

# Jerwood Art Fund Commissions

2024–2027



Art Fund\_

JERWOOD  
FOUNDATION

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Cover image: Jananne Al-Ani, *Timelines*, 2022, Panoramic Video Installation, 9 minutes 7 seconds. Installed at Towner Eastbourne. Co-commissioned by Film and Video Umbrella and Towner Eastbourne with Art Fund support through the Moving Image Fund for Museums. Supported by Arts Council England. © Jananne Al-Ani. Installation view. Courtesy of Towner Eastbourne. Photo: Rob Harris

# Summary

In partnership with Jerwood Foundation, Art Fund is offering two grants of £70,000 - £100,000 each year during 2024/25 to 2026/27, supporting museums and galleries to commission UK based early to mid-career artists working across all visual forms and disciplines.

These grants aim to provide museums and galleries with 100% of the funding required to commission early to mid-career artists to create new work of exceptional innovation and quality – furthering the artist’s development at a pivotal stage in their careers, while enriching public collections through new contemporary art.

In addition to providing support to artists and enabling them to pursue their practice in the current challenging economic environment, Jerwood Art Fund Commissions will develop the skills and confidence of UK museums to undertake commissioning projects, whilst engaging audiences in the work of living artists.

Through the partnership we aim to support:

- Two museums to offer commissions of £70,000 - £100,000 per year, covering the full costs of delivering and presenting the commissions in each partner museum.
- Early to mid-career artists who are either based in or have a connection to the UK, and for whom a commission of this scale and profile would constitute a significant step forward in their artistic and professional development.
- Artists working across a full range of artistic media and making practices (e.g. textiles, sculpture, ceramics, glass, painting, mixed-media, film, photography etc).
- Commissions that enter a permanent collection with a public UK museum or gallery, including permanent public realm commissions.
- Artists that demonstrate the potential for excellence and innovation in the works they produce, furthering the aims of both Art Fund and Jerwood Foundation.

# Eligibility criteria

## Organisation Criteria:

In-line with Art Fund's standard grant criteria, applications are invited from public museums, galleries, historic houses, libraries and archives based in the UK or Channel Islands that are:

- Open for at least half the week for at least six months of the year.
- At least provisionally accredited through the Arts Council Accreditation Scheme or other national equivalents.

We will also encourage partnerships between museums and other partners or institutions (e.g., commissioning agencies, local authorities etc) who want to commission work that will have a permanent legacy for artists, cultural organisations and audiences. The resultant artwork would still enter a permanent collection and be in the care of the lead museum or gallery.

Art Fund does not accept applications or enquiries directly from artists.



Omeima Mudawi-Rowlings MBE, *Drawn to the Light*, textile installation. Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft. © Omeima Mudawi-Rowlings. Courtesy of Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft. Photo: © Tessa Hallmann

# Eligibility criteria

## Artist and Commission Criteria:

Applications will be required to meet all of the following criteria in relation to the artist and resulting commission:

- The Jerwood Art Fund Commissions are aimed at supporting artists in the **earlier to middle stages of their career**, for whom this commission would constitute a significant opportunity. We envisage that this will include artists who are within the first five to ten years of their professional artistic practice, allowing for career breaks for any reason, or to have changed career later in life. In this definition we would also include artists who have changed medium. If you wish to commission an artist whose practice is more fully established or/ and are at the later stages of their career you may wish to consider applying for a commission grant via our regular grant programme.
- Artists who are either based in or have a **significant connection to the UK**.
- Artists working across **any area of artistic media or making practice** (e.g., textiles, sculpture, ceramics, glass, painting, mixed-media, film, photography, performance etc).
- Artists that demonstrate the potential for **excellence and innovation** in the works they produce.
- Commissions that enter a **permanent collection** with a public UK institution, including permanent public realm commissions.
- Commissions that demonstrate the potential for **international, national or regional significance**.
- Commissions for which this grant would constitute **100% of the funding required**.

# Application process

We will be accepting applications forms via email. Please read the 'submit your application' section on the Jerwood Art Fund Commissions webpage. The application form includes the following information:

## Benefit to the Artist:

How will the artist benefit from being involved in the commission? How will this commission constitute a significant step forward in their artistic and professional development? The commissioning organisation's track record in this area, and their experience of working with artists in this way to support the development of their artistic practice.

