

Wellcome Trust – Public Engagement Programme

INTRODUCTION

The mission of the Wellcome Trust is to support and promote research to improve the health of humans and animals. In addition to this, they seek to improve understanding of how science and medicine have developed and how research affects people and society today. In line with this one of their current funding themes is Public Engagement. This funding brief will detail the opportunities available under Society Awards and Art Awards.

Key Facts

Small grants up to £30,000 and large grants of £30,000 and over

Art Awards deadlines 30th April 2010, 30th July 2010, 29th October 2010

Society Awards deadline 31st March 2010

ART AWARDS

Art Awards support imaginative and experimental arts projects that investigate biomedical science.

The scheme aims to support projects which:

- Stimulate interest, excitement and debate about biomedical science through the arts;
- Examine the social, cultural and ethical impact of biomedical science;
- Support formal and informal learning;
- Encourage new ways of thinking; and
- Encourage interdisciplinary partnerships in arts, science and education.

All art forms are included in this programme: dance; drama; performance arts; visual arts; music; film; craft; photography; creative writing; and digital media. The Trust encourages applications from projects which engage either adult and/ or young people.

FUNDING

Funding can be applied for at two levels and for a maximum of three years:

Small awards – up to £30,000

Funding can either be used to support the development of new project ideas, deliver small-scale productions or workshops, investigate and experiment with new methods of engagement or to develop new collaborative relationships between artists and scientists.

Large awards – over £30,000

Funding can be used to fund full or part production of large-scale arts projects that will have significant impact on the public's engagement with biomedical science.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be based in the UK or Republic of Ireland. This programme is open to a wide range of people, including but not limited to:

- Artists;
- Scientists;
- Curators;
- Filmmakers;
- Writers;
- Producers and directors;
- Academics;
- Teachers;
- Education workers.

Individuals can apply, but are usually affiliated to organisations, which can include:

- Museums;
- Arts venues;
- Schools;
- Local education authorities;
- Universities and colleges;
- Youth clubs; and
- NHS.

DEADLINES

For small grants up to £30,000 the upcoming deadlines are:

30th April 2010

30th July 2010

29th October 2010

For large grants over £30,000 the deadline has past. If the Trust announces further deadlines we will update you.

SOCIETY AWARDS

Society Awards are for ambitious projects that engage people with developments in biomedical science on a regional or national scale. The Trust aims to encourage people of all ages and walk of life to learn about and have the opportunity to question and debate developments in biomedical sciences.

Projects should aim to achieve at least one of the following:

- Stimulate interest, excitement and debate about biomedical science through various mediums;
- Examine the social, cultural and ethical impact of biomedical science; and
- Encourage new ways of thinking.

In October of each year the Trust accepts proposals on a selected theme. An announcement of the theme for 2010 is coming soon. In 2009 the theme was 'eating'.

FUNDING

Society Awards are for amounts over £30,000 and can last for a maximum of three years.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be based in the UK or the Republic of Ireland. The programme is open to anyone with a good idea for engaging people with developments in biomedical science, including but not limited to:

- Mediators and practitioners of science communication;
- Science centre / museum staff;
- Health professionals; and
- Academics in bioscience, social science, bioethics and history.

Individuals can apply by grants will normally be awarded through organisations, including:

- Venues attracting large audiences (museums, cultural or nature attractions);
- Arts agencies;
- Production companies and broadcast media;
- Local education authorities;
- Youth clubs and community groups; and
- NHS

DEADLINES

The open call deadline for 2010 is **31st March 2010**.

The next themed deadline will be October 2010, although the theme is yet to be announced.

CONTACT

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