

SECTION I - ARTS CREATION FUND

(A) OBJECTIVES

The National Arts Council has established an Arts Creation Fund to seed and invest in the creation of original, high-quality works that are distinctively Asian.

The Council recognises that the incubation of a new art work demands investments of time, space, funding and talent. Works that could become significant milestones are sometimes compromised in the face of time constraint and limited financial resources.

Thus, this new funding initiative provides artists with resources to support their artistic works in the germination phase and incentivises them to challenge artistic frontiers. Through this initiative, the Council aims to build a repository of Singapore-made works that could represent our cultural legacy.

(B) SCOPE AND DURATION

The fund supports the research, experimentation and creation processes of new works that fall within the Performing, Visual, Literary Arts, or Multi-Disciplinary art-forms. Upon the receipt of the award, the artist or collaborative team has to complete their proposed works within a year. Please refer to Section D (Expected Outcome) for more information.

(C) ELIGIBILITY

Applicants are required to:

- Be Singapore Citizens or Singapore Permanent Residents who are actively engaged in the Singapore arts industry and recognised by the peers as practising artists.
- Apply for the fund individually or collectively. For collaborative projects, all co-applicants¹ must meet the eligibility criteria and one co-applicant will assume full administrative responsibility. Proposals that involve collaborations with foreigners are eligible. However, the foreign collaborators must not represent more than half of the team. The lead applicant must be a Singapore citizen or Permanent Resident.
- Submit a proposal for an **original** work in performing or visual or multi-disciplinary or literary arts (in one of the four official languages). The proposed work must not have been staged, published or exhibited before.

¹ Collaborative projects are defined as activities that are carried out in a context of shared ownership. Co-applicants must contribute directly to the creation process and will share equal rights and credits to the complete work.

(D) EXPECTED OUTCOME

The culmination of the creation stage must result in a finished work which could be in the form of a manuscript/score/notation etc. Recipients are also expected to present a mini-showcase accompanied by a post-show dialogue for the assessment panel and public. For example :

- ✓ **Dance**
Live presentation of excerpts or sections of the complete work followed by post-show discussion
- ✓ **Literature**
Original and complete manuscript
- ✓ **Music**
Original and complete score with computer generated recording &/or performance of excerpts of work followed by post-show discussion
- ✓ **Multi-Disciplinary**
Live presentation of excerpts of the complete work followed by post-show discussion
- ✓ **Theatre**
Original and complete script with dramatised readings followed by post-show discussion
- ✓ **Visual Art**
Presentation/exhibition of new works followed by post show discussion

(E) SELECTION PANEL & CRITERIA

Assessment panels for Performing, Literary and Visual Arts will be formed to evaluate the submitted proposals in the respective disciplines. Each selection panel will comprise industry advisors, experts and practitioners.

Short-listed applicants may be invited for an interview with the respective selection panel.

Funding support is awarded through a highly competitive evaluation process and applicants will be evaluated against the following criteria :-

- i. Artistic Merit of proposal
 - Strength and clarity of idea
 - Originality and Innovativeness of concept
 - Proposal addresses gap(s) in the Singapore arts scene
 - Potential impact on the arts community and the arts scene
- ii. Contribution to the arts scene and artistic legacy
 - Strengthens the canon of Singapore content and our distinctively Asian identity
 - Advances the development of the art form and raises the artistic bar
- iii. Applicant's Competency and Calibre
 - Ability, expertise and necessary support to undertake and complete proposed work
 - Past achievements demonstrate strong artistic merit and high production values, and are critically recognised in the Singapore arts scene
 - Capacity and commitment to developing and advancing the art form in Singapore
- iv. Sound Financial / Project Management
 - Sound, realistic budget and planning
 - Effective use of resources
- v. Presentation / Distribution Plan¹
 - Standing of platform or publisher for the complete work
 - Impact and effectiveness of the platform or publisher - track record, potential audience reach, sponsorship, partners involved, public response to past events/portfolio

¹ *The Arts Creation Fund does not support the presentation/dissemination costs of a full-scale, complete work or the publication of a book in print form. However, recipients are encouraged to take the work further by presenting their complete work to the public. They are eligible to apply for other NAC grant schemes.*

(F) QUANTUM AND DISBURSEMENT

The quantum will vary depending on the scale and complexity of the proposal. But the maximum grant will not exceed \$50,000. ACF only covers direct expenses of the creation and developmental process.

