

Tips for writing applications

- Carve out a good amount of time for writing and researching– Try not to rush it especially for arts Council as you need plenty of space for linking everything together
- Always re-apply if rejected. Most people don't get funds the first time round.
- Make links with one of your areas arts Council officers.
- Push for feedback if you were not successful even if they say not to.
- Try and get copies of successful applications to see how they wrote theirs– See at least three if you can. Artists are generally more than happy to help share their knowledge more than you think.
- Always get someone to read over what you've written.
- Go along to any training or info services that the arts Council or other organisations offer–they are usually free They may appear boring/intimidating but understanding the aims and language of these institutions is helpful.
- Don't be afraid to ask for help at all times–people genuinely love helping. This took me ages to learn but it is a life saver.
- Always look at previous recipients of grants/funding/commissions etc to have an idea of how you may complement or not with your work. Save yourself time by not barking up the wrong tree.
- Have lots of biscuits/Treats with you to help when writing these applications, the going can be tough sometimes.
- Don't be tempted to write something complicated for the Arts Council. The more clear and simple you are the better. Panel members assessing you may not be from your discipline so they need to understand what you're saying. E.g. an ex-musician could be assessing your Live art project.
- Use Bullet points wherever you can
- Pace yourself. Don't try and do everything in one go and give yourself breaks. Space in between will help with a better application

- Never take it too seriously if you can. By all means take your practice seriously but not the artworld/Game. It took me until I was about 40 to find my feet
- If you can get hold of Access money do it! There is money there for people to write applications if you are dyslexic, neurodiverse etc. There is a large pot of money for people to use. Not everyone knows it is there.