

MAVERICK AWARD 2020

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 7th December 2020

The Tom McGrath Trust will celebrate its 10th anniversary in 2021. Since making its first awards in 2011, the Trust has supported 76 writers and has dispersed £34,725. To mark what would have been Tom's 80th birthday, the Trust is delighted to invite applications for a final round of Awards to celebrate his vibrant contribution to Scotland's cultural life.

The Tom McGrath Trust was 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. 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 are made in this spirit, with funds raised through generous donations and partnership support.

The Trustees have made the difficult decision to bring the Trust's work to a close in this 10th year. Ella Wildridge - Tom's partner and the Trust's instigator - has become unwell over the last year. Without Ella's active involvement the Trust loses its driving force and the added brilliance that she brought. This has been a key factor in the decision to conclude its work.

Thanks to the generous financial support of Morven McLean at Original Editions, the Trust is offering **3 Awards, each up to £2,000**: two awards will be given as Maverick Awards in memory of Tom and one will be a Wild Award, to celebrate Ella's unique contribution to the Trust and to Scotland's creative community. Awards will be given to **the best applications for a new project, with writing at its heart, that departs from the routine and starts to explore new and imaginative possibilities**. As in previous years, 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**; values equally shared by Ella.

Tom was not a big fan of paperwork. The Trustees therefore aim to keep the application process simple and effective. We have simplified the process even further this year in response to the stress that we know creatives are experiencing as a result of Covid-19 and loss of work. We welcome your feedback and please let us know if we can make the process simpler still for your circumstances.

The Trust will announce the successful Award recipients at the end of January 2021.

Please note, the Wild Award will be selected from applications to the Maverick Award and does not require adherence to additional criteria.

To be eligible to apply for the Tom McGrath Trust 2020 Maverick Award you will:

- Be a playwright with a professional track record in the UK *or*
- Be an artist with a professional track record in the UK who is collaborating with other artists for a project with writing at its heart
- Live and work in Scotland and have done for at least 4 years
- Plan to share the outcome of your Award/promote the benefit of your Award with others based in Scotland

Please note the Tom McGrath Trust is unable to support:

- Applications from full time students
- Applications to pay for training course or conferences fees
- Previous recipients of a full Maverick Award from the Tom McGrath Trust, to the value of £1500 or more

Making an application:

To make an application for a 2020 Maverick Award [please use this link](#). We will ask you to provide us with the following information:

1. About your idea - what you would do with the Maverick Award.
2. How much you are applying for and how you anticipate using the money and when. Please give us a simple budget breakdown. (Please note: we encourage people to pay appropriate rates for everyone involved and we will not support applications where creatives are not remunerated for their time).
3. 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 idea
- How the project meets the Maverick spirit of the Award
- The proposed use of the budget

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Please do not send in any play-scripts, DVDs, publicity material, reviews or other additional items. If we require any additional material, we will ask for it.

Open for applications from 23rd October 2020. Closing date for applications 7th December 2020.

Previous Maverick Award winners:

2016 – Claire Duffy, [The Big Data Show](#); 2013 – Caitlin Skinner, [Village Pub Theatre](#); 2011 - Mary Paulson Ellis and Audrey Grant, [Ruffled Russell](#)

Thanks to Morven McLean at Original Editions for a generous donation towards this year's Awards: