

The Mighty Creatives: FAQs for Youth Cultural Life Fund

Please do refer to this document to help you complete the application form.

1. Who are The Mighty Creatives?

Established in 2009, The Mighty Creatives is a charity which has transformed the lives of Children and Young People through arts, culture and creativity. Based at the heart of the Cultural Quarter in Leicester, we have served children and young people's communities across the East Midlands, reaching across the UK and Internationally through our partnership work.

You can find out more about The Mighty Creatives [on our website here](#).

2. What can my creative idea be?



We want your creative idea to respond to Covid-19 and the challenges you, your families and/or your communities are facing at this moment, to use creativity to make a positive change on your community.

Below are some ideas of what your creative responses could include:

- Put together creative packages for isolated members of your community
- Organise an online artist Q&A for students at your school
- Download software to create an inspiring animation for your community
- Write a song and fund an artist to record it
- Design a mural for a disused area of your local town
- Publish a printable comic strip and make it downloadable for people to read

Please note that these are just suggestions to help you come up with your own ideas! We welcome any creative ideas that fit the brief.

3. Where can I find inspiration?

You can find lots of information online about past social action projects that aim to make a difference in their community. Here are some websites to help you:



- [National Citizen Service](#) and [here](#).
- #iWillCampaign: [The Power of Youth Challenge](#)
- [British Youth Council's Social Action Archive](#)

4. What do you mean by a 'positive difference' to my community?

When we say, 'positive difference', we mean something that helps to solve a problem or improve an area of someone's life. For example, you may have noticed that

members of your local care home have not been having many visitors recently and may be feeling isolated. To resolve this, you may want to make something creative to uplift elderly people's spirits whilst in a care home by painting pictures for them or knitting/crocheting hearts. This will undoubtedly make a positive difference on their wellbeing and will make them feel more connected to their community.

Other positive differences could include:

- The people in your community feel more connected and less isolated
- Improving mental wellbeing and mental health
- Increased morale and hope within your community
- Improved access to resources to encourage creativity at home and in communities

5. How do I receive my bursary?



If you are successful, you will receive what we call a 'Grant Agreement', this is something you will need to sign (along with your parents/care giver if you're under 18) to confirm you understand what the bursary is for.

At this time, we will also ask you to complete a form with yours or your parents/care givers bank details so that we can make a payment to you to complete your grant.

Once we have received these, we will ask you to send an invoice. This is a document that asks for a total sum of money and explains what the money will be used for.

Your grant will be paid to you once you have attended an online session with a member of TMC staff, completed a questionnaire together, and completed a timeline for your project to ensure that you can finish on time.

6. I have never signed a grant agreement or sent an invoice before. Will I receive support with this?

Absolutely! We will go over the grant agreement with you and will provide an invoice template for you to complete with your/your nominated adult's details. A TMC member of staff will be on hand to provide you with the support you need.

7. What is a Creative Coach?

A Creative Coach is a member of The Mighty Creatives' team who will be on hand to support you throughout your project. Alongside a series of drop-in and group support sessions that are online, your Creative Coach will be able to offer support on developing your idea, delivering your project, and sharing your achievements, as well as any other help you may need throughout the process.

8. Who will choose my Creative Coach?

Creative Coaches are paired with you by The Mighty Creatives. We look at their expertise and interests to make the decision. We will look at your project and pair you with the Creative Coach who is most suited to support you. We will also make a decision based on the availability that you have indicated.

9. What if I don't need a Creative Coach to help me?

If you feel you don't need a Creative Coach, we will still be in contact to monitor your project and to complete evaluations. We would also still like you to attend the online group support sessions.

10. What other support will I receive?

Alongside the application and grant agreement briefings, there will be several optional online briefings that you can attend if you wish to. They will cover the following areas: Developing Your Approach; Planning My Project; Delivering My Project and Sharing My Project.

There will also be two additional drop-in surgeries you can attend, just to say hi, share any progress and ask any questions if you would like.

If you cannot attend them, do not worry. Your Creative Coach will be there to help too if you need one.

11. Why are you asking for my availability on certain days?

We are asking to know your availability for Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays because we plan to deliver online group support sessions on these days.

