



StartEast January Bulletin

Welcome to the January edition of our bulletin: a monthly one-stop shop for creative enterprises and individuals offering a raft of information on funding opportunities, networking, the latest useful reports and resources and practical support.

Please do feel free to share this newsletter with colleagues. Anyone interested in receiving StartEast newsletters and bulletins can [sign up](#) on our website.

If you would like to contact us please email stareast@norfolk.gov.uk

The StartEast Team



Creative East: Create Growth Programme

[The Creative East: Create Growth Programme](#) is a £1.275 million investment readiness and business support programme, funded by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, to boost growth in the creative industries across the East.

The 12-week package offers participants a bespoke programme of specialist seminars, round table events, one-to-one expert mentoring, pitching sessions and networking

events, covering everything you ever needed to know to get your business in shape to take on investment and grow. Participants will be offered exclusive access to key experts in their field from the world of investment and creative industries.

To find out more and to register your interest, please visit: creativeeast.org.uk

Cohort 4: Cambridge - Open for Applications

The Cambridge cohort runs from September to November 2024.

This FREE 12-week programme of workshops for Cambridge businesses will provide exclusive access to industry leaders, sought-after advice, and tailored guidance.

Connecting creative businesses with the resources, experts, and knowledge they need to grow. [Read more.](#)

Submit your application before 5 July 2024.

Innovate UK Creative Catalyst 2024 Competition

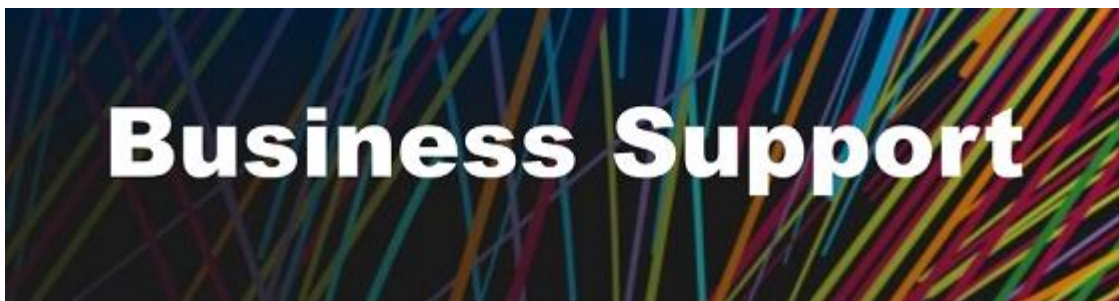
UK registered micro or small businesses in the creative industries sector can apply for grants of up to £50,000, coupled with a package of tailored support, to grow their business. [Read more.](#)

Applications are accepted between 23 January 2024 and 6 March 2024 (11:00)

Norfolk & Suffolk Innovation Grant Mentoring Project

If you are interested in applying for the [Creative Catalyst 2024 Competition](#) you may be eligible for support from the [Norfolk & Suffolk Innovation Grant Mentoring Project](#).

Run by Norfolk County Council, Suffolk County Council and the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) the free innovation mentoring and bid writing project helps small to medium business owners or managers, including micro business owners and sole traders, who are based in Norfolk or Suffolk to secure the funding they need to develop their project ideas. [Register your interest.](#)



Setting Up For Success

This FREE event series will help you Set Up For Success! Hosted and facilitated by Heidi Franklin, Local Enterprise Manager for NatWest Bank in conjunction with BIPC Norfolk, these sessions deliver the fundamental building blocks of business; from goal-setting and

mindset; to testing, validating, pitching and knowing your numbers.

5 Sessions take place every 2-weeks at the Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library, starting on 1 February 2024. [Book Here](#).

Creative Enterprise Screen Sector Business Support Programme

BFI Lottery funded programme designed to equip screen companies with the necessary tools and knowledge for securing various forms of investment, ranging from equity to debt and grants. The fee for participation in the programme is £300 + VAT per company. [Read more](#). **Deadline 16 February 2024**

Help to Grow: Management Course with Norwich Business School

Help to Grow: Management is a 12-week applied course supporting managers and leaders of small and medium sized businesses. Delivered by Norwich Business School, the programme is accredited by the [Small Business Charter](#), with funding support from HM Government. The course costs £750 and will be delivered with a mix of virtual and face-to-face classes. [Register here](#) for the next course, beginning on 4 March 2024.

Visit the [Latest News](#) and [Resources](#) pages of the StartEast website for more information about ongoing support and opportunities.



DEBACE 2024 Deutsche Bank Awards for Creative Entrepreneurs

DBACE supports visionary creative entrepreneurs over 18 who are driven by a mission to build and sustain social value through their enterprise. 5 winners will share the £60,000 prize fund plus a year of tailored business support from [MeWe360](#). [Read more](#).

Applications open on 31 January 2024

Head East Campaign - Promote Your Events

The [Head East campaign](#) showcases the vibrant arts, culture and heritage in Norfolk and Suffolk through an online events calendar, bespoke itineraries, and curated social media content. List your [events](#) and [attractions](#) for FREE on the Visit East of England website.



