

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure and Arts Services Committee – 17 March 2003

REPORT ON: Dundee Guitar Festival

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Arts

REPORT NO: 229-2003

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 23 to 27 July 2003.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 That Committee approves support of £3,000 for Dundee Guitar Festival programme of activities throughout the year.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The grant of £3,000 can be met from the Leisure and Arts Department Revenue Budget 2002/2003.

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 12 years. This year's Festival, which will be held at the Caird Hall, takes place during the period 23 to 27 July 2003.

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 Dundee Guitar Festival have staged performances at a number of venues throughout the city and will continue to do so for small scale events. However the refurbishment of the Caird Hall auditorium, dressing rooms and social areas along with the access improvements has encouraged the Festival to locate both the major performances and the International Guitar School within the complex.

6.4 The proposed grant will enable Dundee Guitar Festival to further market the festival and attract increased audiences to the Caird Hall and visitors to Dundee. The intensive International Guitar School continues to attract participants from throughout Europe who gain access to some of the finest musicians and tutors available. To encourage participation from local young people a number of bursary places will be offered by Dundee Guitar Festival. With the award of the Lottery grant Dundee Guitar Festival now promote a number of small scale performances throughout the year for emerging guitarists. The establishment of this network is laying the foundation for the establishment of a Young International Guitarist of the Year competition.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Support Services and Director of Corporate Planning, have all been consulted on this report and are in agreement with it's contents.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None

**STEVE GRIMMOND
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE and ARTS
24 FEBRUARY 2003**