

Radio New Talent

Guidelines and Regulations 2021



Public Broadcasting Services Limited



ISSUED: August 2021

ALLOCATIONS

SESSION BUDGET	MAXIMUM ELIGIBLE AMOUNT PER PROJECT
EUR 12,000	EUR 3,000

CO-FUNDING	DISBURSEMENT
The fund may cover up to 100% of total project costs	70% upon signing of grant agreement 30% following approval of final dossier

TIMEFRAMES

DEADLINE	RESULTS	ELIGIBLE TIMEFRAME
16th September 2021	28th October 2021	November 2021 and April 2023

1. Introduction

The Radio New Talent is an initiative born out of a collaboration between Arts Council Malta (ACM) and the Public Broadcasting Services (PBS). This initiative is in line with ACM and PBS strategic framework and focuses on investing in new talent, contributing to further professionalization of the creative and cultural sector as well as broadcasting media.

The initiative forms part of a portfolio of initiatives to maximise the potential of Malta's creative growth by investing in excellence in Malta's cultural and creative sectors, encouraging further career opportunities in the sectors, facilitating cultural exchange, as well as promoting inclusivity and active cultural participation.

The programme has been developed to encourage youths interested in radio production and broadcasting. The design of the programme ensures beneficiaries are provided with the necessary incentive and support to participate actively in radio, media and creative endeavours and opportunities.

The objectives of the initiative are:

- Identifying and giving recognition to talented youths
- Encouraging youths to contribute to radio programming
- Provide youths with skills necessary to succeed in the sector
- Enabling access to radio and broadcasting
- Serve as a platform for critical thinking, innovation and practice-based research
- Invest in youths to flourish through knowledge, skills, attitudes, values and creative exchange
- Invest in transmedia and digital skills
- Encourage projects focusing on a wide range of community groups, audiences and themes such as gender identity, migration and climate change.

2. Definitions

Applicant

- An applicant must be an individual. Applicants cannot be employees of Arts Council Malta or Public Broadcasting Services.

Application

- An application is a submission, inclusive of all mandatory documents and any annexes to the application form made by an eligible applicant.

Beneficiary

- The beneficiary is the recipient of the initiative. The beneficiary is responsible for the implementation of the project proposal supported by the Initiative.

Eligibility

- Applications will first be screened in terms of technical and artistic eligibility by the administrators and managers responsible for the initiative. Proposals which are not considered eligible in terms of the set criteria shall not be processed further and shall not undergo evaluation.

Selection Board

- Arts Council Malta appoints a team of external sectoral experts to select beneficiaries of the initiative based on established selection criteria. Within this initiative; the appointed board may be composed of local or foreign professionals.

Individual

- Individuals applying for a grant must be Maltese citizens or be in possession of a Maltese residence permit or of a Maltese citizenship certificate or of a Maltese passport.

Management and Administration:

- Arts Council Malta and Public Broadcasting Services are responsible for the management of this initiative. All official correspondence, including the online submission of applications, must be sent to the address indicated in these guidelines.

Maximum Funding:

- There is a ceiling amount of €3,000 per project to be allocated. This will be decided on a case-by-case basis depending on the project.

Transmedia

- Transmedia is commonly defined as the use of multiple media forms in the implementation of the project. A transmedia project may combine many different types of prints or prose text, graphics and animation, or work across multiple platforms, such as different types of social media platforms, interactive websites or advertising outlets.

3. Benefits of the initiative

A maximum of four beneficiaries will be selected. Each selected beneficiary will be granted:

- Participation in an 18-month interdisciplinary formation programme
- A 12-month one-to-one mentorship programme
- A grant of €3,000 towards the implementation of a final project and airspace to present the project
- Access to a community of peers and professionals in the sector

The **formation programme** is designed to maximise the development of participants. Throughout the programme a number of hands-on sessions and workshops will be held to tap into the opportunities within the creative scene and facilitate productive interaction between creatives. Participants will be supported to draw on networking experiences, engage in creative collaborations and share ideas. Throughout the implementation of the projects the beneficiaries are expected to collaborate with the relevant departments at PBS such as technical crew and marketing and sales.

Each beneficiary will be assigned a **mentor** to support them in the implementation of their project. The mentor will also broker important relationships within the sector and offer advice throughout the project implementation. The applicant may suggest a mentor however the selection of the mentor ultimately lies with ACM and PBS.

The applicants should suggest an initial idea for a project, this should be revised and worked upon with the assigned mentor and a final project proposal is to be submitted by November 2021. The project may be allocated a maximum **project grant** of €3,000 to each participant. Beneficiaries may also choose to collaborate and submit joint applications thereby augmenting the eligible budget per project. Projects submitted will be evaluated by the Selection Board. The disbursement to the chosen creative will consist of 70% upon approval of the proposal submitted with the creative mentor, and 30% upon completion of project and participation in the formation programme.

4. Eligibility

Applications will first be screened in terms of eligibility. Ineligible proposals in terms of the points below shall not be processed further and shall not undergo evaluation.