Eligible expenses include the following :

- Artists' fees
- Costs pertaining to the development, experimentation and the creation of the work (eg material costs, research costs, etc)
- Costs related to the mini-showcase of the proposed work at the Creation Stage¹

Ineligible expenses include the following :

- Capital expenditure including refurbishment of buildings and offices
- Purchase of Equipment (eg laptop, printer, musical instruments etc)
- Academic research and conferences, workshops and development of teaching and resources specifically for academic courses
- Print and Publicity costs
- Audience, Market Development and Dissemination costs

Successful applicants are required to sign a performance agreement and their performance will be closely monitored. The funds will be disbursed in instalments upon completion of key agreed milestones and the submission of work-in-progress reports.

¹ The Arts Creation Fund only supports the creation process which culminates in a complete work and a mini-showcase. The Arts Creation Fund does not support the presentation/dissemination costs of a full-scale, complete work or the publication of a book in print form. Recipients are eligible to apply for other NAC grant schemes.

SECTION II – TERMS AND CONDITIONS

(G) CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION

Proposals submitted to the Council will be treated in the strictest confidence and only be reviewed and evaluated by the assessment panel. Where relevant, specific non-disclosure agreements will be carried out.

(H) VARIATION OF FUNDING

The National Arts Council reserves the right to review, withdraw or suspend the funding in full or in part thereof should any of the following conditions not be complied with. Successful candidates are required to :

- Complete and deliver the project as proposed.
- Submit reports on achievements, key performance outcome.
- Submit a financial report with supporting documents or receipts.
- Inform us in writing of any changes to the proposed project. These changes include
- changes in the proposal, artists involvement in collectives etc. Postponement and/or cancellation must be fully explained in writing.
- Acknowledge NAC on all publicity materials unless otherwise indicated.

NAC also reserves the right to recover the funds disbursed, should any of the following occur :

- Proposed project undergoes significant changes in artistic direction without prior written approval from the National Arts Council.
- The funds are not used for the purpose for which it is awarded.
- Wrong and/or misleading information is provided in the application form, either intentionally or otherwise.
- Illegal or negligent acts that occur during any point of the funded project, which will adversely affect the reputation of the National Arts Council, any government bodies, public institutions, national leaders or your person / organization.

(I) FUNDING GUIDELINES

While artistic merit is a key factor in funding decisions, consideration is also given to whether the work would bring about other negative influences. NAC will prioritise financial support away from artistic proposals which:

- i) erode the core moral values of society, including, but not limited to the promotion of permissive lifestyles and depictions of obscenity or graphic sexual conduct;
- ii) denigrate or debase a person, group or class of individuals on the basis of race or religion, or serve to create conflict or misunderstanding in our multicultural and multi-religious society;
- iii) disparage or demean government bodies, public institutions or national leaders, and/or subvert the nation's security or stability.

SECTION III – APPLICATION PROCEDURE

(J) SUBMISSION APPLICATION

Applications must be made on prescribed forms and must be received no later than 5 pm, 31 March 2009. Applications sent after the closing date or sent by fax or email will not be accepted.

Important Dates	
14 November 2008	Open Calls for Proposals
31 March 2009	Submission Deadline for Proposals
June 2009	Successful applicants will be notified

(K) OUTCOME OF APPLICATION

The applicant will be notified of the outcome by mail. For the successful candidate, NAC will offer a Letter of Offer stating the following:

- a) Terms & Conditions of the fund;
- b) Performance measures and deliverables of the fund.

The Letter of Offer is a legal document requiring signed acceptance of grant terms and conditions by the applicant. This offer will be valid for two weeks, unless otherwise indicated by NAC in writing. During this time, the applicant must indicate acceptance by signing and returning the Letter of Offer Reply Slip, failing which the offer will lapse.

(L) APPEAL

The decision of NAC is final and no appeals will be accepted or entertained. NAC reserves the right not to disclose reasons for approving or disapproving an application.

Please submit your application form and required support material to :

National Arts Council
140 Hill Street
#0301 MICA Building
Singapore 179369