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**2024 GM Arts Access Bursaries**

**In partnership with Wigan Council*,* GM Arts is offering bursaries upto£500for Wigan based freelance creative practitioners.** These bursaries are here to support your growth by making it easier to attend workshops, training, networking, or access other professional development opportunities.

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# **Key Information**

### **Key Dates**

Deadline for applications: Wednesday 12th February 2025

Applicants notified of the outcome: Monday 17th February 2025

Invoice required from Applicant: Sunday 16th March 2025

Opportunity completion date: By Sunday 1st June 2025

### **How you will be paid**

If your application is successful, you will need to provide us with an invoice for the amount you have applied for.

If you have not invoiced Wigan Council before, you will need to be set up as a new supplier. We will require the following information from you by **Tuesday 18th February:**

* Your full legal name
* A current proof of address
* Your bank details.

Please be advised that it may take up to 2 weeks for you to be set up as a supplier and once your invoice is submitted it can take up to 4 weeks for the bursary to be paid.

### **Requirements**

If you are intending to use the bursary towards a workshop, training, networking, or other professional development opportunity, this must have taken place and/or been completed by 1st June 2025.

If your application is successful, you will be asked to complete an evaluation form as part of the acceptance process.

**Please consider these details carefully when applying.**

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# **Section 1: Eligibility**

We recognise that financial barriers can significantly limit access to professional development opportunities for freelance creative practitioners.

The GM Arts Access Bursaries are designed to support those who find it challenging to cover the costs associated with artist development, such as:

• Collaboration opportunities with other artists or creatives

• Exhibition or performance opportunities

• Industry conferences and seminars

• Mentoring sessions

• Networking events

• Online courses and webinars

• Portfolio reviews

• Professional coaching

• Question and answer sessions with industry experts

• Rehearsal or studio opportunities

• Research trips

• Travel costs

• Residencies

• Training workshops or courses

We aim to cover expenses that may be overlooked by other funding sources, including, but not limited to, the cost of taking time off work, travel, accommodation, and caregiving costs.

Our goal is to reduce financial pressures so that local creative practitioners with a Wigan postcode can focus on expanding skills and networks, irrespective of personal or economic circumstances. The bursary is to support freelance or sole traders, so small organisations are not eligible.

**Please note**: GM Arts Access Bursaries are designed to assist those who genuinely need financial support. If you are comfortably able to cover these costs without assistance, we kindly ask that you leave this opportunity for those who need it most. This ensures our resources support those for whom such financial assistance can make a significant difference in accessing professional development opportunities.

As the bursary is intended to support local creative practitioners, we encourage you to seek out professional development opportunities in the region.

**The bursary is not aimed at supporting the purchase of hardware or equipment.**

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**Please mark with an X to confirm the following:**

* I am a creative practitioner livingor working inWigan Borough
* I have reviewed the eligibility criteria and believe I am eligible for a GM Arts Access Bursary

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# **Section 2: About You (Data kept in Wigan District)**

**Your First Name\***

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**Your Last Name\***

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**Your Email\***

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**Location:** Please enter your postcode:

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# **Section 3: Your Creative Practice (Data shared with GM Arts)**

**Artform:** What kind of art or creative work are you involved in? (Please mark with an **X** or circle)

* Music
* Theatre
* Dance
* Visual arts
* Literature
* Combined arts
* Film, media & TV
* Something else

If you selected ‘something else’ or would like to describe your art form in a few words, please do so here **(Limit: 100 Words)**:

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**About Your Practice:** Please tell us a little bit about your creative practice **(Limit: 200 Words)**

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**Link:** If available, please provide a weblink to your portfolio or share your social media handles. This will offer us more insight into your creative work.

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# **Section 4: Your Bursary Application (Data shared with GM Arts)**

**Amount:** How much of a bursary are you applying for?

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**Opportunity Details:** Please share details about the workshop, training, networking, or other professional development opportunity that the bursary would enable you to participate in or access, including the beginning and end dates, as well as a weblink if available. Please also provide a budget of the amount you are applying for, including details such as event costs, travel cost, etc.

**For all successful bursaries awarded, invoices, receipts and proof of purchases are required.**

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**What difference will the bursary make?** Please share your thoughts on how receiving a bursary could positively influence your creative journey and career. (**Word Limit: 300 Words)**

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# **Communications**

* I permit The Turnpike Gallery – Wigan Councilto contact me via email about creative events, surveys, and opportunities, including details on forthcoming rounds of GM Arts Access Bursaries.

# **Consent and Confirmation**

* I acknowledge that certain non-personal details of my application to Turnpike Gallery – Wigan Council may be shared with GM Arts for the purpose of collaborative learning.
* I consent to being contacted via email by Turnpike Gallery – Wigan Council to be informed about the outcome of my bursary application and, if successful, to coordinate the bursary payment.
* If successful, I agree to provideTurnpike Gallery – Wigan Councilwith a short quote via email about how the bursary was used

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**Please return your completed application to The Turnpike Gallery:**

**Email:** theturnpikegallery@wigan.gov.uk

***Thank you***

Thank you for taking the time to apply for a GM Arts Artist Access Bursary. We will be in touch soon about the outcome of your application.