Maximum eligible timeframe to implement the project: 18 months

4.1 Who can apply?

The initiative is intended for youths whose age in the year 2021 will be between 18 and 30 years who are interested in radio broadcast and programming. The programme will expose young creatives to skills necessary to create and produce a radio production and provide a platform for exposure.

Applications for this initiative are open exclusively to individual creatives.

Applicants must be Maltese citizens or be in possession of a Maltese residence permit, a Maltese citizenship certificate or a Maltese passport.

4.2 Who cannot apply?

- Applicants whose profile is not verified due to it being an incomplete profile for not having the below mandatory document:
 - A copy of your Maltese ID card (including the front and back side) or your Maltese residence permit or your Maltese citizenship certificate or your Maltese passport
- Beneficiaries who have not honoured previous funding commitments.
- Individuals under 18 years of age or over 30 years of age by end of year 2021

4.3 What costs can be covered¹?

This grant may cover up to 100% of the following costs, these must form part of the final project components (up to a maximum of €3,000 per project, whichever is the lowest).

- Artistic fees, these may be artistic fees of collaborators and contributors amongst others
- Technical fees which may be needed in addition to the support given by PBS
- Contingency, not exceeding 10% of the total cost
- Digital initiatives including but not limited to subscription to software, service providers and creation of online resources
- Fees related to training and professional development
- Health and Safety measures
- Hire/Purchase of equipment (purchase of equipment will only be considered if deemed necessary to the project)
- Indirect costs, not exceeding 5% of the total cost (Examples – Servicing: electricity, water, insurance, cleaning; telephone / fax / Internet connections; postage and mailing; paper, ink / cartridge, stationery, etc)
- Insurance
- Marketing, PR and communications (not exceeding 10% of project total these may include but is not limited to photography and videography which may be used for the young artists' portfolio)
- Other fees directly related to project implementation (including but not limited to legal, service providers, participation fees, linguistic fees etc.)
- Project Management (including but not limited to administration, coordination and/or development)

¹ All costs will be considered only if these resources are not already covered/cannot be covered by the applicants or supporting/partner organisations.

4.4 What costs cannot be covered?

- Costs already covered by public cultural organisations, or another public funding programme managed or co-managed by Arts Council Malta or other public agency, government department or Ministry.
- Costs which are already covered through usual operational budgets (space which is owned by the applicant or the partner/supporting organisation/individual).
- Expenses that are not incurred during the time frame of the development programme stipulated in the agreement.
- Funding for the creation or upholding of bursaries, prizes or scholarships.
- Reimbursement of salaries or part of.
- Subsistence, catering and hospitality.

4.5 What applications are not eligible for support?

- Activities that are not related to culture, arts and the creative industries
- Activities whose objective is fundraising or political propaganda
- Applications submitted after noon (12:00) of the respective day of deadline
- Events held on a regular basis, including annual projects, annual festivals, school/annual shows, regular training programmes
- Incomplete applications as explained under 'section 6.1 – Checklist' of these guidelines
- Individual modules credited as part of an education course or research as part of established academic programmes
- Initiatives eligible under the Malta Film Fund, VOPS, Malta Arts Scholarship, Għaqda Kazini tal-Banda, National Book Council, Valletta Cultural Agency or any other state-funded programme dedicated to Maltese arts/culture
- Projects that would have already taken place before the result is notified to applicant(s)
- Projects whose duration does not fall within the eligible time frame
- Training programmes required to renew professional licenses or accreditations

Any other activity which may be developed outside the scope of the *Radio New Talent* are not eligible for support.

Applicants can submit more than one project proposal under the same initiative, however only one of the applications can be funded per session.

5. Selection

The Selection Board will base its decision upon the following criteria:

5.1 Criterion 1: Strength of portfolio and level of commitment (40 marks)

This criterion considers the level of commitment demonstrated by the applicant. The evaluators will also consider the applicant's portfolio, interests and previous work. Applicants should not necessarily

have experience in radio however they should demonstrate a considerable interest in the arts and radio.

5.2 Criterion 2: Vision and Mission Statement (20 marks)

This criterion considers the preliminary project idea proposed, this should not be detailed and may be altered with the help of the mentor throughout the programme. The evaluators will consider the concept of the project and the use of transmedia in their proposal. Applicants should approach radio in a fresh and innovative manner.

Projects can be presented using multiple formats including but not limited to Radiodrama, Art Journalism/ talk shows, documentary or educational programmes.

5.3 Criterion 3: Relevance of the programme (20 marks)

This criterion considers the relevance of the programme to the applicant and their professional development.

5.4 Criterion 4: Clarity of vision and video pitch (20 marks)

This criterion considers how clarity of the concept and how is this reflected throughout the project. The evaluators will also consider the video pitch granting marks for the strength of motivation, creativity and innovation.

The aim of the video pitching is to create an opportunity to voice the motivation being presented to the evaluators.

- The video pitch is the face of the application, not only delivering vital information, but also displaying personality.
- The video pitch may be created using any medium, including a mobile phone, and uploaded (password-protected) on YouTube or Vimeo. It can be presented in a variety of creative formats, but should not be longer than three (3) minutes. The pitch shall include a taster of the applicant's creative proficiency and the applicant's motivation to work in radio.
- A link to the uploaded pitch, as well as the relevant password (if the uploaded pitch is password-protected), are to be included in the application.

