

ETHICAL FUNDRAISING POLICY

Introduction

Artsadmin is a charity based in east London. This policy focuses on our aim to be a responsible and ethical organisation, communicating in a way that is honest, decent and truthful, and mindful of our responsibilities to our community, the arts and the environment.

We are extremely grateful to receive financial and in-kind support from a wide variety of funders.

In this document we may reference:

Grant giving bodies meaning both statutory (e.g. Arts Council England) and non-statutory (e.g. private trusts and foundations)

Donors meaning philanthropic sources, including individual donors, companies and groups

Sponsors meaning our more commercial associations and transactional relationships with companies

Partners meaning to cultural partners such venues, organisations, festivals and networks.

Collectively they are described as **funders** or **supporters**.

Core principles

We consider these core principles when entering into relationships with potential new funders who may offer support valued at £1,000 or more:

- **The relationship must align with or aspire to the vision, approach and values of Artsadmin**
- **It should positively reinforce the integrity and reputation of Artsadmin**
- **It should encourage the artistic or academic freedom of our work and the artists we work with**

Artsadmin's vision, approach and values

Who we are

Artsadmin makes space for brilliant artists to develop and share compelling new work generating connection hope and change in the world.

We're here to make sure contemporary performance, socially engaged and live art practice in the UK is fuelled by the most exciting, genre-defying artists. We work with artists who have things to say about the world in unconventional ways, supporting them to shape their ideas and create unforgettable experiences.

We care about art that stirs emotion, removes barriers and encourages connection. Working locally, nationally and internationally, often in partnership and always collaboratively, we develop and present work that is direct, truthful and matters, now.

Our vision

Art and artists have always been essential to humanity. In an increasingly divided and brittle world, we strongly believe we need art from artists with all sorts of perspectives and experiences more than ever.

The artists we work with are brilliant at questioning the world, challenging how we think, feel and behave, exploring what it is to be human.

We will continue to work towards a world where a hugely diverse range of art and artists are widely engaged with, celebrated, respected and supported for their fundamental role in breaking down barriers and connecting us to each other.

Beliefs underpinning our approach

We believe it's essential to think and work in ways that are accessible, inclusive and sustainable, and that reach across and beyond borders. This is where you'll find Artsadmin regularly using our influence to drive change.

By accessible, we mean removing barriers to supporting, creating and experiencing art – cultural, educational, financial, health, physical, psychological, racial, social and more.

By inclusive, we mean being welcoming and supportive to everyone, being clear about behaviour that's not ok, and consciously creating the conditions for safer and braver spaces for artists and audiences.

By sustainable, we mean actively looking after people, planet, projects, money, buildings and things as best we can, so that we minimise harm and can all keep going long term without running out of energy and resources.

By reaching across and beyond borders, we mean being inspired and influenced by creative practice and producing from all over the world, thinking and working expansively, openly and dynamically, and not placing ourselves the centre.

We understand that all of these are connected and complex, and we are firmly committed to ongoing learning and purposeful action. We believe there's plenty more to do. We challenge ourselves and the arts sector to be honest about how and where real change is showing up, and to do better.

Our values

These values guide how we work, partner and collaborate:

Generosity

Approaching our work and relationships with care, warmth, positivity, curiosity, openness and equity

Commitment

Meaning and doing what we say; taking action, being clear and rigorous, and not giving up

Truth

Working with artists to draw out the truths within their work; building authentic and straightforward relationships; reflecting honestly on progress and setbacks; being transparent and fair in all that we do

Collaboration

Continuously practising working well together to understand needs, support each other, grow skills, and strengthen the reach and impact of artists' work

Change

Embracing change as a constant, ready to respond to and influence the world around us; advocating for change especially around access, inclusion and sustainability; remaining resilient, flexible and hopeful

Commitment to our artists

We strongly support creative autonomy in each artists' practice. Artists we collaborate with are informed of this Ethical Fundraising Policy and we work with them to address any concerns that they or we have about particular funders of projects produced by Artsadmin. If we cannot reach an agreement, Artsadmin reserves the right to withdraw from the relevant project.

We may also ask artists we are working with for further information about funders of their projects which are not being produced by us, in order to establish whether there are funding relationships that work against our core principles and may have a negative impact on Artsadmin. We will then

consider if this has any implications for our ongoing work together, aiming always to work through any concerns together wherever possible.

Commitment to our grant giving bodies, donors, sponsors and partners

Funding is essential to our work and funder relationships are very important to us. Artsadmin is committed to building positive relationships with all its supporters.

We will actively develop relationships with a range of organisations and individuals in order to achieve shared objectives, including those that support the environment and human rights. We will seek out relationships with organisations that actively operate for the positive benefit of people, animals and the environment in a fair and transparent way.

Our fundraising income and expenditure will be reported transparently in the Annual Trustees' Report and Audited accounts, available on the Charity Commission website.

How we make decisions

We follow an internal ethical fundraising process that can be made available on request. We will decline a funding offer if:

- The funder's stated vision, approach and values are obviously opposed to Artsadmin's stated vision, approach and values
- Receipt of the funding is likely to have a significant negative effect on our reputation and/or lead to a significant decline in support of Artsadmin by individuals or organisations whose views we care about
- The funder seeks to curtail the artistic or academic freedom of our work or of the artists we work with
- The funder expects Artsadmin to deliver promotion and marketing that is unachievable and/or reduces access for our audiences.

Data Protection

We are strongly committed to protecting funder's personal data, in line with Artsadmin's Data Protection Policy.

Feedback

We welcome feedback on this Policy. Please email feedback to development@artsadmin.co.uk