

LGBT History Month Scotland - Cultural Commissions Fund 2015

With support from Creative Scotland, LGBT History Month Scotland will award funding of £5,000 to support an artist to carry out a commission in the area of LGBT history in 2015 - 2016.

We're looking for applicants to approach us with unique and inspiring proposals.

We envisage that the end result of the project will be the creation of a piece of work or works that may be showcased during LGBT History Month 2016.

LGBT innovators

In 2016, we're putting the spotlight on LGBT innovators, the people who have made a significant contribution to the LGBT community, and the theme will help us shape our programme for LGBT History Month 2016.

Your proposed commission might showcase the life of an LGBT innovator. This might be a famous LGBT person – a writer, a musician, a sports person – or someone who you feel hasn't had the recognition they deserve. It might celebrate an LGBT activist, a friend or partner, or someone from your own community.

This theme is only a guideline. Applicants can define the scope and nature of their activity during the funding period in any way they wish; our only stipulation is that it explores LGBT history in some way so that it can connect to LGBT History Month.

Who can apply: we welcome applications from across the arts.

LGBT Youth Scotland/LGBT History Month is committed to equal opportunities and would welcome applications from all sections of the community.

Applicants must be based in Scotland.

This residency is aimed at individuals but we would consider applications from collectives, companies or partnerships.

Organisations are not eligible to apply.

What you can apply for

The maximum that you can apply for is £5,000 for the development of the project.

Where additional funding is required – to publish a book, for instance, or to put up a play that has been developed – applicants should demonstrate where existing funding has been secured, or where additional funding may be sought.

Applicants may plan the timeframe of their activity in whatever way they please, bearing in mind that a showcase of some part of it must take place during LGBT History Month – February 2016. The nature of this showcase can be decided once an award has been made, and may take the form of an artist's talk.

Opportunities

Applicants will be asked to share their expertise and experience as part of at least two community events before or during LGBT History Month 2016, supported by LGBT Youth Scotland.

Criteria for assessment and decision-making

Listed below are the criteria that we will use to assess your proposal:

- how innovative and exciting your interpretation of this opportunity is
- how it addresses the theme of LGBT history
- integrity – evidenced by your professional track record
- benefit and purpose – evidenced by the relevance of the proposal to your professional development and the likely benefits to you
- how you will structure, manage and deliver the project
- financial strength and value for money

Your project must not have started prior to application.

How to submit

Applications should include the following information:

- a one page outline or two minute video telling us what you want to do and why you're the artist to do it – this will be used to create a shortlist of proposals in the first round
- a plan for the proposed commission period including sharing/presentation points
- a budget that is appropriate to the proposal with a breakdown of costs (your own living expenses, materials etc.)
- a full CV
- a covering letter including a summary of where you believe your career currently stands and how this opportunity will advance your artistic practice
- an example of your work (this may be included as a link in your covering letter)

Submitting your application

Please ensure that you have referred to all the criteria above when submitting your application and have provided all relevant supporting material.

When completed, please send your application - together with any supporting materials - in an email marked 'Cultural Commissions 2015' followed by your name to michael.richardson@lgbtyouth.org.uk.

Please send a completed Equalities Monitoring form at the same time as sending your application.

Deadline for applications

Applications should reach us by 10.00am on Friday 24th April.

A decision will be made by a panel that will include previous Cultural Commissions artists and industry specialists from the relevant sectors.

