

Literary programmes

This grant scheme is open to organisations based in the Netherlands and the Caribbean part of the Kingdom looking for funding for various forms of literary programmes: from festivals to stage productions. The Dutch Foundation for Literature (*Nederlands Letterenfonds*) aims to support literary programmes that enhance the quality and diversity of the literary landscape and bring literature to both a broader and larger audience.

Who is eligible for funding?

Organisations producing and implementing literary programmes

What is eligible for funding?

Literary programmes

Funding per project

€10,000 to €60,000

Total funding available

€625,000

What is eligible for funding?

The foundation accepts applications for programmes that present literature to the public in various forms and settings, including:

- literary festivals, stage productions, readings and programmes focusing on one or more writers, spoken word artists, illustrators or translators;
- interdisciplinary programmes in which literature plays a significant role;
- talent development programmes for professional creators;
- initiatives aiming to promote literature or literary creators;
- The literary activities or events must be completed within 1.5 years of the grant being awarded.

If your activity is primarily focused on promoting literacy, please see the [Literacy promotion](#) grant scheme.

Who is eligible for funding?

- The grant scheme is open exclusively to non-profit legal persons with full legal capacity that are based in the Kingdom of the Netherlands and which organise or implement literary programmes.
- An applicant may submit one application only in each funding round;
- Schools, libraries, publishers, universities and municipalities are not eligible.
- Organisations receiving a long-term grant from the Dutch Foundation for Literature may not apply to this grant scheme in 2025 or 2026.

How much grant is available?

- The foundation accepts applications for grants from €10,000 to €60,000.
- Applicants must cover at least 40% of the programme costs themselves or via a third party.
- Applicants based in the Caribbean, or applicants based in the European part of the Netherlands requesting funding for a project taking place in the Caribbean with a local partner, must cover at least 10% of the project costs themselves or via a third party.
- The grant is also intended to facilitate [fair pay](#) for participating writers, translators, presenters and hosts and other creators as well as freelancers and payroll staff working in organisation and production.

What are the assessment criteria?

All submitted applications are verified after the submission deadline. Applications that meet the formal requirements are assessed by an advisory committee according to four criteria:

- a. the programme's artistic vision and literary quality;
- b. the programme's added value based on the current offering;
- c. the professionalism and feasibility of the project plan, and
- d. the feasibility of the budget.

The notes to the [grant](#) provide a detailed explanation of these criteria.

Deadlines

There are two funding rounds each year. The closing dates are:

- 20 February 2026 (18:59 Caribbean time, 23:59 Dutch time)
- 26 June 2026 (17:59 Caribbean time, 23:59 Dutch time)

The foundation will process your application within 22 weeks of the closing date.

How can you submit an application?

The foundation uses an online application form that you can access by clicking on the link at the top of this page. Please note that the form will not save your progress. Once you have uploaded the form, you will receive a confirmation by email. Only complete applications will be processed. If your application is complete, it will be presented to the advisory committee for assessment. Applications that are still incomplete on the submission deadline will not be processed.

Application checklist

Make sure you have all the required documents before submitting your application:

- Project plan;
- A balanced and detailed budget;
- Explanatory notes to the budget;
- A recent extract from the Chamber of Commerce register (KvK);
- Your organisation's most recent approved annual accounts. Applicants based in the Caribbean, as well as applicants who are in the early stages of their activity and therefore have no approved annual accounts, are exempt from this obligation.

Your application must be written in Dutch or English. Applicants submitting projects for Dutch Sign Language may upload a video recording instead of a written project plan.