



The Writer's Compass

Info sheet: Sources of funding for professional development for writers in the UK and Ireland

This info sheet has been compiled to give you an idea of the range of funding sources available to support the professional development of writers across the UK and Ireland. It does not claim to be in any way a definitive listing.

Contents

1 Public funding	1
2 Charitable trusts and foundations	4
3 Awards, prizes and bursaries	6
4 Fellowships	10
5 Educational grants	12
6 Useful sources of information	13

1 Public funding

England

Arts Council England

The national development agency for the arts in England. Funding for the professional development of writers is available through the Grants for the arts programme which funds arts activities that engage people in England or that helps artists and arts organisations carry out their work. Grants for individuals range from £1,000 to £30,000 and can cover activities lasting up to three years. This is a continuous programme – six working weeks are needed to process applications for £10,000 or less, and 12 working weeks for applications over £10,000. Extensive guidance is available on the website. It's worth checking with your regional office to see if they run funding seminars or offer individual advice sessions. Do make contact with your regional literature/theatre relationship manager before applying. (For advice from an experienced fundraiser, see the briefing *Planning a project and funding it* available to download from The Writer's Compass Resources section of the NAWA site.)

<http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/funding/grants-arts/>

Northern Ireland

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland

The lead development agency for the arts in Northern Ireland. Funding for writers is available through the Support for the Individual Artist Programme (SIAP). Funding schemes available within the current SIAP programme include: General Art Awards (max £1,500), Self-arranged Residencies (max £5,000), Major Individual Awards (2 awards of £15,000), Artists' Career Enhancement Scheme (£5,000) and Travel Awards (covers air travel at specified rates). There is a rolling programme for Travel Awards (you must apply at least four weeks before your anticipated date of departure) – all the other schemes operate on a deadline basis.
www.artscouncil-ni.org

Scotland

Creative Scotland

Invests in the arts, screen and creative industries for the benefit of the people of Scotland. Its 15 Investment Programmes include the following which are open to individuals: International (includes research and development and attendances at conferences – awards in range of £500 – £40,000), Quality Production – Arts (awards in range of £1,000 – £60,000), Talent Development which includes Professional Development (£1,000 – £10,000, year round) and the residency programme Creative Futures (likely to be in range of £5,000 – £100,000) and Touring, Festivals and Events (£1,000 – £60,000). Ideas that don't fit neatly into any of the Programmes can be submitted to the Ideas Bank.
<http://www.creativescotland.com/investment/investment-overview>

Scottish Book Trust

The leading agency for the promotion of literature, reading and writing in Scotland. Manages The New Writers' Awards which provide financial support for eight new writers to concentrate on their work, plus professional guidance to move towards publication. (£2,000 cash award plus bespoke professional development package). Annual application deadline.
<http://www.scottishbooktrust.com/new-writers-awards>

Wales

The Arts Council of Wales

Responsible for funding and developing the arts in Wales. Supports individual artists working in all artforms (including writers) through Small Grants: Training (£250 – £2,000) and Project (£250 – £5,000), both have quarterly deadlines, Mainline Production and Development Grants (£5,001 – £20,000), half-yearly deadlines, Creative Wales Awards (£5,001 – £25,000) and Creative Wales Ambassador Awards (£25,000), both annual deadlines.
<http://www.artscouncilofwales.org/what-we-do/funding/funding-advice-and-guidelines/individuals>

Literature Wales

The National Company for the development of literature in Wales. Includes The Welsh Academy, the society for writers in Wales, and Tŷ Newydd Writers' Centre. Offers a range of services to writers including mentoring, information and advice and manuscript assessment. Direct support to both new and established writers is available through its Bursaries Scheme: two categories Buying Time (max £10,000) and Enabling (max £2,000). October deadline. Playwrights and screenwriters are not eligible.
<http://www.literaturewales.org/services-for-writers/i/124046/>

Film Agency for Wales

The national development agency for the film industry in Wales. Aims to identify and nurture Welsh (born and/or resident) filmmaking talent – particularly producers, writers, directors and writer-directors – by supporting and encouraging the development of their work.

Development submissions accepted from stand-alone writers and creative teams.

www.filmagencywales.com

Ireland

The Irish Arts Council

The government agency for funding and developing the arts in Ireland. Financial support available for writers includes the Literature bursary award (max €15000), Literature project award (max €10000) and Travel and training award (max €12000). There is a rolling programme for Travel and training awards – all the other schemes operate on a deadline basis. Check the Arts Council's 'Find funding tool' for details of other funding schemes.

www.artscouncil.ie

FÁS Screen Training Ireland

Aims to provide excellence in continuing training for professionals in film, television, animation and digital media. Operates a Bursary Award Scheme to help Irish industry professionals to enhance their career through international training opportunities.

Applications are accepted at any time (you must apply at least four weeks before the start of the training programme.)

<http://www.screentrainingireland.ie/>

ArtLinks Bursaries

Annual scheme designed to support the professional development of creative practitioners, aged 18 and over, in the categories of dance, music, drama/theatre, literature, film and visual arts who are resident in the five ArtLinks partner counties of Carlow, Kilkenny, Waterford, Wexford and Wicklow. Each partner county has €5,000 to award. Annual application deadline in July. Guidance notes and application form available from

www.artlinks.ie

UK

British Film Institute

Took over responsibility for funding film development and production; training; distribution and exhibition and other key roles from the UK Film Council in April 2011.

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

Skillset

The Sector Skills Council for Creative Media which comprises TV, film, radio, interactive media, animation, computer games, facilities, photo imaging and publishing. Offers a range of bursaries towards the cost of training and also subsidises training courses to reduce the course fees.

www.skillset.org

2 Charitable trusts and foundations

The Arts Trust of Scotland

Supports the development of emerging artists who live and work in Scotland. Awards between £500 and £2,000. Annual February deadline.

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

The Authors' Foundation

Gives grants to authors whose project is for a British publisher to help with research costs or to buy time to write. (Does not cover self-published authors). Two grant rounds each year. Application guidelines can be downloaded at

<http://www.societyofauthors.org/prizes-grants-and-awards/grants/>

The K. Blundell Trust

Gives grants to British authors under the age of 40 for projects (fiction or non-fiction) that aim to increase social awareness. Two grant rounds each year. Application guidelines can be downloaded at <http://www.societyofauthors.org/prizes-grants-and-awards/grants/>

The Society of Authors also administers three charitable trusts which provide grants to professional authors who find themselves in sudden and temporary financial difficulty: **The Francis Head Bequest**, **The Authors' Contingency Fund** and **The John Masefield Memorial Trust**. (NB These trusts are only open to professional freelance writers for whom writing books or full length scripts has provided a principal source of income.) Application guidelines can be downloaded at <http://www.societyofauthors.org/prizes-grants-and-awards/grants/>

European Jewish Publication Society

Assists in the publication of books of Jewish interest (fiction, non-fiction and poetry) by providing grants (max £3,000) to publishers who believe in the value of the work but is ambivalent about the financial investment. The writer must first interest a publisher in the work. The publisher then submits the manuscript to the EJPS for appraisal.

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

The Fenton Arts Trust

Aims to give encouragement and financial support to those actively contributing to the creative arts in the UK. Grants available to support work or performance by individuals early in their careers (includes drama and poetry).

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

MK Community Foundation Arts Bursary

Bursary of £8,000 to support the professional development of a promising Milton Keynes talent. Open to artists working in any medium (writers are eligible). Applicants must have lived in the MK Unitary Authority for the last 12 months.

<http://www.mkcommunityfoundation.co.uk/Grants/Arts-Bursary>

Oppenheim-John Downes Memorial Trust

Offers assistance to British artists (including writers) who are unable to effectively pursue their vocation due to financial difficulties. Annual awards (October deadline).

<http://www.oppenheimdownestrust.org/>

Peggy Ramsay Foundation

Grants (max £5,000) made to writers who have had at least one full-length play produced professionally for an adult audience to afford them time or facilities to write again for the stage. Rolling application programme.

www.peggyramsayfoundation.org

The Royal Literary Fund

A British benevolent fund for professional published authors in financial difficulties. Help is given to writers in many different situations where personal or professional setbacks have resulted in loss of income. Pensions are considered for older writers who have seen their earnings decrease. Applications are invited throughout the year, with decisions made at meetings which are held eleven times a year.

www.rlf.org.uk

Scottish International Education Trust

Aims to give financial help to Scots men and women (by birth or upbringing) at a critical stage in their development who have shown ability and promise and wish to take their studies or professional training further in circumstances where public funds are not available. Applications can be submitted at any time – trustees meet in March and September.

www.scotinted.org.uk

The Sky Arts Ignition Futures Fund

New fund set up by Sky in 2011 designed to support emerging artists working in visual art, theatre, performance art, film, music, dance or literature aged 18-30 living in the UK and Ireland. Each year, the Fund will support five individuals with a bursary of £30,000 each.

