

DANDELION: INCLUSIVE AND INSPIRING COMMUNITIES FUND

Guidelines

This grants programme has been developed to support and celebrate diverse community groups and organisations across Scotland who want to get into growing their own food and to support Harvest celebrations as part of Dandelion.

Summary

- Grants of up to £2,000 for groups who aren't yet growing¹
- Projects comprise two parts:
 - Community food growing project throughout the year
 - Harvest Festival event held 9th-11th September 2022
- Deadline for applications: **Friday 20th May 2022**

About Dandelion

Dandelion is an ambitious new creative project commissioned by EventScotland and funded by Scottish Government as part of **Unboxed** (www.unboxed2022.uk). Dandelion aims to demonstrate the power of collective action in the largest 'grow your own' project of modern times; inviting people all over the country to get growing, sharing and celebrating sustainable food, music, and ideas, and evidencing the small steps each of us can take to make a big difference.

Driven by the concept of 'Sow, Grow, Share', Dandelion takes a unique approach to community growing. It is bringing together growers, artists, makers, scientists, performers and technologists to present events and programmes across Scotland – from its remotest islands to the centres of its great cities – as well as online through films and digital activities.

The Dandelion programme follows the arc of the growing season, from April to September 2022, and will culminate in hundreds of Harvest Festivals across Scotland. These will take place in the Dandelion Unexpected Gardens, in school playgrounds and in community spaces led by diverse community groups and organisations across Scotland; reimagining a cultural celebration of harvest for the 21st century. Find out more about the project at www.dandelion.scot.

¹ Grants are also available for groups that are already growing – please see dandelion.scot/opportunities

Objectives

This BEMIS and Dandelion small grants fund is an innovative new initiative inviting people all over the country to start growing, sharing, and celebrating food, music, and ideas, in and with their communities.

Our aim is to provide this opportunity to diverse communities throughout Scotland to get involved in the Dandelion project by:

- Organising their own cultural harvest events to celebrate local community growing in creative ways, in September 2022
- Growing their own food to be shared at these harvest festival events
- Engaging new participants and volunteers with local community food growing

Who can apply?

- This fund is open to constituted charitable and non-profit organisations and community groups in Scotland.
- You will need to have a bank account in the organisation's name.
- This fund is to support groups who are not currently growing their own food but would like to take their first steps into doing so.
 - If your group is already growing food, then you can apply to the Dandelion Harvest Festival Fund at dandelion.scot/opportunities

Funding Criteria

- The maximum grant amount is **£2,000**
- If your application is successful, you are not guaranteed to receive the full amount requested.
- Projects must involve the local growing of food by participants in the lead up to the event, to be shared at the Harvest Festival event
- Events must be free to attend
- Events must include artistic and cultural elements (e.g. music performances, storytelling) exploring growing food and harvest.
- We can only fund costs directly related to the running of the growing programme and harvest festival event, not general costs for the organisation
- Examples of what we can fund:
 - Gardening supplies and equipment
 - Cooking supplies and equipment
 - Event infrastructure and equipment
 - Performer fees
 - Venue hire
 - Marketing and promotional material

- Your proposal will be assessed on the following:
 - Connection with the goals of the Dandelion project
 - Your organisation's experience and track record
 - Potential reach and impact of your project
 - Viability and value of budget

Support for applicants

- There will be scheduled support sessions (webinars and one-to-one sessions) by BEMIS and Dandelion. Details of these will be made available at www.bemis.org.uk/dandelion.

Application Process

- Application forms and guidance can be found at www.bemis.org.uk/dandelion
- Please submit completed application forms to dandelion@bemis.org.uk.
- Applications will remain open until the deadline on **Friday 20th May 2022**
- **Funding decisions will be made after the deadline**, however we may be in contact beforehand to ask you to clarify or amend your application if necessary.
- Applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application in due course.

Successful applications

- You will receive an offer letter by email, and a digital contract to sign.
- Once the contract is signed, payment will be made by bank transfer.
- You will receive guidance on how to acknowledge the grant, using BEMIS and Dandelion logos, and any other requirements for promoting your project.
- You will be required to complete an evaluation form within 6 weeks of your harvest festival event

Resources for Growers

During the growing season, Dandelion, in collaboration with SRUC – Scotland's Rural College – will be providing online support and resources for new growers via the website at dandelion.scot.

Questions?

If you have any queries, please contact us at dandelion@bemis.org.uk