



St Hugh's Foundation for the Arts - Artists Respond Grants 2023

Who are we?

The [St Hugh's Foundation for the Arts](https://www.sthughsfoundation.co.uk) is a registered charity, formed in 1991. Since 1992 we have awarded over £400,000 to artists and arts organisations in our area of benefit. Applicants to the Foundation must be resident, and their activity must take place in the City of Hull, East Riding of Yorkshire and/or Lincolnshire (including North and North East Lincolnshire).

We are committed to supporting the highest standards of arts practice in our area through provision of an annual award programme and opportunities for professional development.

Read more: <https://www.sthughsfoundation.co.uk/about-us>

Context for the Artists Respond Grants 2023

We developed our 'Artists Respond' grants in 2020 as a new way to offer support to artists and organisations finding ways of responding to uncertain times with imagination, authenticity, courage, humour and a genuine desire to find new ways to connect and communicate. Though we recognize that many of the challenges artists and communities face this year have changed, the need for an artistic response remains and we look forward to another round of awards that will explore, illuminate or alleviate these challenges.

In November 2020 [we announced our first 8 'Artists Respond' grants](#), and in 2021 & 2022 we were able to offer [11 more of these grants](#) as well as our 2nd & 3rd Claire Frances Peasnell Memorial Award to Anna Kirk-Smith and Jayne Cooper.

[Read about some of our previous Artists Respond award holders on our blog here.](#)

As we step into 2023 we remain committed to offering 24 more of these Artists Respond grants before 2026, in celebration of our 35 years as a Foundation.

The deadline for applications for our next round of Artists Respond grants will be **Friday 24th February at 5pm**. Please read on for further application details.

Artists Respond Grants – A celebration of 30 years

In 2026 we will be celebrating 35 years of the St Hugh's Foundations awards and in 2022 we embarked on a programme intending to offer 30 Artist Respond Awards before 2026.

This year in line with cost of living increases we are pleased to offer up to £2200 for each award.

What would you do with an award of up to £2200 to focus on your practice, reflect on the impact of recent events and consider what your next steps might be?

Previous Artists Respond recipients have used their grants to:

- spend time in the studio to develop new skills or new work
- consult with experts to help them develop new business strategies or organisational structures
- explore new ways of collaborating with other artists
- to deliver a new projects with local communities
- spend time chatting with others – other artists, possible collaborators, local venues or other arts partners – to provide new perspectives or clarify their thinking
- As match funding towards a larger project

This is not an exhaustive list of what you can do with an Artists Respond grant, so tell us about your idea and why it would be helpful to you at this time.

Note also that these grants are different to our usual Arts Awards, and in this situation:

- we do not expect you to spend the grant on making something, unless it feels appropriate;
- the work that you do with our support does not have to include or be aimed at a particular audience or participant group (although it can be if that is relevant to you).

If you are successful in your application for support, our team of Trustees may be able to offer you further guidance on your project as it develops, in an informal mentoring capacity.

At the end of your period of funded activity:

- we'd like to be able to share something about your project – you can [read some examples from previous recipients on our blog here](#). This could include something as simple as sharing an image from your work-in-progress and a short description, or we could link to a fuller self-reflection report if you plan to prepare one.
- We also have the ambition to try to involve all our Artists Respond artists in our 35th anniversary year celebrations in 2026. This could include presenting work, running a session or a talk. There is still a lot to explore with this process and your potential contribution to this event will not be a factor when assessing your application.

Eligibility

- Applicants must be resident, and the activity must take place in the City of Hull, East Riding of Yorkshire and/or Lincolnshire (including North and North East Lincolnshire)
- We will consider activity encompassing any field of the arts
- We will consider applications from artists at all stages of their practice, as long as Trustees are satisfied that applicants are sufficiently experienced to deliver the proposed activity.
- We cannot fund recreational or other non-professional activity, but this does not exclude projects in which a professional artist may work with non-professional participants.
- We cannot support applicants wanting to undertake academic courses.
- We cannot accept applications from local authorities.
- We cannot fund work retrospectively. Activity can start as soon as applicants find out about the outcome of their application (expected end of April 2023)
- We will not accept applications from any artists that received funding in the previous round (2022)

Criteria

When assessing Artists Respond applications, Trustees consider the following questions:

- **Challenge/Response** – *What is the concept of your response to the challenge you have chosen. Has it been well considered?*

You could be responding to a development/opportunity in your own practice or to issues facing a specific community, place or a wider social problem you perceive.

- **Impact** - *How will this funding impact on the applicant (and on others - only if relevant)? Is this something that the artist could be (or maybe already is being) supported to do through other funding?*
- **Feasibility** - *Is this idea manageable with the level of time and resource? Does the applicant have what they need in place to make it happen, or will our funding support them adequately to carry it out?*

Other notes about what we will fund

- Due to the size of the funds available we are unable to cover rent, energy bills and other personal costs. We do expect artists to pay themselves in-line with industry standard rates as outlined below.

