



NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL SINGAPORE

Grant Application Guidelines

Partnership Funding for Arts Businesses

Welcome from the National Arts Council (NAC).

Thank you for your interest in the Partnership Funding for Arts Businesses Grant. Please read this document carefully before applying.

We encourage you to contact the relevant NAC officers in the preparation of your grant application. Please refer to details within.

We strongly advise you to be complete in your grant application, especially your contact details. This is to enable us to contact you where clarification is required.

We wish you success with your application.

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Correct as of 3 February 2010

NAC reserves the right to make changes to the contents of this document at any time, without prior notice.

SECTION I – GENERAL INFORMATION

OBJECTIVES

- (a) To provide partnership funding for the presentation, production or distribution of high quality arts projects by Singapore for-profit companies.
- (b) To support projects that have the potential to be sustainable and address a market gap in the Singapore arts scene.

WHO MAY APPLY

SMEs registered with ACRA with at least 30% equity owned by a Singapore entity. Companies' key personnel or projects' creative personnel must be established arts practitioners or recognised members of the arts industry.

WHO MAY NOT APPLY

- (a) Non-profit arts groups and individuals.
- (b) Applicants who have failed to submit project evaluation reports on the use of any previous grants received from NAC.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Eligible applications are assessed on the following criteria:

- (A) Strength & Clarity of Proposal**
 - Uniqueness of proposal
 - Addresses market gap in local arts scene
 - Calibre and expertise of artistic personnel involved
- (B) Effective Marketing and Business Strategies**
 - Sound financial planning
 - Effective publicity channels
 - Commercial viability
- (C) Commitment to Grow as an Arts Business**
 - Track record of company
 - Demonstrated ability to execute projects successfully
 - Calibre of management and administrative staff
- (D) NAC's Priorities**
 - Promote Singapore works and content
 - Nurture local talents
 - Build new audiences

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Note:

- Priority will be given to new initiatives that have the potential to develop into major or high profile annual or biennial arts events.
- The applicant must undertake at least 30% of financial risk in the project.
- For annual/repeat event with no significant new component or expansion in scale, NAC will review its contribution after 3 years. Funding for annual/repeat events will not continue past 5 years.

Please refer to **Annex A** for activities not funded.

GRANT QUANTUM

The nature and scope of the project as well as the availability of funds will determine the grant quantum. The grant amount, based on a reasonable estimate of the budget, will usually **not** exceed 30% of the qualifying costs.

There is no limit to the number of Partnership Funding for Arts Businesses applications an organisation can submit. However, the sum total of Partnership Funding for Arts Businesses grants awarded to any organisation will **not** exceed **\$100,000** per project in any financial year. Each company can receive no more than two Partnership Funding for Arts Businesses grants in one year.

GRANT DISBURSEMENT

Typically, grants will be disbursed as follows:

Grant Amount	Disbursement Schedule		
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Lower Than \$10,000	80% upon award of grant	20% upon successful completion of project and submission of final report	-
Equal to or Above \$10,000	50% upon award of grant	30% upon successful completion of Project	20% upon submission of final report

SECTION II – APPLICATION PROCEDURE

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

Applications shall be made online via NAC website at <http://www.nac.gov.sg>. Late and incomplete applications will not be processed.

The following information is required to support the application:

- (a) Brief history of organisation or curriculum vitae.
- (b) Curriculum vitae of key organisation personnel.
- (c) Brief description of the proposed project. Proposal should also outline objectives, scope of participation and benefits of proposed project.
- (d) Budget of the proposed project.
- (e) Business and Marketing Plan of the proposed project.
- (f) Portfolio or sample of works, including press cuttings or articles, if any, by participating artists (e.g. CD/VCD/DVD, portfolio, slides).
- (g) Activities participated/organised in the last 2 years, indicating date, venue, attendance, sponsorships, etc.
- (h) Updated list of office bearers/Board of Directors/management staff with designation and occupation where applicable.
- (i) Organisations applying for the first time should submit a copy of the constitution or company's memorandum, whichever is applicable.