Deadline: 19 September 2011 (next round will open in early 2012)

www.ideastap.com/skyartsfuturesfund.

Tom McGrath Trust

Main focus of trust is to support playwrights and translators working in Scotland. Playwrights seeking to get their work staged can apply to receive a Small Grant Award from the Trust (up to a maximum £500). For details of how to apply, visit

<http://tommcgrathtrust.files.wordpress.com/2011/03/small-grants-awards-application-guidelines-doc.pdf> or email tommcgrathtrust@gmail.com

Experienced Scottish and international playwrights and translators can apply for a short residency in Fife, Scotland, where they can work together or independently to develop new plays, translations or working relationships. For further information, visit

<http://tommcgrathtrust.files.wordpress.com/2011/03/residency-guidelines.pdf> or email tommcgrathtrust@gmail.com

FunderFinder produces an easy to use software programme called People in Need (PIN) for individuals seeking grants for education (includes professional development) from charitable trusts and foundations. Libraries that have the PIN software (available to use free of charge) are listed at <http://www.funderfinder.org.uk/access.php?pl=library-p>

3 Awards, Prizes and Bursaries

(Please note: the following awards either include some form of professional development element in addition to a cash award for a specific work or play an especially important role in developing the careers of writers. Full listings of awards, prizes and bursaries can be found in *The Writers' and Artists' Yearbook* and *The Writer's Handbook*.)

The Authors' Awards

These prizes for fiction, non-fiction and poetry, administered by the Society of Authors, are worth over £100,000 in prize money each year. They include:

- **The Olive Cook Award and Tom-Gallon Trust Award** are prizes of £1,000 for a short story. They are each awarded biennially, in alternate years. Published and unpublished stories may be entered.
- **The Eric Gregory Awards** totalling £24,000 each year are awarded to British poets under the age of 30 on the basis of a submitted collection. Published and unpublished collections may be entered.
- **The Somerset Maugham Awards** totalling £12,000 are awarded to British authors under the age of 35 for a published work of fiction, non-fiction or poetry. Entry is by the publisher.
- **The McKitterick Prize** of £4,000 is awarded for a first novel by an author over the age of 40. The prize is open to published and unpublished novels.
- **The Betty Trask Prize and Awards** totalling £20,000 are awarded to authors under the age of 35 for a first novel, published or unpublished.

The Society of Authors also administers **The Educational Writers' Award**, **The Encore Award** (for the best published second novel of the year), **The Medical Book Awards** and **Translation Prizes**. Further details at <http://www.societyofauthors.org/grants-and-prizes>

Cardiff International Poetry Competition

Annual competition for unpublished poems in English of up to 50 lines. Administered by Literature Wales with the financial support of Cardiff Council. March deadline.

www.literaturewales.org

The Aldeburgh First Collection Prize

Annual award set up by The Poetry Trust for the best first collection of poetry published in printed book form in the UK and Republic of Ireland in the preceding year. Includes cash prize and an invitation to read at Aldeburgh Poetry Festival. July deadline.

<http://www.thepoetrytrust.org/site/aldeburgh-first-collection-prize/>

Arvon International Poetry Competition

Prestigious biennial competition for unpublished poems written in English. August deadline.

<http://www.arvonfoundation.org>

The Asham Award

Biennial short story prize for unpublished women writers set up in 1995 to encourage and promote new writing. Deadline in September.

http://www.ashamaward.com/the_asham_award.asp

The Bridport Prize

The richest annual competition for short stories, poems and flash fiction in the English language. Unpublished work only. June deadline.

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

The Crime Writers' Association Debut Dagger Competition

Annual competition open to anyone who has not yet had a novel published commercially. February deadline.

