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The Fifty:Fifty Programme FAQs

How can I access The Fifty:Fifty Programme application form and information if I am unable to download the documents from the Crafts Council website?

The application form and details can be sent to you via email or as a hardcopy. Please contact Charlotte Dew, Exhibitions Project Officer, for further information: c_dew@craftscouncil.org.uk, 020 7806 2515.

Q: How many projects will The Fifty:Fifty Programme fund?

The Crafts Council, through The Fifty:Fifty Programme, will co-produce and match fund one ambitious exhibition project with one partner every two years, from April 2010.

Q: When will this round of The Fifty:Fifty Programme project commence?

April 2010

Q: When will this round of The Fifty:Fifty Programme project be completed?

March 2012

Q: When during this round of The Fifty:Fifty Programme funding period will the exhibition open?

The exhibition should open during the second year of funding, in the case of the first Fifty:Fifty projects, between April 2011 – March 2012.

Q: What is the schedule for this round of The Fifty:Fifty Programme?

Call for applications: November 2009
Application deadline: 1st March 2010
Project partner announced: March 2010
Project commences: April 2010
Conclusion of project: March 2012

Q: Is The Fifty:Fifty Programme open to applications from England, Scotland and Wales?

Yes

Q: Is The Fifty:Fifty Programme primarily for London based partners?

No. Partners outside Greater London will be actively encouraged and given priority.

Q: Do applicants need to be a craft venue to qualify for The Fifty:Fifty Programme?

No. Partners will be considered that work alone or as part consortia; that offer a new audience for craft or can show crafts in a new context; that can develop new / increased audiences for craft.

Non-building based organisations will also be considered, such as commissioning bodies and cultural agencies.

Q: Can makers qualify for The Fifty:Fifty Programme?

The Fifty:Fifty Programme is a scheme primarily for museums, galleries, agencies and organisations that wish to engage with contemporary craft through ambitious exhibition development and who wish to work with the Crafts Council as co-producers.

Q: Do projects which have already been developed qualify for Fifty:Fifty Programme funding?

No. The Fifty:Fifty Programme will fund new projects. The programme is designed to support the development of a project in partnership, as a co-production, with the Crafts Council.

Q: Can 'in-kind' support be included as part of The Fifty:Fifty Programme funding contribution?

No. Each partner must be able to provide match funding towards the exhibition project budget.

Q: Can ACE funding be used as match funding?

RFOs would need to discuss the application with their lead officer at ACE if there is concern about the use of core funding for such an initiative.

Q: Can The Fifty:Fifty Programme funds be used to appoint new members of staff?

No. It is not envisaged that Fifty:Fifty Programme funds will be used to support an in-house curatorial or other salary. If the appointment of an external curator is appropriate, as is often the case for an exhibition, then the appointment, fee and management of the post would be split across the partners and budget.

Q: Does the exhibition content need to be decided at the time of application?

No, the content does not need to be decided; the application information is to scope the theoretical and visual ideas behind the proposed partnership project.

Q: What type of funding support does The Fifty:Fifty Programme offer?

The Fifty:Fifty Programme is based on the sharing of resources; the project will be match funded by the Crafts Council and the partner. The Crafts Council will contribute up to £50,000 per exhibition; therefore giving a maximum core budget of up to £100,000, including the partner's match-funding contribution.

Funds from the Crafts Council and partner will be allocated evenly over two financial years i.e. up to £25,000 from each partner, each year; alternative allocation schedules will be considered, but it may not be possible to accommodate them. The schedule for the allocation of funds will be agreed by the Crafts Council and partner in advance of signing the contract.

Both partners must have the necessary funds in place to match-fund the project at the commencement of the partnership contract. Notwithstanding, funds may be sought from a third party, by either partner, as appropriate, in support of the core budget, or if the project requirements exceed the core budget.

Partnership responsibility for budget management will be agreed by the Crafts Council and partner in advance of signing the contract.

Q: Can an application be submitted if the project can be achieved under the £100,000 budget?

Yes. The threshold of match funding by the Crafts Council is £50,000. Therefore the Crafts Council will match fund on a 50:50 basis proportionately against the funds provided by the successful co-producer up to this amount.

However, the purpose of The Fifty:Fifty Programme is to develop high impact, high profile initiatives to raise the profile and ambition for contemporary craft.

Q: What are the criteria for selection of a Fifty:Fifty partnership project?

It is important to acknowledge that The Fifty:Fifty Programme is not a competition or grant scheme. It is a Crafts Council initiative that seeks to identify and develop an appropriate partnership for the Crafts Council to co-produce a match funded exhibition project.

Therefore, the ambitions of the partner, the exhibition theme, context and content must have synergy with the Crafts Council and its ambitions for the sector. While the registration of interest by potential partners is via the submission of a project proposal, the selection will be made by the Crafts Council.

For more information about the Crafts Council strategy please see <http://www.craftscouncil.org.uk/about-us/our-strategy/>



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The Crafts Council is the national development agency for contemporary craft in the UK.