Upon submission of the application, the applicant is agreeable to the terms and conditions set out by NAC (as stated in Section III).

WINDOWS OF APPLICATION

Please refer to the NAC website for details on the application windows.

Late and / or incomplete applications will **not** be processed.

PROCESSING TIME

The estimated processing time from closing date of application to notification of the outcome is about two months. Please refer to the **Application Process Flowchart** for details.

OUTCOME OF GRANT APPLICATION

The applicant will be notified of the outcome by mail.

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For the successful applicant, NAC will offer a **Letter of Offer** stating the following:

- (a) Terms & Conditions of the grant; and
- (b) Performance measures and deliverables of the grant as proposed by the applicant, and accepted by NAC.

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.

APPEAL

NAC's decision is final. NAC reserves the right not to disclose reasons for approving or disapproving an application.

Appeals against artistic appreciation and judgement will not be accepted. Cases will be reviewed only on grounds of:

- (a) Improper processing procedures, and/or
- (b) Inaccurate interpretation of the project by the grants officer.

Unsuccessful applicants must substantiate these claims with concrete evidence and reasons. Appeals must be submitted on a prescribed form **within two weeks** from the date of the letter of notification, and before the commencement of the project.

SECTION III – TERMS AND CONDITIONS

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- (A) NAC reserves the right to review, withdraw or suspend the grant in full or in part thereof should any of the following conditions not be complied with.
- (i) NAC's support must be acknowledged on all related publicity materials. Please refer to our website for details on how to use the NAC logo.
 - (ii) NAC must be informed in writing of any changes to the proposed project at least **seven** working days prior to the project's original execution date. These changes include any changes in the programme, key artistic personnel, venue, and/or date of the project. **A project may not be postponed more than once. Any postponement and/or cancellation must be fully explained in writing.**
 - (iii) A Project Evaluation Report must be submitted online **within two months** of the end of the project. Failure to submit this report will result in the automatic disqualification of any future grant applications.
 - (iv) **Individuals and Organisations that receive a single grant below \$20,000** may be requested to provide supporting documents or receipts (ticket stubs for ticketed events may be requested), in addition to the Project Evaluation Report.
 - (v) **Individuals and Organisations who receive a single grant equal to or above \$20,000** must submit a certified statement of accounts which has been externally audited by an accounting firm.
- (B) NAC also reserves the right to recover the grant(s) disbursed, should any of the following occur:
- (i) The proposed project which receives funding is changed significantly without the prior written approval of National Arts Council.
 - (ii) The grant is not used for the purpose for which it is awarded.
 - (iii) Wrong and/or misleading information is provided in the application form, either deliberately or otherwise.
 - (iv) 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 organisation.

ANNEX A – FUNDING GUIDELINES

GENERAL ACTIVITIES ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

The National Arts Council Grants budget is limited and priority will be given to commercial arts companies. Examples of projects that are eligible for funding include the following (*the list is not exhaustive*):

- (a) Arts-related Festivals/Fairs – priority will be given to ticketed and revenue-generating events.
- (b) Presentation of new theatrical productions.

ACTIVITIES NOT FUNDED

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

- (a) 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;
- (b) 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;
- (c) Disparage or demean government bodies, public institutions or national leaders, and/or subvert the nation's security or stability.
- (d) Are not exempt from requiring an Arts Entertainment Licence but which have not been issued the said Licence (see "Licensing Forms" at www.mda.gov.sg)

There are many activities that are beyond the scope of the Council's funding, regardless of their merit. NAC will **not** accept applications for the following:

- a) Projects that do not have a clearly defined arts component, including projects primarily aimed at promoting religious or social causes other than excellence for the arts.
- b) Fundraising events.
- c) Projects which have commenced prior to the application.
- d) Major capital expenditure including refurbishment of buildings, office equipment, musical instruments.
- e) Academic research and conferences and development of resources specifically for academic purposes.
- f) Projects already receiving funding or support from NAC (e.g. Singapore Arts Festival, Arts Education Programme).