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

The David St John Thomas Charitable Trust Annual Self-Publishing Award

The Annual Self-Publishing Award is run by the DSJT Charitable Trust in association with the Writers' News magazine and is intended to encourage self-publishing. £1,000 first prize.

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

<http://www.writersnews.co.uk/main/competitions.asp>

The Desmond Elliott Prize

Annual award for a first novel written in English and published in the UK. November deadline.

<http://www.desmondelliottprize.org/>

Dewar Arts Awards

Aims to assist anyone under the age of 30 living or working in Scotland whose financial circumstances make it difficult to progress fully in their chosen field. Applications considered on a rolling basis.

<http://www.dewarawards.org>

Escalator Literature

Annual competition run by Writers' Centre Norwich on behalf of Arts Council England which offers writers a year-long programme of support including mentoring, help with applying to Grant for the arts and opportunities to hone their skills and extend their contacts. Open to writers in the East of England only. Autumn deadline.

<http://www.writerscentrenorwich.org.uk/uniquewritingprizeautumn20101.aspx>

Fish Publishing Short Story, Flash Fiction and Poetry Competitions

Annual writing contest set up with the aim of getting new authors and poets into print. The shortlisted stories and poems are published in the annual Fish Anthology.

<http://www.fishpublishing.com/writing-contest-competition.php>

The Foyle Young Poets of the Year Award

Annual award set up by the Poetry Society for young writers aged between 11 and 17.

<http://www.poetrysociety.org.uk/content/competitions/fyp/>

The Harry Bowling Prize for New Writing

Biennial award to encourage unpublished writers of adult fiction. September 2011 deadline.

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

Kelpies Prize

Annual prize set up by publisher Floris Books to encourage and reward new Scottish writing for children. February deadline.

<http://www.florisbooks.co.uk/kelpiesprize/>

John Tripp Award for Spoken Poetry

Biennial competition open to beginner and established poets alike.

www.literaturewales.org

New Buds Awards

Bursary scheme set up by New Writing South to support writers living or working in the south east of England, especially those at an early or crucial stage in their career. Small development grants of up to £900 available. Both of the 2011 rounds have now closed. Sign up to mailing list for future news of the scheme.

<http://www.newwritingsouth.com/home/new-buds-awards.php>

Northern Writers' Awards

Annual awards run by New Writing North to support writers living in the North East of England and looking to develop their careers and to move their work (prose, poetry, biography, creative life writing and creative literary non-fiction) towards publication. Three categories: the Time to Write Awards for established writers with a history of publication; the Northern Promise Awards for new writers who have not yet had work published; and the Andrea Badenoch Fiction Award for female writers over 42. April deadline.

<http://www.newwritingnorth.com/awards/awards.php?section=308>

The Orange Prize for Fiction

Open to any full-length novel written in English by a woman of any nationality and published for the first time in the UK in the preceding year. All novels must either be submitted by publishers or called in by the judges.

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

The Poetry Business Book & Pamphlet Competition

Annual competition offering entrants the chance to win publication by Smith/Doorstop Books and a cash prize. Currently sponsored by NAWA.

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

The Poetry Society National Poetry Competition

Annual single poem competition. Cash prize plus invitation to read at Ledbury Poetry Festival. October deadline.

<http://www.poetrysociety.org.uk/content/competitions/npc/>

The Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust Book Awards

Annual awards that recognise and reward literary excellence in literary fiction, poetry, and literary non-fiction by Scottish authors resident in, or outwith, Scotland. Books of particular Scottish interest by other authors can also be considered. Application by publisher only. December deadline.

<http://www.creativescotland.com/arts-screen-and-creative-industries/literature>

The Royal Society of Literature Jerwood Awards for Non-Fiction

The Royal Society of Literature and the Jerwood Charitable Foundation offer three annual awards, one of £10,000 and two of £5,000, to authors engaged on their first major commissioned works of non-fiction. Annual application deadline.

<http://www.rslit.org/content/jerwood>

The Sunday Times Young Writer of the Year Award

Annual award of £5,000 for a full-length published work of fiction, non-fiction or poetry by a British author under the age of 35. Administered by the Society of Authors. October deadline.

