

## Guidelines

### International Opportunities Fund

#### Purpose of the fund

The purpose of the [International Opportunities Fund](#) is to encourage Wales' professional arts practitioners and arts organisations to develop their practice internationally, to raise the profile of our arts overseas and to strengthen international artistic engagement within Wales.

The fund supports **overseas visits** aimed at the development of international work (both in Wales and overseas) and the presentation and delivery of artistic activity outside the UK. Grant support is available primarily towards travel and accommodation costs, although costs relating to the delivery of project activity will also be considered.

The scheme is competitive, and the maximum level of support is £5,000. Wales Arts International will consider the level of financial support requested and will make a decision based on the priorities and criteria outlined below, together with the level of funding available.

#### Eligibility

The fund is open to Wales based professional artists and arts organisations.

#### Fund priorities

- Artists seeking to present work at significant international venues, events and showcases (e.g. performances, exhibitions or readings) where the full costs cannot be met either by the artist, company or international presenter.
- Collaborative projects with practitioners, producers, presenters or promoters in countries outside the UK.
- Projects aimed at exploring partnerships with a view to future collaborations.
- Residency projects where there is a significant opportunity to develop an artist's work and gain experiences that would not be possible in Wales or other UK regions.
- Projects that demonstrate international commitment to investing in artists from Wales and that grow the international profile of the arts from Wales.

We are unable to support:

- Events which have already taken place or will be taking place during the assessment process.
- Study or professional training.
- Promotional activity.
- Participation in or attendance at competitive events.
- Presentation of work by amateur/non-professional artists.
- Individuals to lead or manage participatory projects with young people or adults.
- 100% of the project or visit costs
- Artists invited to play at international showcasing festivals or conferences which are eligible for funding through **PRS Foundation's [International Showcase Fund](#)** in partnership with Wales Arts International.

**Examples of eligible activities include:**

- Delivery of a collaborative project with an international partner
- Research to develop new collaborative work with international partners.
- Performance at a significant international festival, event or venue.
- An exhibition of visual arts or applied arts at a prominent gallery outside the UK.
- A residency at an international centre of excellence that provides opportunities not available in the UK.

**What are we looking for?**

The following factors are taken into consideration when assessing applications:

The Applicant

- The professional experience and proven track record of the applicant to present work internationally and their commitment to contemporary practice in Wales.
- Professional commitment to international exchange and collaboration.
- The opportunity to significantly develop the artist's international career.
- Enthusiasm to co-operate with international practitioners and organisations and to actively engage with international networks.

The Project

- The likely delivery of high quality, contemporary work with significant potential for contributing to art form development in Wales.
- The international profile of the event or venue hosting the project
- The project has a legacy and is sustainable without repeat funding from the International Opportunities Fund.
- The project demonstrates both artistic collaboration and partnership

- The financial viability of the proposal and the level of partnership funding, including funding support from international sources.
- Alignment with Wales Arts International's broader strategic priorities. Please visit <http://wai.org.uk/about-us/strategy-2013-2018> for our strategy.

### Submitting an application

The International Opportunities Fund is a rolling programme and there are no deadlines. You will receive a decision within four working weeks of submission of a completed application. **\* Please note that this time frame may be extended slightly over the Christmas period due to office closure.**

### Please ensure that you meet the following criteria: -

- Eligible costs have not yet been committed and there are no retrospective costs in the budget.
- There is significant partner support (either financial or in-kind) towards the project costs, including from international sources.
- There is confirmation included in the application of significant partner support (either financial or in-kind) for the project.
- You must have a letter of invitation from your international partner, detailing the nature of the partnership and showing evidence of support.
- There is at least 4 weeks between when you submit your application and the project start date.

Please contact Wales Arts International to discuss your project.

### Contact details

Wales Arts International  
Bute Place, Cardiff  
CF10 5AL

e: [info@wai.org.uk](mailto:info@wai.org.uk)

t: +44 (0)29 2044 1400

### What happens next?

Once you have submitted your application online, an officer will complete a preliminary assessment. The application submitted must be complete with all necessary information included.

You will be notified of the outcome of your application within four weeks of submission.

If your application is successful, you will need to return your Project Completion Report within 30 days of the end date of your project. This should include images or other materials where relevant and evidence of the actual expenditure you incurred on the project. Where appropriate, reports may be posted on Wales Arts International's website as examples of good practice. With your prior agreement, the report may also be shared with others planning to work in a similar or related area. The project completion report will be available to complete online.