

Funding to Boost Woods for Learning in the North East of Scotland (Scotland)

Groups, organisations and schools that want to set up projects or events and use woodlands as a learning environment are being invited to apply for financial support through the Woods for Learning Fund provided by North East Scotland Forest Education Initiative (FEI). Woods for learning' funding offers up to £500 towards the costs of project or events that encourage people of any age to visit local woodlands and gain a wider understanding of trees, woods and forests. The deadline for applications is the 31 March 2009.

<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/newsrele.nsf/1d52e85b67920fe580256a18006008d5/769d52dc07fc6d3f802574fa003df771!OpenDocument>

Wider Role Fund (Scotland)

Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) and voluntary organisations working in partnership with RSLs are able to apply for funding through the Wider Role Fund. The aim of the fund is to develop the role of RSLs in regenerating the communities in which they work. The type of activities that can be funded through the fund includes improving people's health, helping people get training or jobs, improving community safety, helping people with their finances and increasing people's skills and confidence. Priority will be given to projects that target disadvantaged areas or people facing disadvantage. Applications can be made at any time.

http://www.communitiesscotland.gov.uk/stellent/groups/public/documents/webpages/cs_006811.hcsp#TopOfPage

£25 Million Available for Councils to Build Housing (Scotland)

The Scottish Government has announced that local authorities are being invited to apply for a share of £25 million to help kickstart a new generation of council house building. The aim of the new funding scheme is to help focus financial resources on those councils that are best placed to deliver much needed new homes quickly and to increase the supply of affordable housing, a key theme of the Scottish Government's economic recovery plan to help households through the current economic downturn. Agreement has been reached with the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) on the approach to encouraging council house building, including the criteria that will be used to ensure that the £25 million is focused on councils with housing need and the resources to take forward projects in the near future. The funding is aimed at encouraging councils to use their prudential borrowing capacity or other resources to build new homes. Joint Government/COSLA letters have been sent to councils inviting them to apply for support. It is intended to agree funding allocations this financial year and the money will be made available once the houses are completed.

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2008/11/25144019>

Global Curriculum Project Grants (UK)

The British Council, has announced that the next application closing date for the Global Curriculum Project grant scheme is the 1st March 2009. The grant is available to Schools or clusters of schools, that have a well established partnership with another school in Africa, Asia, the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and provides funding to further develop joint curricular activities with a global dimension. To be eligible the school to school partnership must have been in existence for at least two years. Grants are available for up to three years and can cover travel costs of at least two teachers from each school to visit the partner school as well as project costs such as materials, training and supply cover. The level of funding available varies from £5,400 for school-to-school partnerships involving one school in each country to £16,200 for partnership involving more than 6 schools in each country. The DFID Global School Partnerships programme is currently undergoing a competitive tendering process and the British Council are unable to confirm application deadlines beyond spring 2009.

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/globalschools-grants-cp.htm>

Batty Charitable Trust (UK)

Charities, in particular smaller charities can apply for funding through the Batty Charitable Trust (BCT). Grants of between £1,000 and £10,000 are available to support community and grass roots projects. Grants are usually awarded for a one year period. In the year ending 31 March 2008 the Trust made 119 grants totalling £551,500. In the previous year (ended 31 March 2007) the Trust paid out 95 grants totalling £502,675. Example of the type of projects supported include amongst many others projects that support vulnerable and disadvantaged children; musical instruments and other types of equipment; the running costs of shelters; refurbishment of community facilities; and projects supporting people with disabilities; etc. Applications can be submitted at any time.

<http://www.battycharitabletrust.org.uk/>

Arts Awards (UK)

The Wellcome Trust is inviting organisations and individuals to apply for funding through its Arts Awards. The Arts Awards support projects that engage the public with biomedical science through the arts including dance, drama, performance arts, visual arts, music, film, craft, photography, creative writing or digital media. Applications are invited for projects up to £30,000. The aim of the awards is to support arts projects that reach new audiences which may not traditionally be interested in science and provide new ways of thinking about the social, cultural and ethical issues around contemporary science. The scheme is open to a wide range of people including, among others, artists, scientists, curators, filmmakers, writers, producers, directors, academics, science communicators, teachers, arts workers and education officers. For small to medium-sized projects (up to and including £30 000) upcoming deadlines are:

- 9 January 2009
- 3 April 2009
- 31 July 2009

Decisions will be made approximately three months after the relevant deadline. For large projects (over £30, 000) the next deadline is: 23 January 2009.

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/Funding/Public-engagement/Grants/Arts-Awards/index.htm>

Step Beyond Travel Fund (UK)

The European Cultural Foundation provides grants for young artists and performers to collaborate and network with other young Europeans. There are no application deadlines but applications to the STEP beyond travel fund should be submitted at least eight weeks before the date of travel. The Fund has a particular focus in 2007 and 2008 on promoting Europe's cultural diversity. The fund is available to artists, cultural operators / activists, cultural journalists, cultural translators and cultural researchers. The STEP beyond fund will make a contribution to travel costs, visa costs, and, in certain cases, accommodation costs (through an allowance) of those awarded a grant. It is an asset if the host organization could support the accommodation costs. Applications can be made at any time.

<http://www.eurocult.org/we-support-cultural-cooperation/programmes/mobility/apply-step-beyond/>

Young Roots (UK)

Young Roots offers grants of between £3,000 and £25,000. The scheme aims to involve 13-20 year-olds (up to 25 for those with special needs) in finding out about their heritage, developing skills, building confidence and promoting community involvement. Projects need to be related to the local and culturally varied heritage of the UK. For example, it could involve young people researching a local archive or doing practical casework on a nature reserve. Projects must also show how young people are managing and participating in the project. Projects should promote social inclusion and equal opportunities by involving a wide range of young people of different abilities and cultural backgrounds. Applications can be made at any time.

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/YoungRoots/>

It's Your Community Initiative (UK)

O2 have committed £1 million to the "Its Your Community" initiative. It's Your Community, which is managed by the Conservation Foundation, provides grants of £100 to £1,000 to individuals and groups to improve their local environment. The type of projects supported in the past included environmental projects such as turning derelict land into an amenity park or wildlife area, tree planting, creating a wildlife pond, renovating neglected river and canal footpaths, providing water butts and recycling facilities in village halls, etc. The commitment by O2 means that the initiative will now be able to support up to 60 projects per month. Applications can be made at any time and are judged on the 20th of every month. Applications can be made at any time.

<http://www.itsyourcommunity.co.uk/>