

John Logie Baird Awards Programme 2009 (Scotland)

Scotland's leading inventors are in line for a welcome boost, after the launch of an awards programme aimed at reaffirming the country's place as an international leader in the field. The second annual John Logie Baird awards offer a total winners' package worth £20,000 to entrepreneurs and companies who demonstrate original and commercially viable ideas. Entrants will compete initially at a regional level, with workshops on patents, prototypes and product development provided for the most promising ideas. They will receive further assistance, including feedback from a panel of business experts. Regional winners will be selected to go forward to the national competition, to compete for one of seven awards including Young Innovator, Social Enterprise Innovator and Knowledge Transfer Champion, which rewards innovation within, or in partnership with, the higher education sector. The winners of the seven prizes on offer will receive a year of tailored support, as well as a PR support package. Previous winners have included:

The Scottish Seabird Centre which won the Public and Third Sector category for its Pods4Schools project, which enables schools to create wildlife podcasts and Shaw Water Engineering which won the Early Stage Impact through Innovation award for a monitoring system to check drinking water supplies for the parasite Cryptosporidium, which can prove fatal if ingested. Application will close on the 19th November 2009.

<http://www.johnlogiebairdawards.co.uk/awards/apply.aspx>

Made in Scotland 2010 (Scotland)

The Scottish Arts Council has announced that it is inviting applications through the Made in Scotland 2010 programme. Funding is available to Scottish dance and theatre companies, as well as individual artists, to present artistically ambitious work at the Fringe in the Made in Scotland showcase in 2010. Made in Scotland is a joint initiative between the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, the Federation of Scottish Theatre and the Scottish Arts Council, supported by the Scottish Government's Edinburgh Festivals Expo Fund. Funding is intended to support the costs of presenting work at. It will provide support towards the costs involved in presenting a production at the Fringe and mitigate against the financial risks this involves. Surgeries with staff at the Fringe and the Scottish Arts Council will take place to discuss potential Made in Scotland applications and advise on bringing a show to the Fringe.

The deadline for applications to Made in Scotland 2010 is Monday the 23rd November 2009.

<http://www.scottisharts.org.uk/1/funding/expofund.aspx>

Barclays Community Finance Fund (UK)

As part of Barclays' financial inclusion strategy to improve the capacity of community finance providers such as Credit Unions and Community Development Finance Initiatives (CDFIs), funding is available to support the delivery of affordable credit to those individuals who may otherwise access high cost credit or resort to taking out illegal loans. The objectives of the Barclays Community Finance Fund are;

- to increase the existing community finance providers' capacity to deliver affordable credit to the low income consumers by providing them with short-term direct financial support;
- and to provide financial support to credit unions and CDFIs that are starting up in areas where public access to affordable credit is restricted.

Credit Unions and CDFIs are able to apply for grants of up to £50,000 for a variety of purposes including (but not limited to) marketing, infrastructure, product development, mergers between businesses and the delivery of financial capability or money advice services. The total value of the Community Finance Fund is £250,000 and Barclays' are looking to award a total of 12 grants. The fund is being offered through a nominations process.

The deadline for being nominated is 5pm on the 6th November 2009.

<http://www.transact.org.uk/page.asp?section=00010001000400260001>

Performing Arts Fund (UK)

The BBC Performing Arts Fund in association with Making Music have launched a funding scheme for choirs and other singing groups. Grants of between £500 and £5,000 are available to adult or youth choirs of 8 or more individual singers (excluding those funded by Local Authority), who meet and rehearse towards a live performance. Grants can be used for:

- Commissioning new music
- Training and development
- Masterclasses

- Workshops
- Projects to attract new members.

The deadline for applications is the 30th October 2009.

http://extdev.bbc.co.uk/performingartsfund/choral_ambition/

European Training Grants for School Education Staff (UK)

UK schools looking to develop the skills of their education staff have the opportunity to apply for funding through the European Commissions Comenius – In-Service training programme. This is part of the EU's Lifelong Learning programme and provides financial support to help improve the quality of school education by enabling staff to undertake training in a country other than that in which they normally work or live. In this way, participants are encouraged to improve their practical teaching/coaching/counselling/management skills and knowledge, and to gain a broader understanding of school education in Europe. The training activity must have a strong European focus in terms of subject matter and the profile of trainers and participants. The funding is available to school education staff (teaching and non-teaching), also unemployed teachers and teachers reentering the profession after a period away from teaching. Applications have to be made via the school and the level of funding available is up to €1500 Euro 1 week, €2000 Euro for 2 weeks and up to a maximum of €2500 Euro for 6 weeks. A higher grant may be awarded where special needs or exceptionally high travel costs are involved.

The next provisional closing date for applications is the 15th January 2010.

<http://www.britishcouncil.org/comenius-professional-development-courses.htm>

Partnership Grants Scheme for Primary and Secondary Schools (UK)

The Royal Society has announced that the latest round of Partnership Grants is now open for applications. Through the scheme grants of between £250 and £3,000 will be available to support teachers, scientists and engineers help develop science projects. The aim is to make the teaching of science more interesting within primary and secondary schools. The Partnership grants scheme forms partnerships to allow teachers to increase their scientific knowledge and to give scientists and engineers the chance to develop their communication skills and engage with enquiring young minds. Any UK primary or secondary school teacher or practising scientist/engineer

can apply as long as the students involved in the project are between 5 and 18. Applications must be made together with the partner, and need to be signed by the teacher, partner and schools' headteacher. Examples of previously funded projects include:

- St Michael on the Mount Primary School received a grant of £2,050 to help pupils to learn about the human body by constructing a 15 foot skeleton. Working with engineers from Airbus UK, every class constructed a working model of their particular body part, giving the pupils the opportunity to apply some of the scientific principles they had discovered.
- Netheard High School, Dereham (Norfolk) received £2,488 for 'Our Star'. The project gave the whole school the opportunity to explore the solar system at first hand.

The deadline for applications is the 6th November 2009.

<http://royalsociety.org/page.asp?id=1948>

EPSRC's Sustainable Urban Environment (UK)

The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) has announced that they have between £6 and £8 million through the Sustainable Urban Environment (SUE) programme, to support research activities that are truly forward looking and focussed on the Sustainable Urban Environment of 2050. EPSRC seek to support significant new research directions, by focussing on identifying and addressing the grand challenges associated with integration and connectivity across different spatial and temporal scales within the urban environment to deliver sustainability. The call is open to:

- All UK Higher Education institutions
- Research Council institutes
- Independent research organisations.

The deadline for applications is the 3rd November 2009.

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/CallsForProposals/sueiascall09.htm>

Partnerships for Public Engagement (UK)

The Engineering and Physical Science Research Council has announced a new call for proposals under its Partnerships for Public Engagement (PPE) Scheme. Under this scheme, funding is available to researchers to engage with the public, including young people in order to communicate the excitement of fundamental and applied research in science and engineering. Past projects have included:

- Displays in public places such as shopping centres
- Interactive exhibits in science centres
- Competitions in schools
- Curriculum resources
- Videos
- Public debates.

This call is for researchers with previous public engagement experience, including those with previous PPE awards. There is no limit to the scale of the project or the amount of funding that can be applied for. However, the vast majority of projects funded in the past have been in the range from £20,000 to 120,000.

The closing date for applications is 4 pm on the 11th November 2009.

<http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/CallsForProposals/ppe14.htm>