Moving Forwards

Moving Forwards is a 6 month CPD programme run by [Movement Connects](#), a network for Movement Artists in East Anglia. Sessions take place on: 28 January, 23 March, 21 April and 12 May. [Book here](#).

Norfolk County Council Bid Writing Workshops

Starting on 31 January, NCC will be holding online bid writing workshops from 11:00 to 15:00 on the last Wednesday of every month, throughout 2024. The workshops include sample bids and an exploration of how to design outcomes for social impact. Contact graham.phillips@norfolk.gov.uk if you are interested in attending.

New Year Business Re-boot 2024

18 January 2024, 10:00 - 14:00, Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library
Are you thinking of starting your own business in 2024 but don't know where to start? The Business and IP Centre Norfolk are working with NatWest to provide all you need to know about becoming an entrepreneur! The event is FREE but tickets must be booked in advance. [Book here](#).

Grantfinder Webinar – Financial Support For Your Business and Community

19 January 2024, 14:00-15:00, online
In this FREE webinar the British Library will show you the Grantfinder business information database that allows you to search for sources of finance: whether that's grants, loans or business finance investment to support to your exact needs. [Book here](#). Grantfinder is available free to Norfolk businesses and community organisations via [Grants 4 Norfolk](#).

FUSE 2024

FUSE 2024 is Collusion's new collective of young creatives (age 17-30). Members will become 'colluders' in Collusion's work, join a creative community and gain industry insights and career support. Starting on 30 January FUSE 2024 will meet monthly on Tuesday evenings at the White Barn, King's Lynn. [Register here](#).

ART // TECH // PLAY Programme, Collusion

The ART // TECH // PLAY programme supports artists and creatives to build confidence and knowledge of creative technologies in a practice-led way, leading to the development of new creative practice, ideas, and networks. [Find out more.](#)

Upcoming Events

[08 February // Producers Edition: What the t*ch?! // Cambridge Junction](#)



Babergh and Mid Suffolk - Rural England Prosperity Fund Grants

Three new grant schemes providing capital grants of between £5,000 and £10,000 to small businesses, visitor economy organisations and community organisations in the district's rural areas:

[Apply to the Rural Business Growth Fund](#)

[Apply to the Rural Culture & Creativity Fund](#)

[Apply to the Rural Communities Fund](#)

Youth Music NextGen Fund

Grants of up to £2,500 are available to young creatives in the UK (18-25 year olds and under-30s who identify as d/Deaf or disabled) to help them take a step forward to participating in and changing the music industries. [Read more.](#)

Deadline: 19 January 2024

Amazon Literary Partnership

One-off annual grants are available for not-for-profit literary organisations in the UK that empower writers, helping them create, publish, learn, teach, experiment and thrive. [Read more.](#)

Deadline: 31 January 2024

QEST Emerging Maker Grants

The Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust (QEST) offers Emerging Maker Grants of up to £10,000 for the training and education of talented craftspeople at an early stage in their career. [Read more.](#)

Deadline 15 February 2024

Fenland Start-up Business Support Programme

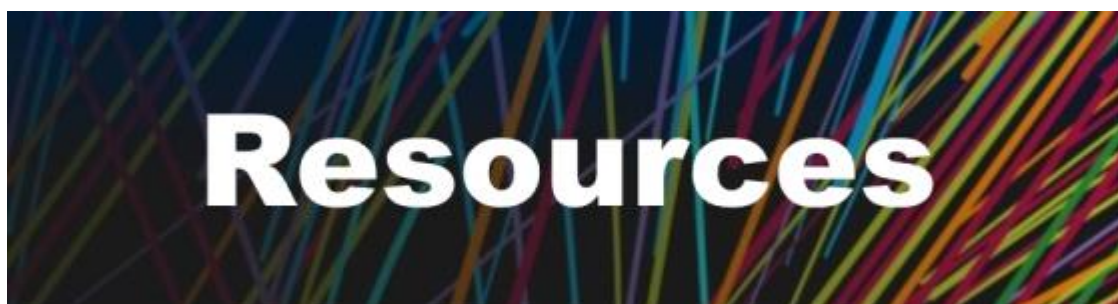
A programme of support, including grant funding of up to £10,000, for Fenland businesses in Cambridgeshire that have been operating for less than 12 months, as part of the wider UK Shared Prosperity Fund programme. [Read more.](#)

Deadline for Expressions of Interest: 29 February 2024

Grants 4 Norfolk

Looking for funding? Try the FREE Norfolk County Council search facility serving both businesses and communities. Local, regional and national funding opportunities available. [Register here.](#)

Visit the [Latest News](#) and [Resources](#) pages of the StartEast website for more information about ongoing funding support.



Creative PEC State of the Nations Research Series

Creative PEC's new 'State of the Nations' series, uses the latest data to inform policymakers on how best to support the creative sector across four thematic areas. The first report 'Geographies of Creativity' shines a light on the role of microclusters in the creative industries, and explains why creative clusters are good targets for intervention and investment, and a key engine for economic growth in the UK. [Read more.](#)



Norfolk County Council



Suffolk
County Council

NEWANGLIA
Local Enterprise Partnership
for Norfolk and Suffolk

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