

MEDIA RELEASE

Issue date:

Calling all Visual Artists and Craft Makers living and working in West Dunbartonshire!

Artists and Craft Makers in West Dunbartonshire are being urged to apply for this year's funding from West Dunbartonshire Council and Creative Scotland.

The Visual Artists and Craft Makers Awards (VACMA), a new funding stream of small grants, is open to artists living or working in West Dunbartonshire. In collaboration with West Dunbartonshire Council, Creative Scotland is financing these awards with money from the National Lottery.

The Council, alongside Creative Scotland, is keen to support local artists based in West Dunbartonshire at all stages of their career by offering fixed bursaries of £500 or £750.

Councillor Martin Rooney, Convenor of Cultural Services said, "This is fantastic news for all practicing artists living or working in West Dunbartonshire. It's vital that we celebrate creativity and pursue every opportunity to keep the arts integrated within the area. This bursary will give a boost to those artists living or working here to keep on creating exciting and imaginative work."

Councillor June McKay, depute Convenor of Cultural services said, "This funding will help us not only offer support through the bursary but also identify local talent. We're really pleased that this is now available to everyone, no matter what stage or level they're at. We hope to see some amazing work generated with the support of this funding."

Creative Scotland QUOTE 2024

Amanda Catto, Head of Visual Arts at Creative Scotland said:

"VACMA offers essential support to artists and craft makers at every stage in their practice. This funding will enable artists and makers to test new ideas, develop their skills and make new work."

VACMA is made possible through partnership working and the skill and dedication of our partners who are committed to supporting artists and makers in their local area. These awards generate long-lasting impacts and make an important contribution to the cultural ecology of the local area."

Next Deadline for Applications

Winter deadline: 5pm, **Tuesday 8th February 2024**

- ends -

1. Contact Nicole Gallacher, West Dunbartonshire Council, on tel: 01389 737767 or email: Nicole.gallacher@west-dunbarton.gov.uk
2. West Dunbartonshire Council serves 89,000 residents and a lively business community in an area stretching from the banks of Loch Lomond to the shores of the Clyde. The region is one of great diversity and natural beauty, just half an hour from the heart of Glasgow, and includes the towns of Clydebank, Dumbarton and Alexandria. It has a rich past, shaped by its world-famous shipyards, and boasts many attractions, ranging from the rugged beauty of Dumbarton Rock to historic whisky warehouses. The Council has big ambitions to deliver first class services, grow the local economy, revitalise the region's town centres and waterfront, and provide a modern education service for future generations.