

APPLICATION FORM FOR GRANT 2019/20

Please read the policy on pages 1 and 2 **before** filling in the form.

1. Name/Address of organisation

OPERA CIRCUS

Contact name: **Rory Newbery**

Contact telephone number

Position in organisation: **Youth Programme Leader & Intercultural Exchange Coordinator**

About your organisation

Does your organisation:

	Yes
Have its own bank account, which requires two unrelated people to authorise cheques and make withdrawals?	YES
Have at least three members on its management committee	YES (6)
Have a constitution, terms of reference or set of rules (<i>please contact for help with this if needed</i>)	YES

2. Are you a registered charity? **YES**

If so please give your charity number: **1051954**

3. Is your organisation part of, or affiliated to, a larger organisation? **NO**

4. Aims and objectives of your organisation; What does your organisation do and how does it benefit the residents of Weymouth?

With local, regional, national and international partners, Opera Circus develops inter-regional/national/international youth mobility programmes using cultural and arts projects for skills training, life experience, inclusion, global citizenship, activism and cultural awareness.

As well as the Board of Trustees, there is an advisory board that consists of youth leaders volunteers in the UK, Italy, Serbia, BiH, Kosovo and Romania. We work on a project by project basis with professional freelance personnel and artists who have mainly worked with the company for many years. We emphasise inclusivity, intergenerational mentorship and collaboration throughout our projects and across our wider community of individuals and organisations.

TCFT was developed with the support of 2 Erasmus+ (EU) grants amongst other funders and now extends to over 16 partners, 30 artists and a network of over 1200 young people in 8 wider European countries. We organise capacity building workshops, cultural exchanges, creative workshops and campaigns across Dorset, the UK and overseas. This application has been written by two young people from Weymouth and Portland who are interested in developing this work and concentrating efforts in our hometowns. The work in Weymouth (as well as a similar project in Portland) will be used to develop ideas and identify potential youth leaders for a later Erasmus+ exchange in Weymouth & Portland in August 2019.

5. Where does your organisation meet? **Various locations in Weymouth, Portland, Bridport and Overseas**
6. How often do you meet? **15-20 times a year (often together for over a week during residencies)**
7. How many members does your organisation have? **1,200 (internationally) 350 (Dorset)**
8. How many people will benefit from this funding? **82**
9. How many are Weymouth Town Council area residents? **88%**
10. If your application is for over £2,000 please give full details of the exceptional circumstances related to your request. **N/A**
11. How much funding are you applying for? **£1,900**
12. What is the total cost of your project? **£2850.60**
13. How will you spend the money you are applying for? Please be aware that WTC do not normally give grants for running costs. If your application contains an element of running costs, please detail your plans to source alternative funding for this in future years.

Item	Amount
Venue Hire: Upwey & Broadway Memorial Hall <i>£94.50 p/day for hall, rooms and kitchen hire</i>	£378.00
Travel Fund for Young Participants (Students, Low Waged & Unemployed) <i>Travel support fund for young people where the cost of public transport is likely to be a barrier to continued participation. Travel for participants from outside WTC area will be covered by match funding.</i>	£560.00
Lunch & Refreshments We will provide lunch and refreshments for all participants, this will be cooked and using fresh, healthy food <i>£2.95 p/p/d</i>	£967.60
Creative Writing Facilitator Fee <i>To ensure that we can secure quality facilitation and that artists' support is remunerated. 2.5 days of facilitation at £20 p/h.</i>	£280.00

<i>This fee will be also on the condition of continued support for young people beyond the project (in the spirit of our TCFT values of support and collaboration)</i>	
Filmmaking Facilitator Fee <i>To ensure that we can secure quality facilitation and that artists' support is remunerated. 2.5 days of facilitation at £20 p/h. This fee will be also on the condition of continued support for young people beyond the project (in the spirit of our TCFT values of support and collaboration)</i>	£280.00
Community Campaigning & Public Speaking Facilitator Fee <i>To ensure that we can secure quality facilitation and that artists' support is remunerated. 2 hours of facilitation at £20 p/h. This fee will be also on the condition of continued support for young people beyond the project (in the spirit of our TCFT values of support and collaboration)</i>	£160.00
Project Manager & Group Facilitating Fee <i>This project is written and organised by young volunteers from Weymouth and Portland. This fee will support the project manager to have the time to work on the project's development, facilitation and evaluation. It will also mean that real efforts can be made to make sure that young people in different communities across Weymouth can be aware of this project and brought onboard.</i>	£160.00
Promotional Materials <i>This will be used for printing promotional posters for schools, community groups and other spaces that young people would be likely to notice them. Since the majority of our promotional activity will be via social media, it is not necessary to print so much.</i>	£15.00
Workshop Materials <i>We would like the basic resources needed for workshops, particularly for group sessions on capacity building and the workshops on creative writing. This will also allow us to make any relevant follow up materials for the TCFT Residency in Portland.</i>	£50.00
TOTAL	£2,850.60

14. How else are you funding your project? (Include grants from other organisations, fund raising and existing reserves)

Source	£	Confirmed?
Awards for All <i>For activities and trainings in Weymouth, Portland and Bridport</i>	350.60	Submitted (TBC)
Crowdfunder Campaign <i>To be launched in January 2020 Expecting to raise £4,000 for all Opera Circus and TCFT Dorset Youth Activities in Spring/Summer 2020</i>	600	To be launched in 01/2020
Total	£950.60	

15. How will the funding benefit the community or residents of Weymouth?

This project is designed by and for young people in Weymouth and will, through a creative and collaborative process, discuss and discuss actions to address issues that we consider a priority in our community. We will provide workshops on different skills and media that can be used to share ideas, community and reach out to the wider community (as well as targeted communities).

The workshops on filmmaking and creative writing will provide young Weymouth residents to explore the issues they care about most at a deeper level than perhaps they are usually used to, and then finding ways to express their concerns, ideas and perceptions through film and creative writing. This will provide an opportunity to develop technical and creative skills that can be vital in sharing important matters and new ideas to wider audiences. The workshops will work at the level that is required for the group and individuals, and is not an attempt to impose on style of film or writing on participants.

Subsequently, the ideas and initiatives for change that will be developed and encouraged during our workshops will aim to contribute to existing efforts to improve the quality of life, equality of opportunities and agency of young people in Weymouth. This is not a naive assumption. Opera Circus has developed programmes and a process of creativity and collaboration that has been applied to various contexts and communities across the UK and wider Europe over the past two decades. Through well-organised programmes and high-quality facilitation, we are able to co-develop community projects and direct action that has a real impact on the wider community. The values and principles that we care deeply about continue to permeate the lives and communities of our participants - this is only possible through concentrated programmes like this that allow us to work closely and collaborate with the people that we work with, regardless of their background or prior experience.

The mentoring and ongoing support that will be offered to all participants by our facilitators, guests and - hopefully - by one another will help young participants to feel connected and supported, beyond what is offered at school or in other communities that they are part of. Opera Circus is very experienced in providing ongoing support to those who join our programmes, this is what helps us to develop relationships and ideas, leading to continued dialogue and new opportunities in the future.

It should not be understated that the opportunity to give young people a space to meet others from their community, share ideas and learn collaboratively is extremely valuable, and something that is often missing for a lot of young people in Weymouth, as well as across Dorset and beyond. There will also be a community sharing in August, as part of our Erasmus+ programme where young people from this Weymouth community project will share ideas and creative pieces with public.

16. Please tell us how this funding will lead to greater self-sufficiency and lessen the need for future applications.

This will be our first opportunity to work directly with young people in Weymouth, delivering a programme that is specifically designed to meet the challenges and needs relevant to living in Weymouth. Our programmes are mostly international, if not inviting young people from across the UK to towns to work together.

These 4 days of workshops and activities in Weymouth in April 2020 will lead up to an Erasmus+ international youth exchange taking place in Portland (August 2020) where young people from Portland, Bridport, Pristina (Kosovo), Sarajevo (Bosnia & Herzegovina) and Copenhagen (Denmark) will take part in 10 days of workshops on that will focus on capacity building for young people, encouraging civic engagement, developing creative skills and capacity to collaborate with other young people to achieve positive change in our communities.

This project will allow us to first reach out to more young people in Weymouth, through partner organisations and community initiatives and charities that we know of, and provide the time to begin the conversation and relationship with young people in Weymouth. We can also identify the young people who may be better supported through more workshops, and those who exhibit leadership skills, awareness and a willingness to contribute to their communities - so that we can continue to work with these young people and involve them in our other projects and initiatives.

This funding will allow us the opportunity to consolidate existing relationships with young people and organisations in Weymouth, and to find the ways to best develop those ideas and relationships found.

We will also consider longer term projects with participants and those of our existing network who live in Weymouth. From previous experience elsewhere projects like this are the idea first step to building a supportive community of young people, youth organisations, intergenerational supporters and the relevant authorities.

17. How is your organisation normally funded? (Not applicable to new organisations)

Opera Circus works on a project-by-project basis. Our youth-led projects and exchanges, under the umbrella of TCFT, are usually funded by various different project and organisational support funds, both from the UK and abroad including: Erasmus+ (EU), Awards for All, Big Lotto Fund,

We also receiving funding, personnel and in-kind support for projects as part of collaborations with much larger institutions like the University of Leeds (Changing The Story), King's College London, Bournemouth University, Sarajevo School of Science & Technology, Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC), Glyndebourne Education Department among other institutions.

The projects and collaborations that we run are always in response to the concerns and ideas of the local community that we work with. Although core funding is minimal, this allows us the flexibility to deliver programmes and exchanges that are truly collaborative and in no way designed to offer prescribed support to issues and questions that may not truly reflect the needs of the community we are working within.

18. What are your current/planned subs/fees/charges?

We do not charge a fee for young people attending our programmes. We will always raise the funds ourselves. We also make an effort to raise a travel fund, allowing everybody to access our programmes without having to factor in costs. This is because we understand that for many young people, costs can act as a huge barrier to accessing opportunities that they are not yet familiar with, particularly in Dorset where the cost of public transport does not match the value or quality of service.

19. Have you applied for any other funds/grants towards the cost of this project? Please include details below

We have just submitted an Awards for All application. We are confident that we will get this, as we have in previous years. We have set aside some money from this fund to contribute towards costs that WTC will not cover such as providing remuneration for a young project manager from Weymouth to lead on developing the programme, reaching out to local organisations and facilitating some sessions. We also expect to raise £6,000 this coming year for our Dorset programmes through Crowdfunder.

20. What fund raising activities took place in the last 12 months and what fund-raising activities are planned for the next 12 months, if any?

We do not have the funds or resources to employ a full or part time fundraiser. All of our fundraising is carried out by volunteers – which can be a huge set-back.

Over the past year have applied for a number of small and large funds to support our projects in Dorset (Bridport, Portland and Weymouth) as well as in Bosnia & Herzegovina, Denmark and Serbia. These have included a successful Erasmus+ Application in the summer (that we had to refuse because we could not pre-finance €250,000), a mobility grant from Changing The Story (University of Leeds), Festival of Social Sciences (Kings College London), Alice Ellen Cooper Dean Charitable Foundation, Bridport Town Council and Dorset Community Fund. As well a Crowdfunder

campaign. We will launch another Crowdfunder campaign soon, with match funding, and apply for funds from various arts and youth grants. We are awaiting the results of our Erasmus+ application (that we are expecting to be successful in).

21. Anticipated income/expenditure for next 12 months

Opera Circus has been developing a chamber opera over the past decade, which is in partnership with a number of UK universities.

Our expected income is £245,000 and expenditure is £240,000. This is due to the fact that we will be the lead partner in the Opera's development. This does not necessarily reflect the amount that we receive/spend on youth projects in Dorset, although all our projects are intertwined in some way.

22. Details of any grants received from local authorities in the past three years with dates.

Bridport Town Council (2016, 17, 18, 19)

Dorset Leisure Fund

Dorset County Council Match Funding for Crowdfunder (2016, 17)

West Dorset District Council (2016, 17, 18)

23. Other grants from any other sources in the last three years with dates, if you have had any.

Erasmus+ - European Union (2014, 2019)

Changing The Story Mobility Grant (2019)

Arts Council England (2016, 17, 18)

Awards For All (2017, 18, 19)

The Big Lotto Fund (2017, 18)

AECD Charitable Foundation (2018)

European Parliament (2018)

JP Morgan (2017)

24. Has the project that you want the funding for already happened? NO

25. Will you be passing the funding on to any other groups (except to pay for goods and services)? No

26. If the funding is for security measures do you have the support of the local police and/or crime reduction officer? Not applicable

Please ensure you have read the policy on pages 1 and 2 before signing the form.

Checklist (please tick the appropriate boxes)

Have you submitted the following?

- A copy of your most recent accounts
- Your most recent bank account statement & details of any other investments/savings;
- A copy of your constitution / terms of reference / set of rules;
- Details of your organisation's officers;
- A copy of your safeguarding policy if your group works with vulnerable adults, or children;
- A copy of your adopted equal opportunities policy or statement
- Any other documentation you feel may help in assessing your application.

Privacy Notice

In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), I agree that Weymouth Town Council will process and hold personal information about me only in relation to my grant application. I consent to my personal information, including that contained in this form, being stored manually and/or electronically. It will be held securely and treated confidentially for 6 years after an application is made. I understand that it will only be accessed by authorised staff members to manage the grant application process.

I also understand that WTC may pass details onto an official organisation where required to do so by law or contract. I understand that my data will be disposed of securely 6 years after the application and that I have the right to correct the information at any time. I have been made aware of my rights under GDPR.

Declaration:

I/we declare that the information confirmed in this application is correct and that any grant received will be applied as detailed in the request.

I/we declare that we have read the policy on pages 1 and 2 and that our application complies with the policy.

I/we declare that we have included all of the requested information.

I/we fully understand that if we do not include the requested information and/or if our application does not comply with the policy, the application may be rejected.

Signed

Name **RORY I**

Date **25/11/19**

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Grant applications must be checked against the following criteria. Any questions where the answer is no must be reported to the Finance and Policy Committee meeting where the application is being considered and must form part of the formal agenda items list for that meeting.

Yes	No (investigate)	
✓		The grant will result in a benefit for the area covered by the Town Council and will contribute positively to the area of Weymouth?
✓		Does the grant exclude ongoing running costs?
	n/a	If the application is for running costs has the applicant included plans for where future running costs will be found from?
✓		Is the grant for a group and not for individuals or organisations whose function is primarily undertaken by the health authority or Dorset Council's Social Services?
✓		Is the grant for non-political or non-quasi-political organisations or projects?
✓		Is the grant application for £2,000 or less?
	n/a	For applications in excess of £2,000, has the applicant fully detailed the exceptional circumstances?
✓		Does the application include the required financial and organisational information?
✓		Is this the only application in this financial year from this group or organisation?
✓		Is the applicant based in the Town Council area? If not has the applicant detailed what proportion of beneficiaries of the grant reside in the area?
	✓	Is the application for future funding? (ie not retrospective)
✓		Is the grant for the sole use of the applying group and not to pass on money?
	n/a	Has the applicant demonstrated how one-off grant funding will lead to greater self sufficiency and lessen the need for future applications?
	n/a	For applications for funds for security measures, does the applicant have the support of the local police or crime reduction officer.

Assessing officer *M-C-SV*

Date of assessment *22/1/20*

Decision (delete as applicable) reject / return for further information / proceed to committee

Approved as agenda item for the Finance and Governance meeting on

Outcome at that meeting