<http://www.societyofauthors.org/sunday-times-young-writer>

UNESCO-Aschberg Bursaries for Artists

Offers residencies to young artists (between 25 and 35 years old) worldwide in order to enrich their personal perspectives, to enable them to engage in an intercultural dialogue and expose them to cultural diversity.

www.unesco.org/culture/aschberg

Wales Book of the Year

Annual prizes awarded to the best Welsh language and English language works in the fields of creative writing and literary criticism. Administered by Literature Wales with funding from the Arts Council of Wales.

<http://www.literaturewales.org/book-of-the-year/>

The Wellcome Trust Arts Awards

Supports imaginative and experimental arts projects that investigate biomedical science. All art forms covered including drama, film, digital and creative writing. Applicants are usually affiliated to organisations but can apply as individuals.

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

Awards for dramatic writers

Verity Bargate Award

National award presented biennially for the best new play by an emerging writer.

www.sohotheatre.com

The Alfred Bradley Bursary Award

Biennial award which encourages new radio writing in the North of England, in collaboration with BBC Radio 4. Includes a bursary of up to £5,000, mentoring, a Radio 4 commission and the opportunity to develop future commissions.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/writersroom/opportunity/alfred_bradley.shtml

The TC Adrienne Benham Award

Annual award for emerging playwrights who display a talent and interest in writing for young audiences (awarded as a £2,000 seed commission).

www.theatre-centre.co.uk

The George Devine Award

Annual award (currently £10,000) for new writing for theatre. Open to any playwright for an original stage play which need not have been produced.

www.royalcourttheatre.com

The Alfred Fagon Award

Annual award of £5,000 that supports new writing from playwrights of African and Caribbean descent resident in the UK.

www.alfredfagonaward.co.uk

The Brian Way Award

Annual award for playwrights who write for young people (cash prize of £6,000).

www.theatre-centre.co.uk

The Imison Award

Annual award for the best original radio drama script by a writer new to radio. Administered by the Society of Authors and sponsored by the Peggy Ramsay Foundation.

<http://www.societyofauthors.org/imison-award>

The Meyer-Whitworth Award

Annual award (prize fund of £10,000) which is intended to help further the careers of UK playwrights who are not yet established. Award is funded by the Royal National Theatre Foundation and managed by Playwrights' Studio, Scotland in association with UK Playwrights Network. <http://www.playwrightsstudio.co.uk/Meyer-Whitworth.html>

PAWS (Public Awareness of Science) Awards

Runs events and other activities designed to help bring science and technology into higher profile across TV and other audio-visual media including the Science TV and New Media Awards. www.pawsdrama.com

Pearson Playwrights' Scheme

Awards up to five bursaries, each worth £7,000, to playwrights annually, allowing them to spend a 12-month attachment with a sponsoring theatre. Applications invited via theatres in October each year.

Contact: Jack Andrews, Administrator playwrightscheme@tiscali.co.uk

The Tinnison Award

Annual award for an original piece of radio. Submission by producer only. Administered by the Society of Authors and sponsored by the Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society Ltd.

<http://www.societyofauthors.org/tinniswood-award>

The Peter Wolff Theatre Trust supports the John Whiting Award

National playwriting award which gives £6,000 to the writer of a new play that demonstrates an original and distinctive development in dramatic writing.

<http://twp2009.wordpress.com/projects/whiting-award/>

Verity Bargate Award

National award presented biennially for the best new play by an emerging writer.

www.sohotheatre.com

4 Fellowships

The Charles Pick Fellowship

Six-month Fellowship designed to support the work of a new and unpublished writer of prose (fiction or non-fiction). £10,000 cash award plus accommodation on the UEA campus.

<http://www.uea.ac.uk/lit/awards/pick>

Creative Scotland: Creative Futures

A three year (2010-2013) residency programme supporting between 100 – 200 residencies a year – these can be single discipline, interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral, international and experimental. Individuals should apply for a residency via delivery partners, links available via the website. Part of Creative Scotland's Talent Development Investment Programme.

<http://www.creativescotland.com/>

David T.K. Wong Fellowship in Creative Writing

Annual award of £26,000 to enable a fiction writer who wants to write in English about the Far East to spend a year in the UK at the University of East Anglia.

