

Weston Loan Programme with Art Fund Guidance for applicants

**Sir Nicholas Goodison Award for contemporary craft
Guidance for applicants**

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1. About

This award will enable one promising and ambitious curator to build critical professional skills by pursuing new avenues of collecting contemporary craft for their museum or gallery. The award promotes the value of research-led collecting and fosters curatorial expertise at both individual and institutional levels, enriching museum practice long-term.

This exceptional award has been created in recognition of Sir Nicholas Goodison's outstanding contribution to the work of Art Fund and the wider museum sector, and his love of contemporary craft.

This guidance will help you consider whether this funding programme is for you and will provide further information regarding eligibility and how to submit a strong application.

2. Before you apply

Aims

Taking the same format as Art Fund's New Collecting Awards, this award responds to the need for ongoing collections development in museums, underpinned by curatorial expertise, vision and ambition.

This award, aims to support the next generation of curatorial leaders across the UK. Specifically, the project aims to:

- promote the value of research-led collecting
- foster curatorial expertise at both individual and institutional levels
- enrich museum practise long-term
- support the development of a contemporary craft collection in a UK museum or gallery

What we'll support

Offering 100% funding for one focused collecting project of the highest quality, the award will enable a curator to expand their museum's collection of contemporary craft in exciting new areas, or deepen existing holdings in imaginative ways.

We consider contemporary craft to be objects made after 1980 from the following materials:

- ceramics
- glass
- lacquer
- art jewellery
- metalwork
- textile and fibre
- wood and paper
- non-traditional materials including resin, rubber and bone
- reused, repurposed, recycled materials

Please contact the Programmes team if you have any queries about what falls within the remit of contemporary craft.

The awardee will receive a generous funding allocation towards research, travel and training costs to facilitate their proposed collecting plans and professional development. The allocation for this is ringfenced at 10% of the total sum awarded. Additionally, through the award, they are offered the ongoing support of a mentor appointed in partnership with Art Fund.,.

The amount available is £60,000. Curators can apply for up to £60,000 but will be expected to demonstrate that the sum is reasonable and proportionate in relation to the types and number of works they propose to collect.

We expect awardees to complete their collecting project within 2 years of commencement.

Who can apply?

We welcome applications from curators who are either in the early stages of their career or have had limited opportunities to collect.

We expect applicants to be in full- or part-time employment at a fully or provisionally accredited museum or gallery. We will also consider applications from freelance curators or researchers, provided they can demonstrate that they will be officially affiliated with an accredited museum or gallery for the duration of the project and that their participation will have a longer-term institutional impact.

Applicants will be expected to demonstrate why receiving a Sir Nicholas Goodison Award would benefit not only their museum and its collections but also, crucially, their own professional development in a way that would not otherwise be possible.

3. Your application

Application process

Please do get in touch with the Programmes team at Art Fund to discuss your potential project before submitting an application. We will be able to give advice on eligibility, timescales and deadlines for applications. Applicants should contact Nancy Saul, programmes manager, nsaul@artfund.org.

You can apply for a grant using our online application system. For application forms and to apply, [log in to My Art Fund](#) or [create an account](#).

You must be registered as a professional user. If you already have a My Art Fund account but are not registered as a professional user, you can add your professional details when logged in.

If you encounter any difficulties registering or require the application form in an alternative format, please email programmes@artfund.org.

Completing the application form

Applications should make a robust case as to how the funding will help you meet the aims of the programme. In the application form you should:

- Describe how participating in this scheme will develop your professional skills and ambitions, in the short and long term, and why receiving a Sir Nicholas Goodison Award would make a unique contribution to this process. You may wish to consider:
 - What you can bring to the project from current or previous roles
 - What this opportunity will provide that would otherwise not be possible
 - What type of research and training will be necessary
 - How you would work with a mentor and what could they contribute to the project. Do you have any ideas as to who you would like to approach as a mentor, and why?
- Describe how receiving the award might benefit other areas of museum activity, contribute to future programming and/or promote collaboration both within the museum and with sector colleagues.
- Outline your curatorial vision for the museum; describe what you wish to collect and how this will transform your museum's current collections. What do you think will be the legacy for your museum and its visitors? Why are you interested in this collecting area?
- Set out in brief a potential strategy for the formation of the collection, including the approximate number of works you may collect, the budget required and the research potential of this collecting activity, before and after acquisitions are made.

