

**Culture Pass Grant Scheme**

**Official Guidelines**

**Call for Expression of Interest 2018**

**Introduction**

Through the Culture Pass, kindergarten, primary, middle schools and senior schools students will be given an opportunity of experiencing at least one artistic production during the scholastic year, which has been produced by creative professionals through a curated programme.

The Culture Pass is designed to:

1. Provide children and students from **kindergarten to the upper level of secondary schools** with professional cultural and artistic experiences of the highest quality;
2. Compliment the learning outcomes of the National Curriculum and add value to cultural education and other curricular subjects;
3. Encourage creative practitioners to create and develop new work for young audiences and increase the programming capacity over longer periods with the purpose of connecting artistic and non-artistic disciplines to the students’ curriculum.

**Call for Expression of Interest**

The Culture Directorate within the Ministry for Justice, Culture and Local Government and Arts Council Malta jointly announce a Call for Expression of Interest for the submission/proposal of events of a cultural and artistic nature targeting children and students from **Kindergarten**, **Primary** andstudents attending **Middle and Senior Schools at secondary educational level**. Activities are to be held between October 2018 and June 2019.

This Call is intended to enable creative practitioners to generate captivating, creative, innovative, original as well as already existing work, for audiences in these age categories (3 to 16 years) and to provide the opportunity for children and young people to experience at least one cultural activity as an extension to the curriculum covered during the scholastic year.

**Objectives**

The objectives of the Culture Pass are as follows:

* Enable educational growth for all children and students attending educational institutions from early education all along to compulsory education through cultural and artistic means, especially by creatively enhancing the curriculum covered at school.
* Encourage collaboration between the educational and cultural sectors and other relevant sectors such as science and technology.
* Encourage and support young people to engage in cultural and artistic activities.
* Incentivise cultural producers to produce **new** productions and artistic activities devised specifically for children and young people.
* Create new audiences across different genres and styles.
* Promote culture and the arts as an entertaining, fulfilling, challenging and exciting activity for young people.

**Who can apply?**

The Call for Expression of Interest is open to individuals who are 18 years and over, groups of creatives, public cultural organisations, and registered non-governmental organisations whose nature of work is culturally and artistically driven.

Applicants must be Maltese citizens or be in possession of a Malta residence permit / Maltese citizenship certificate / a Maltese passport.

The applicant should be the legal representative of the organisation.

Sectors listed in Article 1 of the *de minimis* Regulation (such as fisheries, aquaculture and agriculture) cannot benefit under this scheme.

**Eligible productions and activities**

Applications can be submitted for cultural and artistic events produced specifically for children and young people between 3 and 16 years of age, attending government, church or independent schools. This call is also open to cultural and artistic events accessible to the general public (but which are not available free of charge), and which add value and enhance engagement of children and young people within the culture and the arts sectors.

The events can be in the following art forms and they may also be multidisciplinary in nature:

*Dance, Theatre, Music, Visual Arts, Literature, Film, Heritage.* Eligible productions and activities may include the following:

* *Concerts;*
* *Performances*
* *Screenings of performances (such as ballets and operas);*
* *Screenings of documentaries and films;*
* *Exhibitions;*
* *Arts festivals;*
* *Activities in museums such as guided tours of temporary exhibitions and workshops as well as other activities related to cultural heritage.*

Pre- or post-performance workshops are **compulsory**. However, events cannot consist of just a workshop. Producers will need to submit a report detailing the outcome of every workshop following each performance.

Activities can either take place outside of school premises such as in public theatres, community centres, cinemas, etc., or else the activity can tour schools.

Existing activities offered to schools free of charge, are excluded from this initiative and therefore not considered eligible.

In the case of touring productions, producers need to identify production dates, time frames, specs required from the venue, maximum number of seats allowed, suitability for age groups, and suitability for students with learning difficulties. In the case of site-specific venues, producers need to identify production dates, time frames, maximum number of seats available, suitability for age groups, suitability for students with learning difficulties, and accessibility to and inside the venue.

Proposals would need to include a teacher’s resource pack highlighting relevance to curriculum.

Applicants must submit recordings of the work proposed for this Call if the work has already been produced. If work proposed is still in development phase, a presentation of the work-in-progress to date must be made by the applicants and included in the application.

**Educational content for the events proposed**

The content of the activities proposed and listed above may be linked to topics covered by the national curriculum [www.curriculum.gov.mt](http://www.curriculum.gov.mt) and the subjects dealt with in class. Cross-curricular themes are also highly encouraged.

Suggested areas which could be addressed but not limited to, are:

* Mass Media – the influence of mass media on students, parents and society, the values being propagated through mass media.
* Globalisation & Multiculturalism – Gender, ethnicity, identity and social inclusion issues
* Diversity within the society, community and family in particular.
* Politics – as envisaged here in Malta and compared to the rest of the world, the meaning of politics and ethics related to it. The past, present and future of politics.
* Domestic Violence.
* Human rights.
* Health and nutrition, including challenges of eating disorders.
* Occupational Health & Safety – workers’ rights, work ethics, physical and psychological health, harassment and bullying at work.
* Bullying amongst students.
* Environmental Issues – natural resources locally and globally and their uses, renewable sources of energy.
* Ethics.
* Personal, Social and Career Development.
* The human system.
* The science of sound.
* Language literacy.
* Film appreciation.

**Selection of Works**

Participation in the Culture Pass grant scheme is based on a selection process and will be evaluated according to established criteria as listed below.