<http://www.uea.ac.uk/lit/awards/wong>

Hawthornden Castle Fellowships

Provides a peaceful setting where published writers can work without disturbance as a guest of the Retreat (no monetary assistance or contribution to travel expenses is given). Writers from any part of the world may apply. Applications must be made by the end of September for the following calendar year. For further information and an application form, write to Hawthornden Castle, The International Retreat for Writers, Lasswade, Midlothian EH18 1EG or telephone 0131 440 2180.

The Hosking Houses Trust Fellowships

Provides residential literary and other artistic fellowships for women over the age of forty in the village of Clifford Chambers near Stratford-upon-Avon. Advertised as available.

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

The Muriel Spark International Fellowship

By invitation, a bi-annual, four week residency for a writer of international stature in partnership with the literary and cultural communities in Scotland.

Contact: Dr Gavin Wallace, Portfolio Manager, Creative Scotland

Gavin.Wallace@creativescotland.com

The Robert Louis Stevenson Fellowship

A fellowship open to writers who are Scottish by birth or currently resident in Scotland. The chosen writers are funded by Creative Scotland and the National Library of Scotland for a two-month residency at Grez-sur-Loing in France. April deadline.

<http://www.creativescotland.com/publication/robert-louis-stevenson-fellowship-guidelines>

The Royal Literary Fund Literary Fellowships

Fellowship scheme for writers run in partnership with British universities and colleges.

Writers are appointed as Fellows based on their literary merit and aptitude for the role, and irrespective of their financial circumstances.

www.rlf.org.uk

The Centre for New Writing at the University of Manchester Research Fellowships

Provide residencies for professional writers who have already successfully published at least one book of poetry or fiction and would welcome the support of the University's intellectual community while working on their next. Fellows take a full and active part in the work of the Centre. Two fellowships are offered per academic year.

<http://www.arts.manchester.ac.uk/newwriting/about/fellows/>

Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Travelling Fellowships

Annual travel grants to support overseas projects offering potential for career development and public benefit. Categories change each year. October deadline.

www.wcmt.org.uk

Wordsworth Trust Poet-in-Residence

Nine month residency supported by Arts Council England which aims to assist a poet at a significant stage in their career by giving them time and space to develop their craft. Poets are given a stipend and the use of a cottage around the corner from Dove Cottage.

<http://www.wordsworth.org.uk/information/index.asp?pageid=53>

5 Educational grants

Arts & Humanities Research Council

AHRC postgraduate awards are available for Masters and doctoral study through the Research Preparation Master's, Professional Preparation Master's and Doctoral Awards schemes. Applications are made through the department at which you wish to study.

<http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/FundingOpportunities/Pages/summaryinformationforprospectivepostgraduatestudents.aspx>

British Academy Awards

The UK's national body for the humanities and social sciences. It offers awards for postdoctoral research in the humanities and social sciences. Grant schemes include: conference support, small research grants, post doctoral and senior research fellowships.

<http://www.britac.ac.uk/funding/guide/index.cfm>

The Fulbright Commission

Offers a range of scholarship awards and summer programmes for UK citizens to study, lecture or research in the USA.

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

ILA Scotland

Offers grants of £200 towards the cost of learning (for eligible courses only) to those resident in Scotland on an income of £22,000 or less or who are on benefits. Grants of up to £500 a year for part-time and distance learning are available from the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS) http://www.student-support-saas.gov.uk/faqs_pt.htm

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

The Leverhulme Trust

Makes awards for the support of research and education. Three main categories: specific research projects; research undertaken by individuals holding fellowships, studentships, or bursaries; and recognition of individual research achievement by way of prizes.

<http://www.leverhulme.ac.uk>

Professional and Career Development Loans

Can help pay for learning that improves your career prospects. Call 0800 585 505 for advice or to get an application pack.

<http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/EducationAndLearning/AdultLearning/FinancialHelpForAdultLearners/CareerDevelopmentLoans/index.htm>

Wingate Scholarships

Awarded to outstanding individuals of great potential or proven excellence who need financial support to undertake creative or original work of intellectual, scientific, artistic, social or environmental value. Awards are offered for independent research in most subjects and

are designed to help with the costs of a specific project lasting up to three years. The maximum award for one year is £10,000,
<http://www.wingatescholarships.org.uk/>

Useful sources of information on undergraduate and postgraduate funding include:

Directgov: Student Finance

Provides information for students from England studying anywhere in the UK. Links to the appropriate websites in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance

The Educational Grants Advisory Service (EGAS)

Offers information and advice on funding for those in post-16 education in England. EGAS specialises in funding from charitable trusts and maintains a database of trusts and charities that assist students that can be searched online. It also administers over 30 educational trusts itself, giving small grants to students who study at institutions affiliated to its service.