Your submission should be accompanied by: a letter of support from your line manager; a one-page CV; and a selection of 8-10 images that illustrate the proposed collecting strategy.

The deadline for applications is 3 November 2022.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to interview in London, where they will be asked to talk further about their proposed project and its outcomes.

4. What happens next

Shortlisting and interviews

All applications are assessed by an Art Fund steering panel.

Approximately a month following the application closing date, a small number of shortlisted candidates will then be invited to present to the committee, likely the week commencing 5 December.

Confirmation of outcome and claiming the grant

If your application is successful, we will issue our formal offer to your museum. The offer paperwork includes:

- offer letter
- agreement to terms and conditions
- a schedule of the proposed activities, including key project dates and aims and desired outcomes

90% of the research funding can be claimed upfront, on receipt of a short proposal for how these funds will be used. The final 10% will be released on receipt of a final report as detailed in the offer letter.

Funding for acquisitions will be released incrementally upon the submission and approval of an acquisition sheet and grant claim form as detailed in the offer letter.

Please note that no portion of the funding can be paid directly to awardees; all funds must be paid to the museum. Any expenses incurred by awardees as part of their research and training should be reclaimed from their institution.

5. Terms and conditions

If your application is successful, an appropriately authorised signatory in your organisation will be required to sign an agreement which will set out the terms and conditions of our grant offer. These terms and conditions are summarised below:

1. the grant must be used solely for the project and cannot be put towards any other purpose;
2. the grant will be paid in accordance with an agreed schedule and subject to the provision by you of certain information including invoices, a financial statement setting out how the grant has been utilised and an evaluation report;
3. the grant will be paid to the museum bank account;
4. Art Fund reserves the right to require you to complete and submit a progress report or a statement of expenditure at any time during the term of the project, or to provide supplementary information in support of a final expenditure statement
5. each of us will obtain the other's prior written approval in advance of publication of any publicity materials relating to the project. However we, at our absolute discretion, may publicise details of the grant offer in any way we think fit;
6. you must ensure that the support of Art Fund is acknowledged and credited as specified by us on all materials related to the project. You must also obtain our approval in advance of the publication of any display or print materials related to the project. Successful applicants will be provided with our branding and crediting guidelines;
7. you will be required to link any websites owned or operated by you which provide information about the fellowship to the homepages of the Art Fund websites. However, such links must not be used to falsely portray any endorsement or affiliation between you and Art Fund;
8. you will be expected to work with us in good faith to promote and showcase the project and the Sir Nicholas Goodison Award;
9. you must not use Art Fund's name or logo in any way which causes either of us any negative publicity or damages our reputation;
10. your rights and obligations under the agreement must not be transferred in whole or in part in any manner without our prior written approval;
11. if your financial statement indicates that you have not spent the full amount of the grant, we may withhold all or part of the grant or demand repayment of grant monies already paid. We may also require you to provide receipts evidencing any expenditure claimed;
12. neither of us shall be liable or responsible for failure to fulfil our obligations under the agreement caused by events beyond our control. In these circumstances, the affected party's obligations under the agreement will be suspended for the duration of the event but both of us will work together during this period to find a way to enable that party to carry out its obligations under the agreement; and

13. we may demand repayment of all or part of the grant at our absolute discretion if you fail to comply with or contravene any of the terms and conditions of the agreement. Interest will be charged on any repayments which have not been made by the date notified to you.