The selection team which will include representatives of the Culture Directorate, Arts Council Malta and the education sectors, will evaluate proposals and select the works.

The Evaluation Board will base its decision upon the following criteria:

* The artistic quality and collaborations on the project (40 points)
* The relevance of the proposed event to the target audience and engagement with the audience (20 points)
* How are the curricular themes innovatively brought out through the artistic experience (20 points)

* Collaboration with schools *on pre- or post-workshops and teachers/resource pack and its reporting.*

(20 points)

Projects scoring 60 points or more will automatically be eligible to participate in the grant programme. Applicants will be informed of the outcome by the established dates.

**How will it work?**

Schools are encouraged to introduce a minimum of one artistic genre per year to all students in dance, theatre, music, visual art, film, literature and heritage. Our objective is to provide every child and student with diverse cultural experiences across different genres and styles. In order to support the implementation of this target, schools may use the Culture Pass to deliver this goal to their students.

Schools will be provided with a programme of selected productions and events, for the period October 2018 - June 2019. Schools will be invited to choose the activities that their students will attend and will be requested to book directly with the venue/producers on a first come first served basis. In doing so, while booking, schools have to inform the box office or producer if they will be using the Culture Pass. Site-specific Events that are also open as ticketed events for non-Culture Pass users need to ensure pre- or post-workshops with culture pass users prior or post production.

Specific credit is allocated to each individual school.

On the day of the event, the school representative, venue manager and producers will sign a Claim Form confirming number of seats. The Claim Form is inserted as an Appendix of the Application Form.

**Inclusion in the culture pass programme does not guarantee an automatic grant, since it is at the absolute discretion of schools to select the proposed programmed event.**

**How is the grant awarded?**

A grant per student will be awarded to the producer on presentation of the claim form. The grant per student is set at €5 per student. The grant cannot be used to subsidise part payment of a ticket. The total grant will be calculated on the total number of students present during the time of activity.

The Grant Scheme Managers and the producers will enter into an agreement in relation to the selected works.

**State Aid** This scheme is being implemented in line with the Commission Regulation (EU) No. 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to *de minimis* aid (the *de minimis* Regulation).

The total amount of *de minimis* aid granted to a single undertaking shall not exceed the amount of €200,000 over any period of three consecutive fiscal years. This period covers the fiscal year concerned as well as the previous two fiscal years. ‘Fiscal year’ means the fiscal year as used for tax purposes by the undertaking concerned.

This maximum threshold would include all State aid granted under this aid scheme and any other State aid measure granted under the *de minimis* rule including that received from any other entity. Any *de minimis* aid received in excess of the established threshold will have to be recovered, with interest, from the undertaking receiving the aid.

The term ‘single undertaking’ is defined as follows:

Single Undertaking includes, for the purposes of this Regulation, all undertakings having at least one (1) of the following relationships with each other:

* + - 1. one (1) undertaking has a majority of the shareholders’ or members’ voting rights in another undertaking;
      2. one (1) undertaking has the right to appoint or remove a majority of the members of the administrative, management or supervisory body of another undertaking;
      3. one (1) undertaking has the right to exercise a dominant influence over another undertaking pursuant to a contract entered into with that undertaking or to a provision in its memorandum or articles of association;
      4. one (1) undertaking, which is a shareholder in or member of another undertaking, controls alone, pursuant to an agreement with other shareholders in or members of that undertaking, a majority of shareholders’ or members’ voting rights in that undertaking.

Undertakings having any of the relationships referred to in points (a) to (d) of the first subparagraph through one or more other undertakings shall also be considered to be a single undertaking.

The same regulation states that a group of linked undertakings is considered as one single undertaking for the application of the de minimis rule, but that undertaking which has no relationship with each other except for the fact that each of them has a direct link to the same public body or bodies are not treated as being linked to each other. The specific situation of undertakings controlled by the same public body or bodies, which may have an independent power of decision, is therefore taken into account.

In terms of Article 5 of the *de minimis* Regulation, *de minimis* aid granted under this scheme may be cumulated with *de minimis* aid granted in accordance with Commission Regulation (EU) No 360/2012 up to the ceiling laid down in that Regulation. It may be cumulated with de minimis aid granted in accordance with other *de minimis* regulations up to the relevant ceiling fixed in terms of these Guidelines.

*De minimis* aid awarded under this scheme shall not be cumulated with State aid in relation to the same eligible costs or with State aid for the same risk finance measure, if such cumulation would exceed the highest relevant aid intensity or aid amount fixed in the specific circumstances of each case by a block exemption regulation or a decision adopted by the European Commission. *De minimis aid* which is not granted for or attributable to specific eligible costs may be cumulated with other State aid granted under a block exemption regulation or a decision adopted by the Commission.

The *de minimis* declaration form must be filled in and submitted together with the application form.

**Timeframes**

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| Call closing date | 21st August 2018 |
| Evaluation and Selection Period | September 2018 |
| Communication to schools | October 2018 |
| Possible Event Start Date | October 2018 |

**Submission of Application**

Application forms are available from [www.artscouncilmalta.org](http://www.artscouncilmalta.org) and [www.culture.gov.mt](http://www.culture.gov.mt)

One may submit one’s application form with all relevant supporting documents as follows:

* via email to the Culture Directorate, Ministry for Justice, Culture and Local Government on the following email by the **deadline date of 21st August, 2018 at noon**: [culturepass.mjcl@gov.mt](mailto:culturepass.mjcl@gov.mt)

July, 2018