

JULIA
RAUSING
— TRUST —

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arts

BURSARIES

2027 Dance Bursaries

Information Pack

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foundation



The Julia Rausing Sky Arts Bursaries

The Julia Rausing Sky Arts Bursaries is a new programme from the Sky Foundation, funded by The Julia Rausing Trust, for artists in the UK.

We will support 20 outstanding artists with the funding, mentoring and opportunities they need to create ambitious new work and take the next step in their careers.

We're kicking off the programme in 2027 with a 'Year of Dance' and are looking for **professional artists whose practice is rooted in creating dance work**. That means choreographers, dance makers or artists who place movement at the heart of their creative practice.

We welcome applications across all styles, forms and approaches and are looking for ambitious dance makers who want **to bring a new creative dance project to life**. We're interested in bold ideas, original thinking and artistic potential. Project ideas don't need to be polished – what matters most is the creativity, ambition and vision.

How to apply

To apply for a 2027 dance bursary, artists will need to submit an application via our [website](#).

Applications for the 2027 dance bursaries will be open from **9.00 on Wednesday 5 August 2026** and close at **9.00 on Wednesday 9 September 2026**.

The bursary year will run from 25 January 2027 to 24 January 2028.

Supporting documents to help when applying, including Guidance For Applicants and accessible formats, can be found [here](#).



What our bursary artists will receive



A personal grant of £30,000 – This is to support day-to-day living costs and help reduce financial pressure, giving artists the time and space to focus on their creative project and participate in the bursary programme across the year.

A project grant of up to £40,000 to bring their project to life – We'll support them to develop and manage a project budget that can cover artist and collaborator fees, as well as production and delivery costs.

Mentoring and Professional Development – We'll create a tailored package of mentoring and support designed around the specific needs of each of our artists. They'll have access to industry experts and practitioners to support them and their project.

Masterclasses and industry connections – Our artists will have access to a series of sessions and events with leading industry professionals, designed to help build skills and confidence and the development of their creative practice.

National profile and visibility – At the end of the year, our artists will have the opportunity to showcase their work alongside their fellow bursary artists to an audience of industry leaders. We'll also provide each artist with a digital capture of their project, and they will be featured on Sky Arts.

Project Match Funding – To help artists build a sustainable career, at the end of the bursary year, we're offering them the opportunity to apply for further funding to continue their work.

Who are the bursaries for?

We welcome applications from those working across all styles, forms and approaches.

Applications are only open to individual artists. While their project can involve collaborators, the application and bursary award must be in the name of an individual.

To be eligible to apply, artists must:

- 1.** Be aged 18 or over on 25 January 2027
- 2.** Be a UK citizen or have been ordinarily resident in the UK since 1 January 2022
- 3.** Be currently working, or have recently worked, as a professional dance artist or dance-maker
- 4.** Not already have a high professional profile, for example, they are staging funded work for large audiences

We would like to support individuals who:

- Show **strong potential** and have professional experience of choreographing work that has been performed for an audience
- Are at a point where this opportunity would have a **transformative impact** on their practice
- Have a **clear and compelling vision** for a new piece of work
- Have a **distinctive artistic voice** or bring an **innovative approach** to their artform
- Are motivated to **experiment, take creative risks and create bold work** that pushes boundaries and explores new forms, methods or technologies
- Demonstrate the **commitment and ambition** to develop a high-quality piece of work over the bursary year



Your Support

We're keen to reach as many talented dance makers as possible across the UK and would appreciate any support you can provide.

On Wednesday 5 August, The Sky Foundation will launch The Julia Rausing Sky Arts Bursaries through a national campaign celebrating dance while highlighting the importance of investing in the next generation of talent. Fronted by Ashley Banjo, the campaign will be supported by new research exploring the opportunities and challenges facing dance-makers while encouraging applications from across the UK.

We'd love you to share this opportunity by:

- Sharing, liking or commenting on our Sky posts on Instagram: @sky_uk / @skyarts and LinkedIn: Sky / The Julia Rausing Trust
- Sharing across your social channels, newsletters, website and direct to your networks using our programme assets [here](#)

Please feel free to adapt the below example copy to suit your tone of voice

Social Media

We're pleased to share the launch of the Julia Rausing Sky Arts Bursaries, a new programme supporting 20 dance artists with funding, mentoring and professional development. Applications are now open.

Find out more [here](#)

Applications close Wednesday 9 September at 09:00.

IG: @sky_uk / @skyarts LI: Sky / The Julia Rausing Trust

Newsletter/Website

Applications are now open for the Julia Rausing Sky Arts Bursaries – a new programme from the Sky Foundation; supporting exceptional dance artists across the UK.

Twenty artists will each receive significant financial support, alongside mentoring, professional development opportunities and the chance to present their work in a dedicated showcase.

The programme has been created to support professional artists whose practice is rooted in creating dance works – whether you are a choreographer, dance-maker, or work with movement as a central part of your creative practice – and they welcome applications from across all styles, forms and approaches.

If you have a creative dance project you're ready to bring to life, this 12-month bursary (the bursary year runs from 25 January 2027 to 24 January 2028) offers the time, funding and support to make it happen. The programme covers both living and project costs, while also providing tailored mentoring, industry networking and opportunities to grow your practice.

Find out more and apply [here](#)

Applications close on Wednesday 9 September at 09:00.