12. How long do I have to complete my project?



You have until the end of **February 2021** to complete your funded project. This can be supported by a Creative Coach. There will be a sharing and celebration in Spring 2021 to share the work you have done. However, we would highly encourage you to keep building your ideas and making a positive difference on your community through creativity past this end point.

13. What happens if something changes to my circumstance that means I cannot finish on time?

We are aware that sometimes life can get in the way of deadlines, especially now during such an unpredictable time. Your well-being is the most important thing to us, so all we ask is that you keep your Creative Coach or a member of TMC staff in the loop of any developments that might disrupt your project or get in contact with them

about anything you are struggling with, so that we help you to finish your project as close as we can to the deadline. What is most important is that you do not worry and know that we are here to support you.

14. How can I submit my application?

You can submit your application by completing the application form, or if you are having any issues with this format, please contact us about other ways that you can apply. Email us at artalliances@themightycreatives.com

15. How will you decide on successful applications?

We are looking for applications that use creativity to make a positive social change in their community, this can be something as little and as small as you want, it will just need to improve the lives of you, your family and/or your community.

There will be a panel that will include The Mighty Creatives staff who will view your applications. We will then assess and score submissions against our criteria. We cannot guarantee that we can fund your application.

16. What if the idea I put in my application form isn't actually what I end up working on?

This is completely fine. You can work with a Creative Coach who will be able to support you to develop your idea, which may mean your idea changes throughout the process. The key thing is that it should set out to support your community and make a positive change!

17. What is an Arts Award?

Arts Award inspires young people to grow their arts and leadership talents. It is creative, valuable, and accessible. It can be achieved at five different levels. You can find out more about it [here](#). In the application form we have asked if you are interested in Arts Award, based on responses we may contact you further.

18. What is a privacy statement and why do I need to complete it?

A privacy statement describes why and how we collect and use personal data and provides information about your rights. It applies to the data we receive by people themselves and others. The law says that we are required to do this. You need to complete one to give us permission to contact you and safely store your data to support you through this programme.

19. Why do you need my parent/ carer giver's contact details for under 18s?

We need these details because we are not allowed to hold contact details for anyone

under 18. If you supply these details of a parent/ carer giver, please make sure that you have permission.

20. What is an Equal Opportunities Form and why do I need to complete it?

Equal Opportunities Forms are not mandatory and **do not have to be completed**. They are completely optional and anonymous. The reason that we ask for this information is because it helps us to understand who we are reaching and how we can better serve everyone in our community. If you do not feel comfortable completing the Equal Opportunities Form please skip any/ all of the questions. This will have no impact on the outcome of your application.

21. I've never put together a budget before. What would one look like?

A budget is the total costs you expect to spend over a project. Your budget might include things like resources, marketing costs, or costs of commissioning an artist for example. You may want to do some research around how much things will cost before you submit an application.

You may want to consider costs like the following. These will be completely dependent on what sort of project you wish to do:

- Resources (like art resources and materials etc.)
- Equipment
- Stationery
- Printing
- Postage
- Technical support
- Any software/app costs
- Costs for commissioning artists
- Marketing and advertising
- Design costs

Here is a very simple example to help you:

Items	Cost
Resources for 10 packages	£100.00
Printing costs	£50.00
Postage	£100.00
Total	£250.00

Glossary to support application of Youth Cultural Life Fund:



Below are some definitions of words that may help you complete your application form.

Application Form: This is the form you need to complete to submit an application. We will use this completed form to assess whether you receive a grant or not.

Bursary: A sum of money given for a particular purpose (e.g. the money we are agreeing to give to you to develop your project), also known as a grant.

Creative Coach: This is a member of The Mighty Creatives team who will support you to develop, deliver and present your idea and project. They will be contactable by email.

Grant Agreement: This is an agreement between an organisation and a person receiving the grant. It sets terms, conditions and informs the person receiving the grant about what they must do in order to receive their money. If you are successful, you will receive a grant agreement to read and sign, along with your parent/carer if you are under 18 in order to receive your money.

Grant: A sum of money given for a particular purpose (e.g. the money we are agreeing to give to you to develop your project), also known as a bursary.

Invoice: This is a form you send to ask for a payment (a template will be given to you if you haven't sent one before).