



## Your Art Applicants Guidance Notes

### **About The Cultural Spring**

The Cultural Spring is a partnership between the University of Sunderland, The Customs House, the Sunderland MAC Trust and Sangini. It is funded by Arts Council England through the Creative People and Places programme for a further three years 2017-2020. The aim of the project is to make a real difference for our communities, providing the opportunity for residents, communities, businesses, schools and colleges, artists, and cultural organisations to celebrate, participate in, lead and create inspiring art and culture in South Tyneside and Sunderland.

Arts Council England are keen that their Creative People and Places funding supports local communities and, while the impact of the Cultural Spring Programme will be felt across South Tyneside and Sunderland and indeed the broader region.

Our vision is to establish a new cultural ecology and a new cultural calendar for Sunderland and South Tyneside that opens doors to all art forms, encourages everyone to get involved, provides opportunities for people to enjoy new experiences, discover new passions, and learn new skills. By co-developing a rich programme and catalysing previously untapped partnerships and opportunities, we will consciously seek to instil a long-term vision and sustainable legacy.

The aims of the programme are to –

- Increase participation in our wards
- Enable more excellent art to happen in our wards
- Create a lasting social and cultural legacy for Sunderland and South Tyneside
- Reflect and share learning

For more information on the cultural spring please visit [www.theculturalspring.org.uk](http://www.theculturalspring.org.uk).

## **About Your Art**

We hope that the Cultural Spring will have a lasting legacy for communities. We have designed Your Art to commission community groups to try out and develop their own arts ideas and to support people to shape, lead and programme arts events that they want in their own communities.

This is a rolling programme. Your Art will be available from March 2017 – December 2019.

Funding can be used for:

- Contracting an artist/s or an arts organisation.
- Travel and accommodation costs to develop a relationship with an artist or arts organisation.
- The cost of taking your group to see artwork or events not included in the Cultural Spring's 'Go and See' programme. Please note these can be either inside or outside of Sunderland and South Tyneside

Please note: funding cannot be spent wholly on materials or equipment.

Application deadlines are:

31 March 2017

30 June 2017

30 September 2017

## **Can I apply?**

To apply you must:

- Work or live within Sunderland or South Tyneside, such as a Community Association, or an informal, un-constituted group such as an art group.
- Your idea must have an arts focus and you should be able to demonstrate that other people want to get involved in this activity.
- Be planning something new. We cannot provide support solely for existing groups to continue the same activity.
- Have a bank account that we can pay the fund into.

*Please note the group who this activity/project benefits MUST make the application. Applications are not eligible from artists delivering the suggested activity who live in or outside the wards.*

## **How much can I apply for?**

You can apply to Your Art in two stages:

**Stage 1:** Up to £400: This stage is to support trying out new ideas or getting new activities off the ground.

**Stage 2:** Up to £1,000: At this stage we would expect a more developed idea with

activities already planned, possibly building on a Stage 1 application.

### **How do I apply?**

To apply, we ask you complete the application form, outlining a brief proposal and budget. We just need:

- Your contact details – including full name, address, telephone number and email address
- A brief description of your project, the timetable for activity, the details of those who will benefit.
- Any legacy that you think will be left by your work and project.
- A budget and how much you are applying for.

We will help you with your application at any time.

Please email your application to [yourart@theculturalspring.org.uk](mailto:yourart@theculturalspring.org.uk) or post to The Cultural Spring, c/o The Customs House, Mill Dam, South Shields, NE33 1ES.

### **How do we make our decision?**

Proposals will be considered and assessed on the following criteria:

- How the proposed activity relates to the ambitions of The Cultural Spring programme, including providing new opportunities to engage in the arts
- How the project supports community involvement in the planned activity and allows access for residents to get involved.
- The group's ability to manage and deliver the proposed activity.
- A realistic, well-costed budget.
- Sustainability and legacy of the proposed activity.

Applications will be assessed by a panel of five residents based across Sunderland and South Tyneside who have participated in The Cultural Spring project. You will receive a decision within six weeks of deadline date for applications.