## Benefit to the Organisation:

How will the commission benefit the organisation and why are they choosing to commission new work (e.g., instead of acquiring existing work)? How will the commission enrich, compliment or respond to their existing collection? How will the commission develop the organisation's skills and confidence in undertaking commissioning projects?

## Benefit to Audiences:

How will audiences benefit from the commission, in the short, medium and long term? How will audiences engage with the commissioning process and experience the commission? Will the legacy of the commission have a longer-term impact for audiences and the wider community?

## Project Budget:

Detailed budget breakdown for the project, including clearly defined fees for the artist that are separate from the production costs, installation costs, launch and presentation costs, maintenance etc. Detail on how artist fees have been calculated, with reference to current sector benchmarks, e.g., a-n The Artists Information Company.

# Application process

Alongside an application form that will capture the above information, applicants will be required to submit the following supporting documents where relevant:

- A copy of the project/artist brief and accompanying artist proposal.
- Viewable material that is illustrative of the proposed commission. This could include preparatory drawings and sketches, images, maquettes, sample materials etc.
- Images of previous works realised by the artist.
- If the museum is commissioning an artist that has commercial representation, we would ask for the role of the commercial gallery and their involvement in the commission to be defined.
- Evidence that the project is realistically costed. This could include evidence of tender and procurement processes, a list of recent prices previously achieved for works by the artist, a budget for the production of new works by the artist of a similar scope, or other independent advice they may have received.
- Timeline for delivery of the commission.

- Budget Assessment. We want our funding to go as far as possible, so expect applicants to ensure the costs involved in commissioning are realistic and reasonable. Therefore, we require all applicants to provide us with an independent assessment of their budget.
- Feasibility and health and safety statement (if applicable)
- Maintenance plan and costings (if applicable)
- Risk Assessment (if applicable)

Art Fund's Programmes team will be available to provide pre-application advice and guidance to organisations looking to apply, helping to ensure that applications are well thought through and meet the eligibility criteria.

# Decision making process

## Stage 1

### Selection Panel

A selection panel involving representatives from both Jerwood Foundation and Art Fund, with a combination of both Trustees and senior staff, will review and consider all eligible applications, with the two strongest projects selected for final approval at Stage Two.

## Stage 2

### Art Fund Board Meeting

At this second stage, the two proposed projects would be considered by Art Fund's full Board at their next quarterly Board meeting. Art Fund would then inform the successful applicants of the outcome following the meeting.



# Terms and conditions

Please ensure that the person with relevant authority in your organisation has read and understood our terms and conditions before submitting an application. At the time of submission, we will ask you to confirm that these have been read and understood. At the time of claiming a grant, you will need to sign an agreement saying that you accept our terms and conditions. If applying in partnership with other organisations for a shared commission, all partners will have to sign our terms and conditions. For works in the public realm, copyright and long term care of the commissioned work will need to be considered.

Our full terms and conditions can be accessed on our website:

[artfund.org/grant-conditions.pdf](https://artfund.org/grant-conditions.pdf)

If your organisation has already received a commission or acquisition grant from us, you will already be in our partner museum network. For new applicants, if you are successfully awarded a grant and accept our terms and conditions, you will join our network. Section 4 explains in greater detail the opportunities for us to work together to promote your organisation, to thank our members and enable them and the wider public to see works of art that they have helped acquire.

# Terms and conditions

To help facilitate this, our terms and conditions ask you to:

- give free admission to your permanent collections for visitors with a National Art Pass
- give free or half-price entry to your temporary exhibitions for visitors with a National Art Pass
- make a permanent acknowledgement of our help
- We expect to be fully acknowledged in all credit lines and associated material relating to the commission, including when on loan or tour to other organisations
- collaborate with us on publicity and promotional work
- notify us of any long-term loan of the commission or proposed sale or transfer of the object in future



Ashish Shah, *Be More Tender (Woman with Hose)*, Hand-printed C-type photographic print, 2023 Commissioned by the William Morris Gallery, London, made possible with Art Fund support. © Ashish Shah. Courtesy William Morris Gallery, London.

# Get in touch

For more information please contact:

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