesting?		
Year 1: £28,304	Year 2: £28,894	Year 3: £0
Total: £57,198		

Aims of your organisation:

Vital Xposure is a disability-led theatre company, based in Hackney. Launched in January 2011, under the creative leadership of disabled artist Julie McNamara, Vital Xposure's aims are:

- ? To create inclusive and innovative theatrical experiences for audiences, artists and communities
- ? To bring hidden & excluded voices centre stage by telling stories from people in the margins of our communities
- ? To ensure the talent and training needs of disabled artists and creatives remain the focus of our work
- ? To develop our creative programme to challenge common assumptions about people on the periphery and to champion inclusivity and collaboration
- ? To place access at the heart of everything we do, so it becomes central to our productions and activities
- ? To address the multiple factors that prevent disabled individuals from accessing and participating in theatre, both as performers and practitioners
- ? To offer employment opportunities to disabled people interested in the creative industries and develop a diverse workforce

Main activities of your organisation:

Vital Xposure is a bold, dynamic and well-respected theatre company in London. We are disability-led and deliver a programme of professional performances, original theatre productions, mentoring and development opportunities to create a fully inclusive experience for artists and audiences alike.

Main activities:

- ? Creating, producing and touring multi-layered theatre productions as tools for social engagement.
- ? Research & development workshops and creative labs to develop shows for full production and touring.
- ? Providing work experience and paid employment opportunities to a wide range of professional disabled creatives
- ? 1 to 1 mentoring - matching disabled trainees with appropriate mentors who are highly skilled within the creative industries.
- ? Delivering a professional development programme for emerging disabled theatre practitioners, tailor-made to suit the needs of the individual.
- ? Working collaboratively with relevant organisations to share learning, to develop best practice, to offer work experience and to be a strong advocate for disability arts and for diversity within disability arts.

Number of staff

Full-time:	Part-time:	Management committee members:	Active volunteers:
1	2	5	1

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?
Rented	Ongoing

Summary of grant request

We are requesting £57,198 towards the salary costs of Vital Xposure's Artistic Director, and to improve access to the arts for disabled people in London.

The need:

Through our experience, consultation and research, we know there is a need to address the multiple factors that prevent disabled people from accessing and participating in theatre, as performers, practitioners and audience members. Our work addresses these physical, economic and social barriers, and creates opportunities for people who identify as disabled to manage, participate and benefit from the arts.

There is also a need to share this learning with our wider networks to benefit even more disabled people in London.

How the work will be delivered:

This two-year grant will go towards the salary costs of Vital Xposure's Artistic Director, Julie McNamara, who identifies as disabled, and will lead on three key areas of delivery:

1. Training and mentoring of early career disabled theatre practitioners
2. Researching and implementing access provision for disabled people to take part in theatre
3. Disseminating best practice regarding theatre and access provision for disabled people to arts organisations in London.

What our project will achieve:

This project will ensure that Vital Xposure remain at the forefront of making theatre accessible. It will:

- ? Enable more people to become involved with the running and management of arts provision
- ? Increase the number of people accessing theatre and improve their quality of experience
- ? Broaden the opportunities and support for disabled artists and cultural organisations to build a more inclusive and representative cultural sector

Vital Xposure is the right organisation to deliver this work, because:

- ? We are a disability led organisation with access, diversity and equality deeply embedded at the heart of our service delivery
- ? Artistic Director, Julie McNamara, has a high profile reputation in disability led theatre and we have an excellent track record in this area
- ? We have strong networks and partnerships with other leading arts organisations in London and beyond, which widen our reach and strengthen our delivery

Vital Xposure's work and raison d'être fits perfectly with the Trust's outcomes:

1. Disabled people involved in the running and management of arts provision ? Vital Xposure is a disability-led organisation.

All 3 staff members identify as disabled and all planning, management and running of our arts provision is done by disabled people. Funding towards our Director's salary will enable us to further develop this taskforce and champion, mentor and enable more disabled people to become involved with managing the arts.

2. Disabled people actively taking part in arts: We are experts in making theatre accessible for everyone and participation is central to our philosophy. We want to improve access for any person who self-defines as disabled, particularly people with learning difficulties. This grant will enable us to better understand and take action to enable more people to actively engage with the arts as audience members, participants and practitioners.

How our project meets the Trust's 'Good Practice' principals:

? All our work is planned, managed and run by disabled people, from Vital Xposure's Board of Trustees to our staff team and volunteers.

? Vital Xposure works with some of the most excluded and marginalised people in society. We welcome people from all backgrounds and diversity is at the heart of all we do.

? We keep our volunteers numbers low to ensure that we can fully support their needs and assess and meet training requirements.

