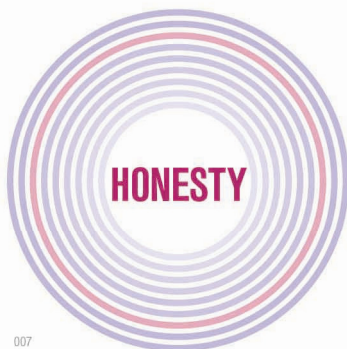
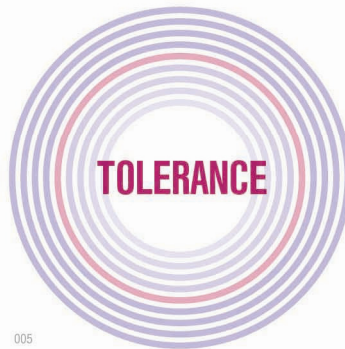
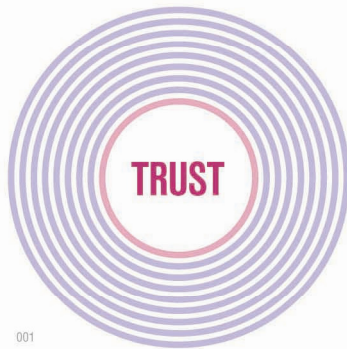


# learningforlife



## Active Citizenship

# RAISING FUNDS FOR ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP PROJECTS

There are a number of factors that can make setting up and running active citizenship projects challenging. One of the biggest challenges can be finding the money required to pay for the resources needed to carry out the project. There is however a number of organisations that are offering funds to young people to carry out well thought out and well planned active citizenship projects. The tables below contain a list of possible organisations that give awards and grants to young people. They all have different criteria, but the one thing they have in common is that they all require young people to be at the heart of the project planning and delivery.

Writing an application to attract funds is a great learning experience for young people. It is also a great practise for later life – as many jobs involve making a case for something you believe in and trying to persuade others to back it. When making the application remember to encourage young people to follow these golden rules:

**Be inventive:** Come up with a project idea that is interesting and will make a real difference to the community and peoples lives. Think about who or what the project will benefit and try to make it as inclusive as possible.

**Do their research:** Look at what else the organisation has funded. Are they likely to support this idea – most funds have set guidelines on what they will support and how much they will fund.

**Be careful:** Take time putting the application together and include everything they ask for – this may include budgets, CVs etc. Also make sure the young people check spelling and grammar and that they have put their ideas across clearly.

**Make contact first:** It is often a good idea for the young person to call or send an email to the organisation they are applying for a grant from to check that they might fund the project. A simple call may save them a lot of time in the long run.

Organisation	Contact details	Further Information
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Vcashpoint	<a href="http://www.vinspired.com">www.vinspired.com</a>	Grants of up to £2500 for 16-35 year olds in England who want to set up their own volunteering project. The funds slogan is 'your idea, your time, our cash.' Currently probably one of the best places for young people to seek funding for local active citizenship projects.
Youth Opportunity Fund	Funds are handled by local authorities but an overview of the fund can be seen here: <a href="http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/YoungPeople/Youthfunds/index.htm">www.direct.gov.uk/en/YoungPeople/Youthfunds/index.htm</a>	Funding for 13-19 year olds to develop their own community based project. The funds are run by local authorities and young people make up the panels that decide who the funding should go to. The funds should relate to the five outcomes of every child matters, be good value for money and benefit the local community.
Help Yourself	<a href="http://www.helpyourselves.org.uk">www.helpyourselves.org.uk</a>	A grant programme organised and run by Save the Children and British Gas. Will give grants to projects that are lead and managed by young people and particularly relate to health, leisure and education. Young people can apply for funds up to £1000. There are also some great ideas for projects and lots of case studies about successful projects carried out by other young people on the website.
Awards for All	<a href="http://www.awardsforall.org.uk">www.awardsforall.org.uk</a>	A national lottery initiative that give grants to organisations of between £300 and £10,000. Although this grant is not specifically for young people it does encourage bids to put them at the heart of the planning and delivery of the project.
Alec Dickson Trust	<a href="http://www.mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk/alecdicksontrust/index.htm">www.mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk/alecdicksontrust/index.htm</a>	Awards of up to £250 for people under 30 which will help start active citizenship projects. The trust promise to fund volunteering projects based in the UK, give grants of up to £250 and consider all applications received.
Hi8us First Light Ltd	<a href="http://www.firstlightmovies.com/funding">www.firstlightmovies.com/funding</a>	Grants of up to £3000 in three different award categories are offered to young people to encourage them to make films about things that affect them. Young people must be involved at every stage of the film making process. The website contains lots of ideas for films and is a good resource for planning.
UnLtd Awards	<a href="http://www.unltd.org.uk">www.unltd.org.uk</a>	Grants are made to young people of between £500 and £5,000. Grants are made to people 16 years + and for projects that benefit both

		<p>themselves and their communities. UnLtd's will also provide practical support and training to social entrepreneurs. The organisations aim is to help people with vision, passion, drive and commitment, who want to change the world for the better.</p>
Young Roots	<a href="http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/YoungRoots/">http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/YoungRoots/</a>	<p>Grants of up to £25,000 made for projects run by young people that relate to heritage. Awards are made to 13-25 year olds. Young Roots projects must stem directly from young peoples' interests and ideas, harnessing their creativity and energy and helping them work with others in their local community.</p>
Young Peoples Fund 2	<a href="http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_ypf2_local_grants.htm?regioncode=uk&amp;status=theProg">www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_ypf2_local_grants.htm?regioncode=uk&amp;status=theProg</a>	<p>Grants of £10,000 to £500,000 for projects that put young people at the heart of local issues and services that affect their lives in England. To gain the grant Young people must lead on developing the activities and services that they want in their local area.</p>
Sound station	<a href="http://www.thesoundstation.org.uk/jsp/News_inner.jsp?ID=697">http://www.thesoundstation.org.uk/jsp/News_inner.jsp?ID=697</a>	<p>If you're aged 13-19 and fancy doing a creative project – you could get a grant of up to £1000 from Sound Station. The grants are run by Mediabox which is offering grants to make creative media projects for film, television, radio, online, print and multi media platforms.</p> <p>Young people must be aged 13-19 and living in England to apply. You can apply individually for up to for up to £500 or in a group for one-off project funding of up to £1000. The application process is simple and quick.</p>

### **Celebrating Success:**

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If young people have made a success of their project it is crucial that this success is celebrated. Below are a few organisations that recognise any achievements of good citizenship by young people. All the organisations have awards specifically to recognise young people who have made a difference to their communities.

Organisation	Contact details	Further Information
Philip Lawrence Awards	<a href="http://www.4children.org.uk/pla">www.4children.org.uk/pla</a>	This award recognises groups across the UK that are making a real contribution to their local community and the lives of others; and groups that promote respect and understanding of faiths, culture and communities internationally. The focus is on exemplary activities – examples of young people working together, promoting citizenship and overcoming the difficult situations some young people face.
The Queens Awards for Voluntary Service	<a href="http://www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk">www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk</a>	Annual awards are made to young people who have participated in making a difference to their local community.
British Red Cross Humanitarian Citizen award	<a href="http://www.redcross.org.uk/standard.asp?id=79631">http://www.redcross.org.uk/standard.asp?id=79631</a>	The British Red Cross' Humanitarian Citizen Awards have been set up to recognise their achievements and celebrate the contribution that young people make to the lives of others. Open to any one up to the age of 26.