

### **Professional Development Fund**

As part of the Transitions Project, a circus artist and teacher development programme, run by NoFit State Circus and funded by the Arts Council of Wales.

#### **Aim:**

To support the continuing professional development of circus professionals with a strong link to Wales through providing flexible and targeted financial support.

This is a micro fund, providing small amounts of money to cover the direct costs that other larger funds are unable to support.

#### **What can you apply for?**

Any investment in the professional development of your career in circus.

Such as:

- Travel and training course fees
- Attendance at networking events and conferences
- Space rental for R&D or creative collaborators fees
- Support to see inspiring work/companies

This list is not exhaustive, and we will consider other types of activity if you can explain effectively how it will support your professional development.

#### **What we don't fund:**

- Promotional materials (film, photo shoots, design or marketing)
- Any capital equipment
- Retrospective costs (things that have already been spent)

#### **Who can apply?**

Anyone who defines themselves as a professional working in circus with a strong connection to Wales.

What is a professional working in circus:

This includes but is not limited to: artists, performers, practitioners, producers, teachers, riggers and directors.

What constitutes a strong link to Wales:

This includes but is not limited to: residency (you live in Wales), you train or study here, you recently attended a youth circus in Wales, you work in Wales.

#### **How much can you apply for?**

We will consider application for between £10 - £250

#### **How to apply?**

Complete the simple application form and return it to:

Kate Parry, NoFit State Community Programmes Manager either by email to:

[kate@nofitstate.org](mailto:kate@nofitstate.org) or in person or by post to:

NoFit State  
Four Elms  
Four Elms Road, Cardiff  
CF24 1LE

Alternatively, you are welcome to apply by sending a short video covering each of the questions in the application form. If a written application would deter you for making an application.

**When can you apply?**

You can apply at any time but decisions will be made monthly. Dates of decision will be publicised on the NoFit State website.

**Who makes the decision?**

All applications will be reviewed by a small panel of experienced circus professionals. Funding decisions will be made on the individual merit of each application. The panels decision is final. We will endeavour to give brief feedback to any unsuccessful applicants in order to support the development of any future application they make.

**How often can I apply?**

You are welcome to apply to as many rounds as you like, each application will be assessed on its individual merit. However, the fund is limited, and we will endeavour to share the support as fairly as possible across the duration of the project. If you are unsuccessful you are welcome to apply again

We will only consider one application per person per round, you can however apply as an individual and as part of a group or company in the same round if the applications are not asking for support for the same activity or project.

**How quickly will the money be awarded?**

We will endeavour to make a decision within 2 weeks of the round closing date and let you know within in a week of the decision.

**What will we expect from you?**

- That you spend any money awarded on the activity agreed in your application.
- You share some of your experience through a social media channel of your choice using the #transitions hashtag and tagging NoFit State

After you spend the money we expect you to give us a short write up in your own style that include:

- What you set out to achieve with the money and if you have achieved it
- What difference it has made to your professional development

This is a new fund and NoFit State will review the application process and guidelines after the first round. We reserve the right to make changes to improve the process.