Charlie Hartill
Special Reserve
A Fund for New Theatre

Freeman, Strictly Arts, 2018

‘Stunning political theatre show is a revelation’
★★★★★ The Guardian

★★★★★ Young Perspectives
★★★★★ The Wee Review
What is the Charlie Hartill Fund?

Each year the Charlie Hartill Fund supports emerging theatre makers to take a show to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. Bringing a show to the Fringe is becoming increasingly expensive and risky; in spite of that, it remains one of the best and most exciting ways to connect with industry and audiences alike. We want to help support artists to navigate these risks and opportunities by creating a platform for bold and daring new work.

The Charlie Hartill Special Reserve Fund was established in 2004 in memory of Charlie Hartill, who died in January of that year. Charlie was a wit, writer, performer, ex-President of The Cambridge Footlights, 8 years a director of the Festival Fringe and the Pleasance’s man of the computer. He is very much missed not just for his practical skills and quite extraordinary contributions to the Pleasance, but as the most engaging of human beings.

For over 30 years the Pleasance, as one of the most celebrated and successful theatre organisations at the Edinburgh Festival and in London, has provided a vital stepping-stone for thousands of artists and companies, offering a variety of initiatives for theatre makers both on and off stage. We recognise how important those first opportunities into the creative industries. The Charlie Hartill Fund is one of many ways that we support artistic ambition as part of Pleasance Futures.

To find out more about Pleasance Futures, visit www.pleasance.co.uk/futures or follow @PleasanceFuture.

“Without the support of the Charlie Hartill Fund, we wouldn’t have been able to achieve what we did creatively”
Squint, 2015

“The Fund isn’t just a financial boost; it’s a carefully constructed program that gives you the mentoring and care.”
Invertigo, 2013
**What do you get?**

The Pleasance provides in-kind support and a cash flow fund of up to £10,000, which generally covers:

- **In kind rehearsal space**
- **Travel expenses to and from Edinburgh**
- **Accommodation**
- **Marketing, registrations & brochure costs (Fringe and Joint Venue Brochures)**

Beyond this, in-kind support, mentorship and valuable advice will be given throughout the process. This will cover marketing and PR, managing budgets, creative assistance and producing support. We have a wealth of experience in bringing successful productions to Edinburgh and a valuable network of creative practitioners at hand, all of which is provided as a resource to the successful company through the Fund.

**What are we looking for?**

We’re looking for new productions from artists making daring, inventive and ambitious work that is formally bold. We consider any genre or style so whether it’s a completely original production or a fresh twist on an old classic, whether you’re a playwright or a devising company, the fund is there for you.

This is a fantastic opportunity for a team to be creative, innovative, imaginative and entrepreneurial. Through its support, the Charlie Fund aims to encourage companies to take risks and concentrate on what is most important: the work.

**Am I eligible?**

1. **40% of the entire production and creative team must be no more than 5 years from full time education on the final performance date.**

2. Directors and producers must not have created more than two professional productions, including Fringe (or any production with a professional cast).

3. The play must have a performing company of 4 or more cast members.

**Terms and Conditions**

1. **The Company must raise substantial funds, in addition to the £10,000 in kind support of the Fund, to cover the full budget of the show. This is NOT a cash prize. Additional revenue may come through other funding organisations subject to agreement with the Pleasance.**

2. **Whilst not mandatory, the Company are encouraged to present three work-in-progress performances pre-Edinburgh, either closed readings or work in progress sharings. Space will be provided in London subject to availability.**
How do I apply?

Round 1:
Submit an online application form via the Pleasance website by 10am, 31st January 2018. Applications include full production/creative team details, education dates, biographies and previous reviews where relevant.

Round 2:
Around 12 applicants will be invited to participate in the tryout evenings on 25th and 26th February at Pleasance Islington by performing a 10 minute extract of their show in front of the judging panel. The extract must have four or more performers on stage. On the day there will also be an informal meeting to meet some of the Pleasance team and ask any questions you might have.

Round 3:
After deliberations by the panel, 2-4 shortlisted companies will attend a formal interview, and will be asked to provide a draft budget, fundraising plan, marketing campaign, and production schedule. The recipient of the Fund will then be announced, and will need to move quickly to meet the final Fringe brochure deadline in early April. All companies are encouraged to also apply via the usual channels to perform at the Pleasance as the outcome of the Charlie Fund will not affect this other application. Please contact us with any queries. Best of luck!

Best of luck!

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“It was the best decision we made and was the catalyst for the rolling series of events that have followed.”

Unpolished Theatre, 2017