How to apply:

To apply for one of our Artists Respond grants, please complete the form available [here](#)

[[Link to google form](#)].

You will be asked to confirm your eligibility for the fund, submit some general information, including contact details, and then to supply a short statement (maximum 500 words).

To help you prepare for submitting your application [you can also read the questions on the form as a Word document here](#). Please note you won't be able to save your information in the online application form as you go along, so you can also use this Word document to prepare your responses in advance and then submit them online in one go. We also recommend that you keep a copy of your form for reference when submitting your report.

As part of the application form, you will be asked to submit a link/s to a website, LinkedIn profile, online portfolio, blog, showreel for example where we can find out more about you, your experience and your work. Alternatively you can supply a CV and up to 3 images of previous work (images should be at least 1MB each and sent as jpgs) by email to sthughscharity@gmail.com before the deadline, using your name and 'Artists Respond Funding 2023' in the subject line of the email.

Alternative formats

It is very important to us that the application process should not form a barrier to you applying for the Artists Respond Grants, so please contact us (sthughscharity@gmail.com) if you would like to provide the information requested in our application form in another format.

For example, we will accept video applications (5-8 minutes). If making a video application, please make sure your video includes all the information requested in the application form including your confirmation of your eligibility for the fund, and send a password-protected video link to sthughscharity@gmail.com with your contact details and links to supplementary information so that we know how to contact you/find out more about you.

Deadline for all applications - Friday 24th February 2023 at 5pm

Please note:

- If you do not submit your application completely and as stated (including meeting any word count requirements), it will be withdrawn automatically from the application process. Therefore, if you have any questions about how to make an application, please contact us well in advance of the application deadline by emailing sthughscharity@gmail.com.
- All materials associated with an application must be received **by the 24th February at 5pm**. We will not be able to assess applications for which we have not also received any relevant supplementary materials before the deadline (where links to supplementary materials are not already given within the application form).
- If you experience any technical difficulties while you're completing the online application form, do consider sending a follow-up email to sthughscharity@gmail.com to ensure that everything has arrived safely.

Application timeline

Friday 24th February 2022 - Deadline for applications (by 5pm)

End of March 2022 - Trustees will come together to discuss all applications

By end of April 2022 - Award recipients to be notified

Unfortunately we are unable to give individual feedback to unsuccessful applicants due to the number of applications we expect to receive and the capacity of our voluntary team.

We are also inviting applications for our third Claire Frances Peasnell Memorial Award in 2023 (aimed at those who work with painting and/or drawing), but in order to apply for that award, [please view the separate application form here.](#)

A chance to find out more

We will be holding an informal Zoom 'meet the artists' session with current Artists Respond grant recipients on the **23rd January 2023 from 11am-12:30pm**

This session would provide an opportunity for you to hear more about how other artists have used their grants and to ask questions.

Email sthughscharity@gmail.com by the 20th January 2023 to receive the Zoom link and let us know if you have any requirements we can accommodate in order to make it possible for you to join the session on the 23rd.

Additional information about the assessment process

In addition to using our stated criteria, when assessing applications Trustees will endeavour to ensure a fair spread of resources geographically and across artforms (although successful applications must first and foremost satisfy our criteria to a high standard).

Policy on Artist Fees

Please note that we will expect all fees for artist time to be in line with industry standards for the year in which the proposed activity will take place as a minimum. For further guidance on these rates, please consult:

- [The Musicians Union](#)
- [Equity](#)
- [ITC](#)
- [a-n – The Artists Information Company](#)

or another relevant industry body.

Conflicts of interest

Trustees must not be involved in helping applicants prepare/submit applications. Where a Trustee has a close involvement/ongoing relationship with an applicant, they must formally declare their conflict of interest and can have no role in assessing that application. If a period of two years or more has passed since a Trustee last worked with an applicant, they will be allowed to make an assessment of that application. Where a Trustee has a close involvement/ongoing relationship with multiple applicants they will withdraw completely from the application process.

Equality and Diversity

Trustees recognise that our area of benefit is culturally diverse, and welcome proposals from all applicants. We will not discriminate against or treat any application differently on the grounds of age, sex, race, disability, pregnancy, marriage and civil partnership, sexual orientation, gender reassignment or religious background. We expect any applicants we support to show the same commitment to equal opportunity within their proposed projects.

All correspondence about the Artists Respond grants should be **via our email address** sthughscharity@gmail.com but please note that we cannot answer questions regarding the content of specific projects.

Best of luck with your application, we look forward to hearing from you.