? To reduce our carbon footprint: Company meetings are paper free, we recycle, we reuse costumes and props, we utilise video conferencing and use public transport when possible when touring.

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 have Ethical Manager status with the Independent Theatre Council.

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.

Stage two fully accessible and inclusive theatre productions in London, created, produced and delivered by disabled people.

Provide a training, mentoring and professional development programme for 20 emerging disabled theatre practitioners

Conduct research into the continuing barriers that prevent disabled people engaging with theatre and lead on the implementation of new best practice in access provision.

Deliver a Research & Development project in 2018 exploring how to create an accessible performance with people with learning difficulties for an outdoor arts festival in London in 2019.

Deliver 4 webinars and disseminate best practice on 'Improving access to theatre for disabled people' to disabled and non-disabled arts organisations in London.

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.

Disabled arts professionals will have improved life chances through receiving bespoke training and mentoring in their chosen specialism.

Disabled people will have increased confidence and knowledge and feel better able to get involved with the running and management of arts provision.

Disabled people will have better access to the theatre in London.

Disabled people will have improved experience of attending the theatre in London.

Arts organisations in London will feel better informed and able to support a diverse workforce and audience.

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 plan to further develop this work beyond the two-year grant from the City Bridge Trust. This will be funded through a combination of grants, sponsorships and earned income through ticket sales, presentations and co-productions.

Who will benefit?

About your beneficiaries

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

1,460

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

Hackney (45%)

Greenwich (10%)

London-wide (45%)

What age group(s) will benefit?

16-24

25-44

45-64

65-74

75 and over

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?

81-90%

Funding required for the project
What is the total cost of the proposed activity/project?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Artistic Director - salary & NI	38,635	39,793	0	78,428
Two theatre productions in London	31,081	0	0	31,081
Outdoor theatre productions in London	0	69,320	0	69,320
Access requirements for London productions	1,000	680	0	1,680
Training, mentoring and PD programme	58,590	60,347	0	118,937
Research & Development on accessible outdoor production	9,462	0	0	9,462
Research into barriers to access	780	0	0	780
Webinars	0	1,512	0	1,512
Contingency @ 7.5%	1,975	2,016	0	3,991
TOTAL:	141,522	173,668	0	315,191

What income has already been raised?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Arts Council England	49,929	17,907	0	67,836
Fees from commissioning	7,500	42,000	0	49,500
Fees from venues	0	6,000	0	6,000
	0	0	0	0
TOTAL:	57,429	65,907	0	123,336

What other funders are currently considering the proposal?

Source	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Tudor Trust	55,790	0	0	55,790
Henry Smith Charity	55,790	57,547	0	113,337
TOTAL:	111,580	57,547	0	169,127

How much is requested from the Trust?

Expenditure heading	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
Artistic Director - salary & NI	21,249	21,886	0	43,135
Access Support Worker for London productions	500	180	0	680
Sign Language Interpreter costs for London productions	250	250	0	500
Audio Descriptor costs for London productions	250	250	0	500
Access requirements for Training, mentoring and PD programme	2,800	2,800	0	5,600
Access Support Worker for Research & Development period	500	0	0	500
Research into barriers to access	780	0	0	780
Webinars	0	1,512	0	1,512
Contingency @ 7.5%	1,975	2,016	0	3,991
TOTAL:	28,304	28,894	0	57,198

Finance details

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

Financial year ended:	Month: March	Year: 2017
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Income received from:	£
Voluntary income	100,817
Activities for generating funds	0
Investment Income	0
Income from charitable activities	30,184
Other sources	9,133
Total Income:	140,134

Expenditure:	£
Charitable activities	117,400
Governance costs	1,280
Cost of generating funds	8,123
Other	0
Total Expenditure:	126,804
Net (deficit)/surplus:	13,331
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses):	0
Net Movement In Funds:	38,003

Asset position at year end	£
Fixed assets	510
Investments	0
Net current assets	50,823
Long-term liabilities	
*Total Assets (A):	51,333

Reserves at year end	£
Restricted funds	0
Endowment Funds	0
Unrestricted funds	51,333
*Total Reserves (B):	51,333

*** 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?
71-80%

Organisational changes

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

N/A

Previous funding received

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

	Year 3 £	Year 2 £	Most recent £
City of London (except City Bridge Trust)	0	0	0
London Local Authorities	0	0	0
London Councils	0	0	0
Health Authorities	0	0	0
Central Government departments	0	0	0
Other statutory bodies	100,580	100,580	100,580

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	Year 3 £	Year 2 £	Most recent £
Unlimited	21,594	2,399	0
Luminate	5,000	0	0
	0	0	0
	0	0	0
	0	0	0

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: **Chas de Swlet**

Role within **Executive Director**
Organisation: