

COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME - ASSESSMENT SHEET

APPLICATION DETAILS		
Ref No: CGS/08/15	Grant Request: £2,361	Total Project Cost: £4,481
Project Title: The Ugly Duckling		
Brief Summary: As part of an overall touring programme covering Northumberland and the Borders, the NTC Touring Theatre Co Ltd will perform The Ugly Duckling at four rural venues in the Scottish Borders at Longformacus, Cockburnspath, Lilliesleaf and Oxnam. The grant will contribute towards the costs of performer expenses, hall hire, travel costs and marketing for the Borders performances.		
Match-Funding From Other Sources:	Private Trust (£500 – agreed); Private donation (£180 – agreed)	
Contribution by Organisation:	£1,440 estimated in box office income. Under the rules of the scheme, a minimum 10% is required for requests over £500 which can be cash or in-kind.	
ORGANISATION DETAILS		
Name of Organisation: NTC Touring Theatre Co. Ltd		
Type of Organisation: Company Limited by Guarantee		
SBC Members/Officers who are members of organisation:	Nil	
The following information has been received and checked by an Officer as correct:-		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Signed and dated Constitution (<i>all organisations</i>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Bank Statement less than 3 months old (<i>all organisations</i>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Independently approved annuals accounts (<i>all organisations over a year old</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Estimate of Income/Expenditure for first 12 months (<i>newly formed organisations only</i>) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quotations/Estimates (<i>project grants only</i>) <input type="checkbox"/> Letter of Support (<i>project/support involving children or vulnerable adults only</i>)		
SBC Grants Received in last 2 years: Community Grant Scheme: 2014 (£2,650 – Rumpelstiltskin)		
ASSESSMENT		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The organisation was in receipt of a grant from the Community Grant Scheme last year to undertake a performance of Rumpelstiltskin at 4 rural venues which has been signed off appropriately 2. The organisation is properly set up and appears to be operating in line with its Constitution 3. The organisation has submitted accounts to 31st March 2014 which have been checked and appear in order 4. The organisation has savings of £26,399 which is less than one full year's typical income of £96,246. Any organisation which has more savings than the amount of income it receives in a year and which is not set aside for a specific purpose is unlikely to receive a grant. This amount of savings satisfies the terms of the Community Grant Scheme 5. The organisation has submitted a breakdown of cost for the delivery of the performances which details a total project cost of £4,481. It estimates ticket income to be in the region of £1,440 6. It should be noted that this is not a new project as the organisation carried out the same programme of activity last year, delivering a performance of Rumpelstiltskin in these communities. 7. As the Community Grant Scheme cannot provide annual support for continuing activities, the application should be treated as one-off support with the usual condition applying to encourage the organisation to increase its fundraising activities to enable sustainability of this programme of activity for the future 8. The organisation's savings are below the minimum level and it is demonstrating a need for support 		

to cover the Borders activity

9. The project meets the scheme outcome 'more local groups or services are better supported to recover from financial difficulty' which links to the SOA outcomes:-
- Growing the economy
 - Reducing Inequality
 - Maximising the impact of the low carbon economy
10. The project meets the Corporate Plan priorities:-
- Encourage** sustainable economic growth
 - Improve attainment and achievement levels** for all our children and young people, both within and outwith the formal curriculum
 - Provide high quality support, care and protection** to children, young people, adults, families and older people
 - Build the capacity and resilience** of our communities and voluntary sector
 - Maintain and improve** our high quality environment
 - Develop our workforce**
 - Develop our assets and resources**
 - Ensure** excellent, adaptable, collaborative and accessible public services
11. The organisation has demonstrated the support and involvement of the wider community. Evaluation of last year's performances estimates 371 people benefitted from the rural performances (74 – Longformacus), (50 – Lilliesleaf), (130 – Oxnam) and (117 – Cockburnspath). Audiences last year were of a mixed age range; Under 20 (46%), 20-40 (5%), 40-60 (17%) and Over 60 (32%)
12. The organisation has confirmed that box office income forms part of a set fee, normally £395 which was charged for Longformacus, Oxnam and Cockburnspath last year. A lesser fee of £275 set for Lilliesleaf last year which was supplemented by some box office income but it does not keep a record of this
13. The Arts Development Manager has confirmed the activity fits within the Cultural Services Strategy for the Scottish Borders which identifies rural touring as a theme which requires development. This is also a priority within Creative Scotland's 'Review of the Theatre Sector'. Arts Development has also carried out research into venue development within the Scottish Borders to support touring activities. The Arts Development Manager is supportive of the activity but is unable to offer any funding from the Arts Development Service
14. Membership of the organisation is open to all and the organisation has its own Equality & Diversity Policy which confirms it is opposed to any form of discrimination. The project will deliver professional theatre performances at 4 rural locations in the Scottish Borders which will reduce inequality for the elderly or those with mobility issues who are unable to access public transport to attend professional performances in Edinburgh. An initial Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out and there are no apparent concerns
15. Due to the pressure on the generic budget and in view of the fact that Community Grant Scheme provided funding for the same programme of activity last year, it is recommended to fund at the lower level of £2,140. The organisation has confirmed it will be able to generate the small shortfall before the programme commences in November 2015.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

Recommend to approve at the lower level of £2,140, conditional on the organisation revising its fundraising plans to bridge this gap in future years.

Assessment Criteria

- *Grants received before*
- *How group has made use of previous grants*
- *How group is set up and managed*
- *Finances and financial need for funding*
- *Need/demand for project/activity*
- *How well the project meets the Community Grant Scheme outcomes (Communities have more access to better quality local services of activities; Communities have more access to better quality environment; Communities have more pride in their community; Communities have more access to better quality advice and information; More local groups or services are better supported to recover from financial difficulty)*
- *Support and involvement of wider community*
- *Efforts to secure other sources of funding*
- *How group has taken account of equal opportunities*