National Arts Council NAC

an Agency of the Department of Arts & Culture

NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL

OF

SOUTH AFRICA

FUNDING GUIDELINES

2020

NATIONAL ARTS COUNCIL FUNDING GUIDELINES

These guidelines have been compiled to assist individuals, institutions and organisations who wish to access funding from the National Arts Council (NAC) in line with the new call for applications, which closes on 19 June 2020. Individuals and registered arts organisations are requested to propose projects that are aimed at educating and entertaining using Information and Communication Technologies and digital innovation as well as social distancing etiquette.

The NAC encourages the arts community to respond with agility to new ways of developing, promoting, selling and creating art. This includes reimagining audience interaction with the arts, the creation of new paradigms for viewing and understanding the place of art during this time of the Covid-19 pandemic. The creation of advocacy opportunities to reposition the arts in the Covid-19 environment taking into cognisance restrictions from levels 5 to 2 will be an advantage. These guidelines are applicable for arts projects funding.

1. Who is Eligible for Funding?

Individuals and formally registered institutions, organisations and groups can apply for funding. All applicants must be South Africa citizens and over eighteen years of age. Organisations and individuals can only be funded once per financial year.

1.1 Individuals

Individual applications are for a single applicant who is undertaking a project. This is meant to benefit individual creative writers, scriptwriters, choreographers, composers, crafters or painters, etc. In cases where several people are working collaboratively on a project, one member of the group should take the lead in applying.

1.2 Organisations/groups/institutions

An organisation is a group of people intentionally organized to accomplish an overall common goal. Applications from formally registered organisations/groups and institutions are acceptable.

2. NAC Funding Programmes

Applicants may apply for funding under the following programmes:

2.1 Social Cohesion and Nation Building:

The arts play a significant role in contributing to nation building and social cohesion in South Africa. In their definition of **social cohesion and nation building**, the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture asserts that social cohesion is the degree of social integration and inclusion in communities and society, and the extent to which mutual solidarity finds expression among individuals and communities. Therefore, from the perspective of this narrative, a community or society is cohesive to the extent that the inequalities, exclusions and disparities based on ethnicity, gender, class, nationality, age, disability or any other distinctions, which engender division and conflict, are reduced or eliminated in a planned and sustained manner. For example, this can be achieved through various arts and culture programmes that are inclusive of all groups within a community. This programme meets the NAC objective of creating a vibrant, inclusive and a transformed arts and culture sector.

It is important that funding requests for this programme are underpinned by equity, inclusivity, diversity and participation of various groups of people (women, youth, vulnerable people and people living with disabilities).

An **example of these projects are those** that have the sole aim of fostering social cohesion and nation building such as arts indabas, conferences, book fairs, art exhibitions, workshops, arts festivals, stage productions and performances, creative writing, etc. All these arts activities can promote social cohesion and nation building in the content of their presentation.

2.2   Innovation, Design and Creation:

This programme focuses on driving content creation at both an individual and at an organisational level. Content creation lies at the heart of the creative industries. It aims to promote excellence and innovation in new works. New innovative designs and works must have intrinsic and economic value, and incorporate the elements of dynamism and vibrancy to the arts. Research and development are essential elements in the creation of new works. The modern meaning of **Innovation** is a new idea, creative thoughts, and new imaginations in form of device or method. Innovation is viewed as the application of better solutions that meet new requirements, unarticulated needs, or existing market needs. **Design** is a plan or specification for the construction of an object/art work or system for the implementation of an activity or process. **Creation** is the act or process of bring something into existence. An example of such a project,

which demonstrated innovation, is called "African Robots meets SPACECRAFT. The artists used wire to build sculptures and breathed life into them using batteries to create mobility in the object. The artists assert that wire art is used for a range of subjects, however, the approach was to entertain and create a platform of wire art to be enjoyed by the public.

2.3   Arts platforms/showcases/exhibitions/festivals:

Platforms enable the arts to be showcased and appreciated. It is important to develop and support the platforms required to showcase the arts. Arts content creation and distribution is important for the development of audiences, audience engagement and for the consumption of the arts. Platforms allow artists to showcase creativity, innovation and excellence and to enhance market access. The Programme focuses on projects whose aim is to showcase art forms on a particular platform.

Applicants who wish to showcase art works that have already been created or have passed the creative phase may apply to this programme. For example, applicants who want to organize music performances, dance performances, poetry performances, drama festivals, etc. for the public to view.   These art presentations develop audiences. In addition, visual artists and crafters who want to organize crafts fairs and exhibitions at Galleries for remote or online consumption can apply to this programme, as exhibitions are platforms to showcase the arts works. These projects meet the NAC's objective to create market access and enrichment through arts and culture.

2.4   Strategic Initiatives:

Strategic Initiatives help to raise the profile of the National Arts Council develop and promote the arts significantly in South Africa. They include innovation, capacity building, the leveraging of finances, partnerships and focus on execution to deliver value in line with the National Arts Council's overall mandate. Strategic Initiatives focus on working with partners to leverage available funding, build sustained capacity and achieve real impact for the arts community.

