

Project outline

The SGS @ 40 project will celebrate the work of the Scottish Glass Society and its members over the last 40 years, whilst also endeavouring to establish a firm foundation for the future of the Society.

Over the last 40 years SGS has developed a programme of annual exhibitions; issued regular publications on Scottish Glass; offered bursaries for professional development; and facilitated a membership network which has supported the creative glass sector in Scotland. The Society proposes to celebrate this work by:

- planning, producing and promoting an exhibition of the work of current SGS members and a photographic retrospective, looking at the work of the society and its members over the last 40 years;
- facilitating talks from glass artists discussing their techniques and creative process, and making these available via the SGS website;
- co-ordinating and promoting a programme of workshops and demonstrations run by members under the 'SGS @ 40' banner;
- producing and distributing an anniversary edition of the SGS Journal to showcase the work of members and the Scottish glass scene to a global audience;
- developing a pilot audio tour of prominent glass sites in Edinburgh with a view to rolling this out in other locations;
- investigating opportunities for running further events to celebrate the 40th anniversary in partnership with other organisations in the sector.

The project will also look at securing a sustainable future for the Scottish Glass Society, which is currently run by volunteers. This will include:

- consultation with individuals, institutions and businesses to assess how the society can best promote and develop the sector over the next 5 years;
- evaluating and developing the current offering to members to better facilitate their individual practice;
- reviewing and streamlining the day to day activity of the society to meet the needs of the membership;
- investigating opportunities to better support the creative and professional development of glass artists living and working in Scotland;
- creating a 5-year plan for promoting and developing the glass sector in Scotland.

Project implementation

The project will be managed by two project managers– one working on the 40th anniversary celebrations and one focussing on planning for the future. The Committee has decided to take this approach so that both strands have a dedicated project manager who can focus on specific responsibilities, though the project managers will be expected to work collaboratively where there is cross-over in their work – e.g. member liaison.

The project manager working on the 40th anniversary celebrations will have responsibility for:

- delivery of the juried and retrospective exhibitions;
- delivery of two artists talks;
- managing the production of the 2019 commemorative Journal;
- managing the development of the audio tour;
- investigating opportunities for additional events to celebrate the 40th anniversary;
- marketing all elements of the 40th anniversary celebrations;
- general project management including managing the associated project budget; sponsorship and providing project monitoring reports;
- evaluating individual elements of the project as well as the project as a whole.

The project manager focussing on the future of the SGS will have responsibility for:

- consulting with members, potential members, former members and the sector to assess how SGS can support and develop the glass community;
- examining the current offering to members and investigating how to develop this further in order to boost membership;
- reviewing processes for managing subscriptions, handling data, and communicating with members to ensure they are in line with existing regulations and meet the needs of members;
- delivering creative / professional development workshops;
- creating a 5 year plan for SGS to promote and develop the glass sector in Scotland, including identifying and applying for further funding if required; general project management including managing the associated project budget; providing project monitoring reports;
- evaluating individual elements of the project as well as the project as a whole.

The work of both project managers will be overseen by the voluntary SGS Committee. The Committee will:

- provide information on the day to day running of the SGS, including access to membership databases and project management documents from previous projects;
- share knowledge and contacts with the project managers which may assist them in their work;
- nominate an individual to be the main contact person for the project managers for queries regarding general project management and admin;
- set targets for the project managers based on the project timeline and project monitoring reports.

The project managers will provide monthly updates on the progress of the project to the Committee, including information on meeting targets, budget spend and key developments. The project managers will seek Committee approval for any extension of the scope of the project and any additional funding bids or sponsorship applications will require the approval of the Committee.

The Scottish Glass Society

The Scottish Glass Society is a registered Scottish Charity (No. SCO25543) and is recognised by the World Craft Council as a UK Craft Organisation. Our mission is to promote the appreciation, understanding and development of contemporary Scottish Glass.

Aims

- To encourage excellence, promote and raise the profile of our members;
- To increase participation, interconnection and collaboration of our members and our public;
- To provide greater opportunities for the public to be involved in Scottish Glass; and
- To aid Scotland-based students of glass through awards, bursaries, promotion and involvement.

Membership

Our membership includes some of the most innovative and skilled glass artists working to the highest professional standards in contemporary glass today as well as students, historians, curators, and interested organisations and individuals. We champion the work of Scotland-based artists, and our membership is drawn from artists who studied here, have Scottish connections, a keen interest in glass art associated with Scotland, or who simply want to be a part of the Society.

Ethos

The Scottish Glass Society is an inclusive organisation which does not tolerate discrimination on the grounds of race, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, family status, genetic characteristics or disability.

The Committee acknowledges the importance of working sustainably to minimise the impact of our work on the environment, and of working in a socially responsible manner which enhances, rather than degrades, our community.

Project support

The SGS @ 40 project is funded by the National Lottery via Creative Scotland and is supported by North Lands Creative, Edinburgh College of Art, Trades House Glasgow, and a number of Scottish Glass Artists.

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