<http://www.family-action.org.uk/section.aspx?id=1924>

Prospects

Offers comprehensive information on sources of postgraduate funding including public funding bodies such as the Arts and Humanities Research Council (www.ahrc.ac.uk); institutional funding and employment (graduate teaching and research assistantships, hardship funds etc.); charities, foundations and trusts; and Career Development Loans plus details of funding for students with disabilities. Also publishes the *Postgraduate Funding Guide* – current students can access a free copy from their university careers service and most libraries should stock a reference copy.

http://www.prospects.ac.uk/cms/ShowPage/Home_page/Funding_my_further_study/plledLff

Skill: National Bureau for Students with Disabilities

Provides information and advice for young people and adults with any kind of impairment about post-16 education, training and employment.

www.skill.org.uk

6 Useful sources of information

a) People

- your local authority arts or cultural development officer: they may know of some available community grants which you can access if you can demonstrate community benefit
- your local writing/literature development organisation/s and literature development officer/s: you'll find contact details for many of these at <http://www.nald.org/members>, the website of the **National Association for Literature Development (NALD)**. Information about **The Playwrights' Network**, which links regional organisations working to develop playwrights, is available at <http://www.playwrightsstudio.co.uk/playwrightsnetwork.htm>. And of course there is a comprehensive listing of organisations in **The Writers' Compass** section of the NAWE site at <http://www.nawe.co.uk/the-writers-compass/organisations.html>
- the literature/theatre relationship manager at your national arts council or Arts Council of England regional office

- your local **Business Link** agency – this national business support service maintains a comprehensive Grants and Support Directory. For details of your nearest Business Link, visit www.businesslink.org. (Although Business Link's regional advisory service is to close in November 2011, its website will remain and is to be enhanced, providing an improved experience in particular for those starting up in business.)
- your local creative / cultural industries development agency (organisations that provide specialist business support for the creative and cultural sector). Details from the Business Link website www.businesslink.org

b) Websites / Publications

- regularly updated information on sources of funding for professional development including awards, bursaries and grants plus details of fellowships, competitions, commissions and submissions can be found at www.nawe.co.uk in **The Writer's Compass** and in our free fortnightly e-bulletin (subscribe online)
- for information on charitable funding: **The Arts Funding Guide**, **The Directory of Grant-making Trusts**, **A Guide to the Major Trusts**, **A Guide to Scottish Trusts** and **The Welsh Funding Guide**. All are published by the Directory of Social Change (www.dsc.org.uk) and copies are available in most public reference libraries. **FunderFinder's** PIN software makes it easy to identify appropriate trusts – libraries with the PIN software (available to use free of charge) are listed at <http://www.funderfinder.org.uk/access.php?pl=library-p>
- for information on educational funding: the **Grants Register** published by Palgrave Macmillan (has information on postgraduate funding), **The Directory of Grant Making Trusts** published by the Charities Aid Foundation and **The Educational Grants Directory** published by the Directory of Social Change. These should all be available from your local public reference library. (See also earlier section on Educational grants)
- comprehensive listings of bursaries, fellowships and grants, awards and prizes for writers can be found in **The Writers' and Artists' Yearbook** (www.writersandartists.co.uk) and **The Writer's Handbook** (www.thewritershandbook.com).

The Writer's Compass is the name for all NAWE's professional development services for writers. It brings together NAWE's professional development programme with the free information and advice services for all writers formerly offered by literaturetraining. We offer: training and events; one-to-one support; information services; and resources. Our aim is to help writers in all genres, and at all stages in their development, to steer a course through the complexities of the writing life and build and sustain their careers. www.nawe.co.uk

© The Writer's Compass (NAWE)

June 2011

Disclaimer

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the content of this information sheet at the time of publication but the information provided cannot be guaranteed. Information appearing in this sheet is subject to change, addition, or deletion without notice, and therefore may not be relied on for the purposes of making any decision. NAWE accepts no responsibility for information contained in this sheet and disclaims all liability in respect of such information or reliance on it by any person.