



Bankside Gallery to receive lifeline grant from second round of the Government's Culture Recovery Fund

02.04.21

- **Bankside Gallery among more than 2,700 recipients to benefit from the latest round of awards from the £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund**
- **This award will secure the immediate future of the Gallery, enabling the continued development of their events, exhibitions and learning programmes both virtually and physically.**

Bankside Gallery in London has received a grant of £25,000 from the Government's £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund to help the organisation recover and reopen.

More than £300 million has been awarded to thousands of cultural organisations across the country including Bankside Gallery in the latest round of support from the Culture Recovery Fund, the Culture Secretary announced today.

Opened by Her Majesty the Queen in 1980, Bankside Gallery has played a crucial role in displaying and promoting work on paper for over 40 years; exploring its boundaries while supporting educational activities organised by the Royal Watercolour Society (RWS) and Royal Society of Painter-Printmakers (RE). As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the gallery has been working on new ways of making artworks accessible to all and engaging local, national and international audiences by further developing their online presence. This support will enable Bankside Gallery to plan for a secure future, and continue exhibiting and promoting the incredible works by artists of the RWS and RE to the local community and beyond.

Over £800 million in grants and loans has already been awarded to support almost 3,800 cinemas, performance venues, museums, heritage sites and other cultural organisations dealing with the immediate challenges of the coronavirus pandemic.

The second round of awards made today will help organisations to look ahead to the spring and summer and plan for reopening and recovery. After months of closures and cancellations to contain the virus and save lives, this funding will be a much-needed helping hand for organisations transitioning back to normal in the months ahead.

Culture Secretary, Oliver Dowden, said:

“Our record breaking Culture Recovery Fund has already helped thousands of culture and heritage organisations across the country survive the biggest crisis they’ve ever faced.

Now we’re staying by their side as they prepare to welcome the public back through their doors - helping our cultural gems plan for reopening and thrive in the better times ahead.”

Angela Parker, Director of Bankside Gallery said:

“We are so delighted at the news of our successful bid to the Cultural Recovery Fund. These funds provide such a vital lifeline for the industry, and we are extremely grateful and relieved to have been amongst the recipients from the second round of funding.

This funding will go a long way towards helping to alleviate the financial pressures brought on by this past year. We can now prepare with confidence to welcome people back to the gallery, expand our events, exhibitions and learning programmes, and also continue the development of our online offering to ensure those unable to visit are still able to engage. Thank you for recognising our cultural value and putting Bankside Gallery in a much stronger position to go on to even bigger and better things.”

Sir Nicholas Serota, Chair, Arts Council England, said:

“Investing in a thriving cultural sector at the heart of communities is a vital part of helping the whole country to recover from the pandemic. These grants will help to re-open theatres, concert halls, and museums and will give artists and companies the opportunity to begin making new work.

We are grateful to the Government for this support and for recognising the paramount importance of culture to our sense of belonging and identity as individuals and as a society.”

The funding awarded today is from a £400 million pot which was held back last year to ensure the Culture Recovery Fund could continue to help organisations in need as the public health picture changed. The funding has been awarded by Arts Council England, as well as Historic England and National Lottery Heritage Fund and the British Film Institute.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

Bankside Gallery

Bankside Gallery is the home of the Royal Watercolour Society (RWS), and the Royal Society of Painter Printmakers (RE). Its vibrant exhibitions celebrate the very best in contemporary water-based media and original print, championing the work of both new and established artists.

For nearly 40 years Bankside Gallery has played a crucial role in displaying and promoting work on paper; exploring its boundaries while supporting education activities organised by the RWS and RE.

Opened by Her Majesty the Queen in 1980, Bankside Gallery is a registered educational charity and has historically received no government funding.

www.banksidegallery.com | Charity no. 293194

Arts Council England

Arts Council England is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in [Let's Create](#) that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high quality cultural experiences. We invest public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision. www.artscouncil.org.uk

Following the Covid-19 crisis, the Arts Council developed a £160 million **Emergency Response Package**, with nearly 90% coming from the National Lottery, for organisations and individuals needing support. We are also one of the bodies administering the Government's **Culture Recovery Fund**. Find out more at www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19.

At the Budget, the Chancellor announced the £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund would be boosted with a further £300 million investment. Details of this third round of funding will be announced soon.