

# **BRITISH COUNCIL ARCHITECTURE, DESIGN AND FASHION**

## **BIENNALES AND FESTIVALS 2025–26**

Guidance Notes  
2025–2026

## **GUIDANCE NOTES**

### **OVERVIEW**

The British Council invites biennales and festivals to apply for the **2025–26 Architecture, Design & Fashion Biennales and Festivals Grant** to showcase international and UK designers. These grants aim to support design practitioners in participating in UK and international festivals and biennales, fostering collaboration between the UK and global design communities.

### **FUNDING DETAILS**

- Grants of up to **£10,000** are available.
- The grant supports showcasing, exhibition, presentation, installation, and travel of completed design work.
- Funds are awarded **only to festival organisations**, not individual designers, however designers can apply.
- Eligible sectors include **architecture, design, fashion, and craft** or projects at the intersection of these fields.
- The grant is for showcasing only and **does not cover research and development**.

### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

- Biennales and festivals that are:
  - UK-based showcasing work by international designers.
  - International-based showcasing work by **UK designers**.
- Applications must be submitted by **biennale or festival representatives**.
- Design practitioners (fashion designers, product designers, architects, etc.) should coordinate with a festival representative for inclusion in an application.
- We particularly welcome projects that:
  - Take place in **Official Development Assistance (ODA) recipient countries**.
  - Feature **emerging designers** (within 10 years of practice).
  - Involve designers or festivals based in countries where the **British Council operates**.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

- Complete the **Microsoft Forms application**.
- Provide a **link to supporting documentation**, including:
  - Festival confirmation letters
  - Examples of work and activity visuals
  - Budget spreadsheet
  - Diversity Monitoring Form (for UK applicants)
- **Application deadline:** 23:59 BST, 1 June 2025.

For **informal expressions of interest or queries**, contact Az Chinaliev [az.chinaliev@britishcouncil.org](mailto:az.chinaliev@britishcouncil.org)

The British Council's support must be acknowledged alongside the UK presentation and on all promotional materials, including social media. Upon completion of the activity, applicants will be required to supply attendance figures and a project report. A grant agreement will be issued with detailed terms and conditions.