

GMCA Culture Fund: Inspire 2024-2026

Managed by Salford CVS on behalf of 10GM



Grants of £500 – £2,000 for freelance and independent artists, and smaller organisations across Greater Manchester

Background

In light of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been found and reported that the level of investment and support for freelancers, independent creatives, artists, musicians, performers across the arts could be improved, with many freelance artists leaving the sector. Following extensive consultation, the need for a focused, small investments into the creative sector was highlighted. This led to GMCA establishing this fund to support the regrowth and strengthening of the creative sector in Greater Manchester.

Is Inspire for me / my organisation?

You may be a musician who would benefit from a new instrument, a small group who need funds to expand your wardrobe or replace costumes, or a freelance artist who wishes to upskill via a training course. If you are a freelance artist, independent artist/creative, or small creative arts organisation (less than £100k turnover), then this fund is for you.

What is eligible for funding?

The GMCA Culture Fund: Inspire will prioritise funding applications that:

- Allow you to grow as a creative or creative organisation
- Support your work and growth in Greater Manchester
- Show evidence of added value to creative individuals or organisations

Examples of funded items include:

• Software	• Contributions towards venue or room hire	• Small Capital Expenditures
• Training/course fees	• Upgrades to kit	• Equipment
• Materials and resources	• Tools to enhance working environment	• Instruments

This fund is unique, allowing you to invest in yourself and your work, through assets or key costs that will support you as a creative or organisation.

This funding is not suitable for projects and events.

What will not be considered eligible?

- Total costs of an event or project
- Living costs, costs to pay yourself or others for time worked, or expenses
- Organisations already funded by the Spirit and Sustain strands of the GMCA Culture Fund
- Costs towards a project or activity that will last beyond April 2026

Funding rounds and submission deadlines

There will be 5 rounds of funding 2024 – 2026, as shown in the table below. Please submit your application for consideration in the round of your choice.

You may apply to one round only. Due to the volumes of applications received and very limited funding available, unsuccessful applicants may not reapply.

Round	Day	Date	Year	Time
1	Friday	1 st March	2024	12:00
2	Friday	31 st May	2024	12:00
3	Friday	1 st November	2024	12:00
4	Friday	30 th May	2025	12:00
5	Friday	31 st October	2025	12:00

Application Process

Individuals or groups may submit applications for £500 - £2,000, via a short written application form. Use this form to outline or showcase your work, and explain why you would benefit from this funding. There is the option to submit an accompanying video (3-mins max) in the form of the link (URL) to a video sharing website (e.g. YouTube), not attached video files (e.g. MP4 files).

What happens after submitting an application?

All applicants will be notified of the outcome, by email, within 10 weeks of the closing date.

If successful, your award will be paid into your account about by bank transfer on receipt of an Acceptance of Grant Form. To show how the grant has made a difference, we will request a very simple update on the impact of the grant.

Any questions?

If you are unsure whether your idea is an eligible spend, or would like help completing the application form please email: inspire@salfordcvs.co.uk.

Please submit completed applications to: inspire@salfordcvs.co.uk

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