Strategic Initiative projects have the potential and capacity to attract and broaden public interest and involvement in the arts; they may include local and international collaborations. Projects with intent to grow the sector could be art events, festivals or other projects and they assist the NAC in achieving its strategic objectives. Other examples of projects with strategic intent include arts residencies as well as part-funded commissions, which include elements of strategic capacity building and innovation. Innovation under this programme entails ground-breaking work and experimentation in various geographic regions,

which grow and/or transform the sector by leveraging finances, in-kind contributions and partnerships. Strategic partnerships would be with stakeholders such as South African Local Government Association (SALGA), the Department of Basic Education and Foreign Funding Agencies for example. Further examples of projects may include country- to- country partnerships, seasons programmes, performance circuits and so forth.

Strategic Initiative projects build sustained capacity and require a substantial initial investment. These projects also tend to have a multiplier effect. Budgets and funding requests for strategic initiatives tend require substantive partner support to be larger than those for ordinary arts projects because of their potential impact.

2.5   Capacity Building

Capacity building is an essential element for developing the arts to ensure excellence. Through support for the provision of training and education, this programme offers grants to support the growth and talent of arts practitioners and other industry related professionals such as community art centre managers, art technicians and arts administrators. This will ensure that South Africa has a sustainable pool of developed and talented artists and leaders.

Capacity building entails the transfer of skills through programmes designed to empower art practitioners. This is done through formal education and training and informal education and training programmes.

2.5.1   Formal education and training: A formal education and training programme entails a well-designed programme for training practitioners in a particular area of developing skills and knowledge. An example is a training course for theatre and drama for a duration of a year or more, which results in a qualification in the form of a certificate, diploma or degree. The attainment of the qualification is based on the excellent performance of a participant theoretically and practically.

2.5.2   Informal education and training: An informal education and training programme entails capacity building for participants in the form of workshops or seminars for example, and may take a short period to complete than a formal training programme. Most informal capacity building programmes are practical in nature. For example, script writing workshops, which may last for a week or more, and the end result will be based on the practical assessment of participants in writing their own short

stories, which may be showcased as a final product of the workshop, such as script reading/performance.

Applications for funding for each of the above-mentioned programmes should conform to the following art disciplines that the National Arts Council supports according to its mandate namely, Craft, Dance/Choreography, Literature and Publishing, Music, Theatre/Drama, Multi-discipline and Visual Arts. The maximum period for which funding may be requested is twelve (12) months.

3.   Project Funding

Due to budgetary constraints, the NAC may not be in a position to fund the entire budget of a project. Applicants are therefore advised to seek additional funding from other sources. Generally, funding will be for arts programmes. Quotations for costs should accompany the application form and applicants **MUST** declare all other sources of funding. The maximum period for running a project is twelve months. Where administrative costs amount to more than 15% of the total budget, this expenditure should be justified. Organisations and individuals are funded once in a financial year. All applications must apply online through the Grants Management System on https://nac.praxisgms.co.za/

Applicants are encouraged to carefully read the NAC statements on the new call for applications and ensure adherence to Covid-19 restrictions and protocols.

Projects applied for must be located at the address indicated on the application form. Any change of address must be communicated to the NAC offices within seven (7) days of such a change.

3.1.   Types of projects

You may apply for the following projects supported by the NAC:

- Animation design and multimedia design
- Art catalogues
- Arrangement and documentation of other persons' music works (this may be considered when permission has been obtained from copyright owners)

- Art teaching at community level (with consideration for Covid-19 protocols compliance)
- Book fairs (with consideration for Covid-19 protocols compliance)
- Community outreach projects-(with consideration for Covid-19 protocols compliance)
- Conference (to be led by institutions and organisations(with consideration for Covid-19 protocols compliance)Creation of new work/products, e.g. ceramics, pottery, wood carving, embroidery, applique, tapestry, weaving and textile design, new choreographic works, script writing
- Creative writing (writing and research grants, including autobiographies, novels short stories, drama book, folklore and children's literature)
- Exhibitions (with consideration for Covid-19 protocols compliance)
- Fashion design with a cultural element
- Festivals, including literary festivals (these will be considered only if they have a community participation component with consideration for Covid-19 protocols compliance)
- Literary magazines
- Music compositions
- Music conferences
- Music tuition
- Musical theatre
- Participation at a conference (applications will be considered if the applicant will be presenting a paper at the conference)
- Performances, including creation and performance of new choreographic works
- Poetry performance
- Poetry writing by established writers. Unpublished poetry/writer (submit a minimum of three contributors to the anthology)
- Publishing courses (short courses) from reputable institutions
- Publishing subsidies for publishing houses (to apply directly to the NAC. Publishing houses can apply for a maximum of five (5) books). Applications should have a marketing and distribution plan/strategy of the published material they are applying for. Individuals who wish to have their manuscripts published should approach publishing companies /publishing houses who must apply on their behalf
- Recording and studio time
- Research and documentation
- Research for script development
- Residencies (Covid-19 compliant)

- Script writing for drama plays (applicants must submit a synopsis of the play)
- Story-telling
- Puppetry
- Workshops (submit names and CV's of facilitators, list of participants and detailed content of the workshop. Workshops must be outcomes based)
- Writers' grants (Applicants must submit at least one example of existing text that they are applying for with the application when applying for a writing grant). Writers are urged to register with professional bodies. Literary magazines and publications should have an editorial committee/staff and such names must be submitted with the application. Budding writers are required to submit a letter of acknowledgement/appointment of a supervisor to mentor their work.

