

## Beecroft Bequest Application for grant aid

Under the terms of the will of the late Walter G Beecroft the residue of his estate was bequeathed to the Museums Association to form the Beecroft Bequest.

The income deriving from the bequest was to be distributed as grant-in-aid to art galleries and museums in the British Isles towards

*... the purchase of pictures and works of art (furniture or textiles can be considered) not later than the 18th century in date...*

The bequest is administered by trustees who are appointed by the MA.

To be eligible:

### 1. Museums must:

- be institutional members of the MA and based in the UK
- be accredited or have applied for accreditation

Applications from organisations with an annual revenue expenditure exceeding £1,000,000 will not normally be considered.

In the case of branch museums, the revenue budget of the parent organisation applies.

### 2. The purchase

- Must not be later in date than 1800
- Can be of fine or decorative arts (eg paintings, watercolours, sculpture, ceramics, metalwork, furniture, textiles) and other items of aesthetic merit.

For other items, e.g coins, the case for their aesthetic merit must be made in the application.

- The object must be genuine, of good quality and of sound quality and condition. Where necessary, Trustees may request an independent condition report
- Must represent good value for money – an independent valuation should be sought
- There must be a sound reason for the acquisition.

The applicant must demonstrate how it meets the organisation's acquisition policy/ aims and objectives

- The cost of the object must be at least £500

Applications for grants for items which have already been purchased will not be considered.

### **3. The grant**

- Up to 75% of the purchase price can be awarded
- No single grant will exceed £5,000
- An element of local financial contribution is required

Any grant awarded will be paid upon production of the receipt for the full value of the purchase.

Acknowledgement of the financial assistance of the Beecroft Bequest is required on the display labelling, all documentation including online and marketing materials, as follows:

Purchased in (date) with support from the Beecroft Bequest

### **4. The process**

- Applications can be considered at any time
- In the case of auction sales at least five working days are required although the trustees cannot guarantee to consider any application made at short notice.

Any known queries regarding provenance or questions raised by other bodies must be disclosed.

### **Contact:**

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