6. Submitting the application

Follow these steps to apply:

1. Read these guidelines and regulations very carefully
2. Check whether your proposed idea can be addressed by this initiative
3. Press the link that will take you to the online application system
4. Create your profile with Arts Council Malta by clicking on Register and filling in the details

5. From the open calls section, select the online application for the initiative you intend to apply for
6. Follow the instructions step by step. Fill in all the required information from the online application including the budget and attach the supporting documentation
7. Submit the application. You should be receiving an automatic acknowledgement by the system. If you do not receive such a notification, contact us on applyforfunds@artscouncil.mt.

In case of difficulty, or if you would like to consult us regarding this fund, you can call us on 2334 7230 Monday to Friday between 09:00 and 16:00 or email us on fundinfo@artscouncil.mt.

It is your responsibility to present a complete application form as explained in these guidelines and regulations. If you do not present all the necessary information and documentation, your application will not be processed and evaluated.

Prior to the application deadline, Arts Council Malta representatives will not be checking your application forms. It is solely at the Arts Council Malta's discretion to request that applicants provide any missing mandatory documentation following the call's deadline.

Upon the submission of the application, applicants accept that should they be selected for the programme, their name and subsequently their project name and details can be published by Arts Council Malta.

A decision on funding will be made on the strength of the submitted information and supporting documents.

Applications handed in after 12.00 (noon) of the respective deadline cannot be accepted.

6.1 Checklist

- Applicant biography/artistic CV to be included in the applicant profile.
- A complete and dated application form.
- A practice portfolio.
- A creative video pitch by the applicant, which includes:
 - A taster of the applicant's creative proficiency
 - The applicant's goals and dreams for the next three years
 - Motivation for applying for the programme
 - Why the applicant should be chosen for the programme.
- Any other supporting material if available.

7. Selection process

This initiative is competitive, applicants will undergo a selection process according to established criteria.

As specified above, each criterion is allocated a number of specific marks. In order to be considered for support, applicants have to obtain an average of at least 60 marks.

A maximum of four applicants will be selected to participate in the formation programme. The decision is based on the quality of the submitted proposals and on the availability of spaces. Therefore, obtaining 60 marks or more does not automatically mean that you will be selected. The Evaluation Board may decide to choose less beneficiaries if the applicants do not reach the required level in terms of the fund criteria.

Eligible applications will be assessed by a Selection Board selected by the Council on the basis of their professional experience. Arts Council Malta will select evaluators on the basis of their independent and professional experience. The evaluators will present an assessment on each of the proposed projects, indicating the relevant ratings awarded.

7.1 Communication of results

On the day indicated on page 2, you will receive your result notification from Arts Council Malta. Together with the covering letter, we will also attach a copy of the feedback form, indicating the reasons and marks leading to the Selection Board's decision, according to the initiative criteria.

If you have any difficulties concerning your results, you should email us on fundinfo@artscouncil.mt within five (5) days of receiving your funding decision.

No information on the evaluation process will be released before the official result notification. Any form of soliciting will automatically disqualify an application.

All information received by the Executive and Manager responsible for the initiative and Evaluators will be considered confidential, both during and after the evaluation process. Provisions on data protection and confidentiality for successful projects will be included in the Grant agreement.

8. Complaints procedure

Filing a complaint will not affect your chances of receiving support from Arts Council Malta in the future. All complaints will be treated with confidentiality.

8.1 Grounds for complaints

Applicants can make a complaint regarding procedural anomalies and irregularities during the submission and evaluation process in terms of the procedures stipulated in these guidelines and regulations. Complaints cannot be made concerning:

- The Arts Council's or Government's policies and procedures;
- The merits of the application in terms of the criteria stipulated in these guidelines and regulations. Only applicants may file complaints concerning their project.

8.2 Filing a complaint

Complaints must be made in writing and must be as clear as possible. The complaint must state the grounds and the reasons for the complaint, providing a detailed explanation and justification supported by relevant documentation or testimonials as to why the complainant deems that irregularities were committed in the procedure/s stipulated in these guidelines and regulations or in standard good governance rules and regulations governing the public sector. The decision at the end of the complaint process shall be final. Complaints need to be made to the Director of Funding and Strategy, Arts Council Malta within five (5) working days of receipt of your funding decision. You will normally receive a reply to your complaint within ten (10) working days.

In case you are not satisfied with the reply, Arts Council Malta will convene a Board that will discuss your complaint further. If you approach our complaints procedure, then you are accepting that we can use information about your project to address the complaint. The decision of the Board is final.

Need advice?

ACM offers pre-submission consultation services to help secure support for your project. We are there every step of the way. We can help you determine whether the core concept and profile of your project are in line with the targeted support mechanism, and provide feedback on the way you plan to present your project. Plan ahead and get in touch with us at least four weeks before the submission deadline, to make the best of our services.

You are welcome to call us on 2334 7230, on weekdays, between 09:00 and 16:00, or send us an email on fundinfo@artscouncil.mt.

Guidelines updated on 21st July 2021