3.2   Budgetary items that may be considered

- Accounting and auditing fees
- Administration costs
- Artists fees (rehearsal fees, performance fees, production crew, choreographers, crafters allowances, facilitator's fees, etc.)
- Costumes and props
- Exhibition costs
- Instrument hire
- Mentor's fees
- Production and printing of catalogues
- Publicity costs
- Research costs
- Website design
- Workshop costs
- Writer's grants and other related project costs.

R100 000 is the minimum amount for which a project/organisation can apply for. The maximum amount that can be applied for should not be in excess of R500 000.

3.3   Touring Projects

To comply with to Covid–19 restrictions and protocols, applications for touring projects will not be considered during this call and we encourage applicants to explore alternative mediums to reach audiences. For projects

involving artists and partners from other countries, letters of endorsements from the said parties are required. Any financial support from other sponsors/countries should be declared.

3.4   Residencies

Applications for residencies may be considered if comply with to Covid–19 restrictions and protocols. Residencies may be supported when an artist is invited by a credible institution to participate in a digital/online programme and the residence does not involve any movement or organised gathering. Applicants may apply for registration costs and related expenses, and honorarium for the artist/s. The applying institution must submit a letter of acceptance of residency by the artist as well as a signed memorandum of understanding or contract between the organisation and the artist/s outlining engagements and outcomes of the programme. Artistic profile of an individual and accreditation of an institution should accompany your application.

3.5   Conferences

The invitation applies only to online conferences and webinars. The NAC may provide financial assistance when the applicant is delivering a paper on condition that the conference organisers are covering other costs. Under normal circumstances, funding will not be provided to full-time academics that have university- based funding sources for conference attendance.

3.6   Workshops

The purpose of a workshop should be outcomes-based and be presented on line and according to Covid–19 restrictions and protocols. The workshop should be aimed at providing both skills and mentorship for intended participants. Ideally, there should not be more than 10 and not less than 5 participants in the proposed workshop. (This is not a strict limitation; rather, the NAC merely advises that this number will be manageable and effective for training). The workshop proposal should show evidence that the participants will acquire particular skills and clear objectives of the workshop should be stated. The organisation or individual applying to organise a workshop must submit a detailed programme outline for the workshop before the NAC can approve the grant. The organisation or individual applying for the workshop must provide detailed credentials of the facilitator. Such a facilitator/s must be a credible individual in the category of arts funding

applied for. The organisation or individual applying for the workshop must provide a list of the participants to be trained. The list must include the full details and particulars of the participants.

4.   Categories of projects not funded by the NAC

- *Ad hoc* groups
- Architecture
- Book launches
- CD, DVD and video production
- Church choirs
- Competitions, prize money and adjudication
- Event management
- General fashion shows
- General magazines
- Gospel music
- Individuals applying for publishing
- Infrastructure costs
- Interior design
- Music arrangement of other persons' work without permission
- Personal commissions and commissions by other institutions
- Promoters
- Purchasing of books
- Purchasing of equipment/acquisition of musical instruments and stage equipment
- Running costs
- Seed funding
- Vanity press
- Writing in other subjects that are not of creative writing genre
- Applications from individuals working for government departments and entities.

5. Administration compliance

Applicants are required to submit all documents listed in the application form via the online platform. Faxed, unsigned, e-mailed and incomplete applications will not be accepted. Incomplete applications will **not** be considered and will automatically be disqualified.

6. Closing dates for applications

Deadlines for applications are published on the NAC website. Late applications will not be considered. Organisations and individuals can only be funded once per financial year.

7. Reservation of rights:

The NAC reserves the right to allocate funds according to its priorities. No applicant is automatically entitled to funding. All funding is at the discretion of the NAC.

8.   Appeals:

In terms of section 12(1) of the NAC Act, any person who feels aggrieved by any action or decision that the Council has taken or made in terms of the Act, may within 30 days from the date on which the action or decision in question was made known by the Council, appeal to the **Minister of Arts and Culture**. The appellant shall, within 30 days from the date on which the action or decision in question was made known by the Council, give notice in writing to the Council of his/her intention to appeal and deliver the notice by registered or hand-delivered post. The notice shall contain:

- The name and address of the appellant
- The grievance
- The reasons for the grievance

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