

Redacted Application (One)

What is your Grand Plan and why do you want to do it? (300 words)

My grand plan is a two-fold exciting project. The first being research and development for my first-ever duet circus performance. The second; creating and performing in a debut show at Circus Mash in Birmingham. My idea is to create a contemporary, duet circus piece exploring the interplay between human connection, our connection to nature, and the world around us. Through aerial rope, dance, and theatre, I seek support in connecting my current learnings and bringing them together in a 10-minute duet performance in a provisionally confirmed circus show.

Grand Plan funding will go towards research, development, mentorship, training, travel, costume, music, photography, and videography. A performance that would not otherwise be realised without funding.

I want to do this project because it will give me the resources to perform my artistry, and ultimately build my confidence as an aerial rope artist.

I am the circus director for [REDACTED] - a community circus school in [REDACTED]. I have been practising circus arts for 10 years, but have never performed.

I want to do this to break down the mental barriers in myself and develop new techniques that blur the boundaries between circus arts, theatre, and dance. This will develop an autonomous practice that launches my career as a strong, black, aerial rope artist in the UK.

Having recently completed an aerial rope retreat in Mexico, I learnt a ton of techniques, from world-class aerial rope artists. This funding will give me the chance to share my learnings with [REDACTED] (my duet rope partner).

Fleur is a dancer and aerial artist and we want to combine our knowledge in aerial rope, dance, and theatre to create a new, outstanding piece. We have been given a platform to showcase this piece, thus we believe, now is the perfect time to do so.

Why is now the right time for your Grand Plan?

We have spent a day in the studio together researching movement and the themes of each section of the story. These can be seen in the attached video. We have confirmed the story, music ideas, and costumes. In addition to what is shown in the video, there will be a dynamic, synchronised rope routine. Myself and [REDACTED] live 2.5 hours away from each other, thus the funding will help with travel, mentorship, venue, and time needed to bring this performance to life. There is more to explore in this piece.

How will you spend £1000?

The money will be allocated as follows:

Travel (between [REDACTED] & [REDACTED]) - £100

Venue Hire for training, research & development - £160

Costumes - £50

Photography - £150

Videography - £200

Music Production for performance - £175

Mentorship for 4x sessions with [REDACTED] - £165