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- g) Activities presented or owned by other public agencies.
- h) Small-scale competitions or new group/book/CD launches with limited outreach.

Other restrictions specific to each grant scheme may apply.

If you are not sure as to whether your proposed project is eligible for NAC funding, please speak to one of our Grant officers before applying.

ANNEX B – BUDGET GUIDELINES

CHECKLIST FOR FINANCIAL ESTIMATES

Please budget carefully using the prescribed online budget sheet.

An accurate and well-presented budget is indicative of the administrative capacity of the applicant.

The following Qualifying Costs and Sources of Expected Income (where applicable) should be used as a guide when preparing your budget.

QUALIFYING COSTS

FOR PERFORMING ARTS PROJECTS

- (A) Professional Fees
- Artistic personnel (Director / Performer / Musician / Conductor)
 - Creative personnel (Composer / Writer / Choreographer)
 - Production personnel
 - Marketing / Front of House personnel
- (B) Direct Production Costs
- Venue rental
 - Sets and props
 - Costumes
 - Technical requirements (sound, lighting, additional manpower charges, etc)
 - Transportation
 - Royalties
- (C) Publicity and Marketing
- Printing / Production of publicity and advertising collaterals
 - Other advertising / marketing costs
- (D) Miscellaneous
- Others (please specify)

FOR VISUAL ARTS PROJECTS

- (A) Professional Fees
- Artistic / Creative personnel (i.e. Artist / Artistic Director / Curator)
 - Production personnel (i.e. Technical collaborator)
 - Marketing / Front of House personnel
- (B) Direct Exhibition / Production Costs
- Venue rental
 - Framing / Mounting/Installation
 - Production of artwork (please specify)
 - Technical requirements (e.g. sound, lighting, additional manpower charges, etc)

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- Transportation
 - Insurance
- (C) Publicity and Marketing
- Printing / Production of catalogues / publicity and advertising collaterals
 - Other advertising / marketing costs
- (D) Miscellaneous
- Others (please specify)

FOR LITERARY ARTS PROJECTS

- (A) Professional Fees
- Creative personnel (i.e. Editor / Author / Poet / Playwright)
 - Production personnel (i.e. Designer / Layout Artist or if performance / event / activity will be produced)
 - Marketing / Front of House personnel
- (B) Direct Production Costs
- Venue rental
 - Costumes, sets and props
 - Technical requirements (e.g. sound, lighting, additional manpower charges, etc)
 - Transportation
 - Royalties
- (C) Publicity and Marketing
- Printing / Production of publicity and advertising collaterals
 - Other advertising / marketing costs
- (D) Miscellaneous
- Others (please specify)

FOR CONFERENCES / FORUMS / WORKSHOPS

- (A) Professional Fees
- Expenses for speakers (Honorarium, Allowances, Airfare, Accommodation)
 - Artistic / Creative personnel
 - Production personnel
 - Marketing / Front-of-House personnel
- (B) Direct Production Costs
- Venue rental
 - Printing / Production of conference / forum materials
 - Technical requirements (e.g. sound, lighting, additional manpower charges, etc)
 - Set up / Logistics / Transportation
 - Royalties
- (C) Publicity and Marketing

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- Printing / Production of publicity and advertising collaterals
- Other advertising / marketing costs

(D) Miscellaneous

- Others (please specify)

SOURCES OF EXPECTED INCOME

(A) Production Revenue

- Ticket Sales
- Sales of merchandise / programmes
- Sale of publications
- Booth rental
- Commissions arising from Sales

(B) Other Revenue

- Donations from members or well-wishes
- Private / Corporate sponsorships
- Income from advertisements
- Other receipts (please specify)