



# TOM McGRATH TRUST

## Small Grant Awards: Application guidelines

The Tom McGrath Trust is set up to honour the life and legacy of Tom McGrath, poet, playwright and creative maverick, who died in 2009. Inspired by Tom's boundless generosity of spirit and his passion for supporting Scottish playwrights, the Trust aims to be a source of inspiration, stimulation and support for artists seeking to develop their craft.

The main focus of the Tom McGrath Trust will be playwrights and translators working in Scotland. The two different support awards are Small Grants Awards and the Maverick Award.

Playwrights can apply to receive a **Small Grant Award** from the Trust (up to a maximum £500). This Award is intended to help ease the burden on playwrights seeking to get their work staged. **Please see the details below.**

**The Maverick Award** is offered to an artist who wishes to explore new territory in their existing practice or to divert from their regular practice to develop new ways of working or new working relationships. The Maverick Award is made possible every couple of years with partner support, please see the website for details of when applications are invited.

It was in Tom McGrath's nature to be generous with small amounts of money which can help to make a big difference. Awards from the Tom McGrath Trust will be made in this spirit, with funds raised through generous donations and partnership support. It may not be possible to meet all requests for funds, the Trustees will award funds to those artists whose application, career history and proposals are considered most in keeping with Tom's love of enquiry, collaboration and endeavour.

Tom was also not a big fan of paperwork. The Trustees therefore aim to keep the application process simple and effective. **Please do not send in full play-scripts, DVDs, CDs, publicity material, reviews or other additional items.** If we require any additional material we will ask for it.

The Trustees will always let you know whether or not you have been granted an award but it may take up to 2 months for us to respond to your application.

May 2016



# TOM M<sup>C</sup>GRATH TRUST

## Small Grants Award Guidelines and Application

Small Grants Awards will be given towards expenditure which makes writing for the stage possible. Examples of items for support may include research; equipment; costs of staging performed readings of new work; child-care and general living costs to support artists' development. Small grants will be awarded up to a maximum of £500.

### 1. Criteria

To be eligible for a Small Grants Award from the Tom McGrath Trust you will be either:

- a playwright who has had a play produced professionally in the UK or
- a pre-professional playwright who has demonstrated commitment and energy to developing his or her craft and has had indications of professional interest in their work.

You will also fulfill at least one of the following criteria:

- You were born in Scotland
- You live and work in Scotland and have done for at least three years

Other criteria:

- Your work will be shared with an audience in Scotland
- Successful awardees may not re-apply within 2 years of receiving their award

Exclusions:

Please note the Tom McGrath Trust is unable to support:

- applications from full time students
- applications to pay for training course fees
- applications to attend conferences and networking events

### 2. Making an application

To make an application for Small Grants Award please provide us with the following information about yourself:

- Your name
- Your address
- Your email address
- Your contact telephone number(s)



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Please supply supporting information which tells us:

- About your project
- How you meet the criteria listed in 1 above and give us a the name of someone we can talk to who knows your work and/or was involved in the production of your play(s)
- Why you believe you should be considered for this Award
- How much you are applying for and how you anticipate using the money. Please give us a simple budget breakdown. Please note we encourage writers to include a fee for their time within the budget.
- When you would like to make use of the Award, e.g. between January and March 2017, or during the first week of March...etc
- A brief resume of your career as an artist, telling us about the work you are most proud of and why

Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of:

- The clarity of the project proposal
- The proposed use of the budget
- Why this award is important to you at this time

Please keep your answers brief and ensure that in total all the supporting information extends to no more than 3 pages of A4. Please also include with your application an example of your writing, up to a maximum of 10 pages.

### **3. Submitting an application**

Please send your application to The Trustees, The Tom McGrath Trust

Email to: [tommcgrathtrust@gmail.com](mailto:tommcgrathtrust@gmail.com) with SMALL GRANT APPLICATION in the subject heading.

### **4. Deadlines**

Trustees will consider Small Grant Applications 3 times per year. Decisions will be made approximately six weeks after the relevant deadline. The deadlines in 2016/17 are:

- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2016,
- Friday 16 September 2016 and
- Friday 24 February 2017

[www.tommcgrath-trust.org.uk](http://www.tommcgrath-trust.org.uk)