

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure and Arts Services Committee – 15 March 2004

REPORT ON: Dundee Guitar Festival

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Arts

REPORT NO: 206-2004

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To submit to Committee a request to award a grant to Dundee Guitar Festival to develop and stage the Festival at the Caird Hall during the period 19 and 20 July 2004.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Committee approves support of £4,000 for the Dundee Guitar Festival programme of activities throughout the year.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The grant of £4,000 can be met from the Leisure and Arts Department's Revenue Budget 2003/2004 for Grants.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Dundee Guitar Festival encourages access to resources which are not achieved at the expense of the environment and which are accessible to all.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Dundee Guitar Festival's principal aim is to encourage the widest possible level of access and participation across the community.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

- 6.1 The Dundee Guitar Festival has presented an annual festival celebrating the music of the guitar in its many forms for the past 13 years along with a programme of concerts in the city throughout the year. This year's Festival, which will be held at the Caird Hall, takes place during the period 19 to 20 July 2004.

- 6.2 This unique event, which has continued to grow, provides a stage for the best of local, national and international talent. The award of a Lottery Development Grant from the Scottish Arts Council in 2002 has allowed Dundee Guitar Festival to develop and deliver an ambitious programme of music which makes a very positive contribution to the cultural profile of the city.

- 6.3 In 2003 the Dundee Guitar Festival was held for the first time at the refurbished Caird Hall. This has proved to be an excellent venue for the event. In 2004 Dundee Guitar Festival will return to the Caird Hall.

- 6.4 The Dundee Guitar Festival programme will include the very successful International Guitar School which is attended by participants from throughout Europe and America.

- 6.5 The programme will also include a series of lunchtime lectures and afternoon concerts in addition to the five evening concerts. Artists appearing this year include Ana Vidovic from (Croatia), John Feeley (Eire), the Eden Stell Guitar Duo (UK), Thomas Heck (USA), Simon

Dinnigan (UK), TETRA (UK), Gordon Crosskey (UK), Martin Taylor (UK) and WEB (UK) which includes John Williams, John Etheridge and Patrick Bebey.

6.6

In addition to this very strong programme Dundee Guitar Festival will present the 1st Dundee International Guitar Competition.

6.7

The proposed grant will enable Dundee Guitar Festival to offer 10 Bursary places for the contemporary weekend and reduced ticket prices for local children attending the evening concerts. The funding will also support aspects of the lecture programme and the 1st Dundee International Guitar Competition.

7.0

CONSULTATION

7.1

The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

8.0

BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1

None

**STEVE GRIMMOND
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE and ARTS
5 FEBRUARY 2004**