

Awards and Schemes

Training

The Arts Council Training Section (under the policy guidance of the Training Committee) administers a variety of training schemes for professionals in the arts field, as listed below.

THEATRE DESIGNERS' SCHEME

The Theatre Designers' Scheme offers selected young designers attachments of approximately ten months as additional members of a theatre's design staff. Successful candidates are given both training and practical experience in a working theatre: the award may be extended to enable the designers to widen their experience by visiting other theatres in Great Britain. Selected designers are paid a bursary, in addition to which the theatre company pays a small wage.

DESIGNERS' BURSARIES SCHEME

The Designers' Bursaries Scheme enables designers and lighting designers to present for consideration any project that they feel will be beneficial to their career. This can include secondment to a leading designer, or can take the form of travel within Britain or overseas. However, the Scheme is not limited to these possibilities; any project will be considered. Applicants must have had at least three years' professional experience.

BURSARIES FOR THEATRE DIRECTORS AND IN-SERVICE BURSARIES FOR DIRECTORS

The Directors' Scheme is divided into three parts:

- A. is intended for young directors to enable them to study all aspects of directing and the artistic direction of a theatre or opera company for a period of up to one year, with occasional possibilities of a longer period.
- B. is to enable an experienced director who has not been responsible for the artistic direction of a theatre, to be appointed as an associate director at a theatre for a period of up to one year.
- C. consists of in-service training for directors who already have some directing experience in professional theatre or opera, to extend their knowledge in specific areas of work in this country or abroad.

THEATRE PERFORMERS' BURSARIES SCHEME

The Theatre Performers' Bursaries Scheme enables performers in theatre, music theatre, opera, dance and mime to gain professional refreshment and reinforcement of their careers through learning new skills, carrying out a period of research or pursuing a special line of interest. Applicants must have had at least three years' professional experience.

THEATRE PERFORMERS' GROUP TRAINING SCHEMES

The Performers' Group Training Scheme helps dance, opera or theatre companies or groups to fund workshop sessions, to engage specialist teachers, or to undertake any group project that will improve and develop the work of the participants.

TECHNICIANS' AND STAGE MANAGERS' BURSARIES SCHEME

This scheme offers bursaries to stage managers and technicians with 2 or 3 years' experience in, e.g., a stage department, sound, electrics, scenic construction, scene painting and properties, costume and wig-making etc., to undertake individual projects which will enhance their skills and further their careers.

Details of the above schemes are available from the Drama Director at the Arts Council.

ADVANCED TRAINING FOR MUSICIANS

This scheme offers a limited number of bursaries each year to enable professional musicians (working in the fields of classical, contemporary or jazz music) to develop or extend their existing skills through individual tuition, master classes or workshops.

ADVANCED TRAINING BURSARY FOR PIANO TUNER/CONCERT TECHNICIAN

One bursary for a 12 months' programme of advanced training at Steinways is available for an experienced piano tuner.

Details of the above two schemes are available from the Training Officer at the Arts Council.

EXTENSION COURSE IN PUPPET THEATRE

Two bursaries are available (jointly funded by the Arts Council and the Gulbenkian Foundation) to enable experienced puppeteers to undertake an advanced training programme of secondments, classes and workshops.

Details are available from the Puppet Centre Trust, Battersea Arts Centre, Lavender Hill, London SW11 (tel: 01-228 5335).

THEATRE TECHNICIAN TRAINING

The Association of British Theatre Technicians administers on behalf of the Arts Council a number of in-service, day-release and full-time courses for theatre technicians. Further information is obtainable from the Technical Officer, ABTT, 4/7 Great Pulteney Street, London W1 (tel: 01-434 3901/3).

ARTS ADMINISTRATION TRAINING

Full-time Course in Arts Administration

Leading to the City University's Diploma in Arts Administration. Lasts for ~~one~~ year; first two terms at the University, final term on secondment. There are up to 18 places available; closing date for applications is normally 1 March.

Full-time Practical Training Scheme in Arts Administration

Lasts approximately 9 months, according to need. This course is predominantly secondment-based, but includes six weeks of study at the City University. There are up to 12 places; closing date for applications is normally 1 March.

Bursaries may be available from the Social Science Research Council for the Diploma Course. In addition, a limited number of Arts Council bursaries are available for both the Course and the Scheme.

Brochures and application forms are available from The City University, Centre for Arts, Northampton Square, London EC1V 0HB (tel. 01-253 4399 ext 298 or 01-253 1725).

In-service Bursaries for Administrators

It may be possible to provide a limited number of bursaries to help towards the costs of training working administrators. Proposals should be supported by employers, who must also be prepared to contribute towards the training costs. In addition, bursary help may be available to the freelance administrator or one who is temporarily unemployed. The principal aim of small-scale training projects must be that they will add to the skills and knowledge of the trainee. In addition, applications to undertake large-scale training projects will also be considered; here the usefulness of the resulting report would be as important as the training needs of the individual applying. Applications may be made at any time of the year.

Further details of the above administration training schemes and courses may be obtained from the Training Officer.

TAXABLE AWARDS

An agreement was reached in August 1979 between the Arts Council and the Inland Revenue regarding the taxable status of awards, grants and bursaries. Awards in respect of training schemes will be non-taxable. An explanatory paper is issued with each bursary offer.

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