



Arts Council England / V&A Purchase  
Grant Fund  
Awards 2025/26



**Abergwili, CofGâr - Carmarthenshire Museum and Art Service (Carmarthenshire County Council), Parc Howard Museum**

- A collection of items from the early beginnings of Llanelly Pottery including:
  - 1) Important 18-piece tea service, c.1840
  - 2) A pair of copper alloy plates used for transfer-decoration c.1850 [Franklin's Maxims & Milan]

Grant award: £2,318

**Aylesbury, Discover Bucks Museum (Buckinghamshire County Museum Trust)**

- Medieval gold and garnet pendant from Longwick, Bucks, 1400-1500 AD [2020-T895; BUC-193A79]

Grant award: £2,500

**Bath, The Holburne Museum (The Holburne Museum Trust Company)**

- 'The Glowing Canopies' by Chila Kumari Singh Burman (b.1957), 2023

Grant award: £7,500

**Bideford, The Burton at Bideford Art Gallery & Museum**

- 'Mayflower, All Flowers' by Yinka Shonibare CBE RA (b.1962), 2020 [edition 49/50]

Grant award: £6,925

**Blackpool Heritage and Museum Trust, Showtown (Blackpool Borough Council)**

- A collection of eight items of evening wear/stage costume, worn by Cilla Black, 1960s-2000s, including:
  1. Multi-coloured maxi evening wear dress, worn in 1972
  2. Black strapless full length evening wear dress, worn in the 1980s

Grant award: £154

### **Bovington, The Tank Museum**

- Medal set awarded to Lt-Col Stewart Inglis Howard-Jones, with original documents and photographs [Group of eight including DSO, MC, 1939-45 Star, France and Germany Star, Defence and War Medals, Korea 1950-53 Medal and U.N. Korea 1950-54 Medal]

Grant award: £5,270

### **Brecon, y Gaer Museum, Art Gallery & Library (Powys County Council)**

- 'Figures in the Brecon Beacons with Sheep and Cows' by John Frederick Tennant (1796-1872), 1855

Grant award: £3,048

### **Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives (Bristol City Council), Bristol Museum & Art Gallery**

- Five photographs by Hashem Shakeri (b.1988), 2021-2022, Afghanistan

Grant award: £6,990

### **Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives (Bristol City Council), Bristol Museum & Art Gallery**

- 'Sons' by Daphne Wright (b.1963), 2011

Grant Award: £22,500

### **Cambridge, Kettle's Yard, University of Cambridge**

- 'Untitled' by Li Yuan-Chia (1929-1994), 1968  
[Double-sided, painted, mirrored and perforated hanging disk]

Grant award: £500

### **Chester, West Cheshire Museums (Cheshire West and Chester Council)**

- Post-Medieval gold seal ring from Tushingham-cum-Grindley [2022 T384; LVPL-E8231C]

Grant award: £6,750

### **Chichester, Pallant House Gallery**

- 'Cleft (Veronica)' by Rachel Howard (b.1969), 2022

Grant award: £5,000

### **Cirencester, Corinium Museum (Cotswold District Council)**

- Iron Age coin hoard with associated votive objects, found near Cirencester, Gloucestershire c50BC-10AD  
[GLO-FFE129; 2022 T971 & GLO-FFD679; 2022 T970]

Grant award: £6,625

**Colchester Museums Development Foundation (Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service, Colchester City Council)**

- A Medieval gold pendant with an inscribed frame and a cabochon garnet setting, found at Great Tey, Essex [2021 T637; SUR-4329F6]

Grant award: £3,000

**Corby Heritage Centre (North Northamptonshire Council)**

- Early-Medieval complete silver and gold Sword Pommel, found in Brigstock (AD 900-1120) [2019-T861; NARC-1C1272] & associated gold 'Aestel', found near Gretton (AD 850-900) [2022-T787; NARC-49D06E],

Grant award: £30,000

**Derby, The Royal Lancers Museum Trust, Royal Lancers Museum (Derby) at Derby Museum and Art Gallery & Royal Lancers Museum (Thoresby)**

- Second World War Gallantry medal group awarded to Sergeant George Frederick Sparks, 12th Royal Lancers [Distinguished Conduct Medal, Military Medal, 1939-45 Star, Africa Star, Italy Star & 1939-45 War Medal]

Grant award: £5,270

**Doncaster, Heritage Doncaster - Danum Gallery, Library and Museum (City of Doncaster Council)**

- A Medieval (13th-14th Century) silver vesica style personal seal matrix, set with a Roman (1st Century BC) agate or Sardonyx 'gemstone' intaglio, found in the parish of Norton, Doncaster [2024-T138; SWYOR-20F9DC]

Grant award: £1,500

**Dorchester, Dorset Museum & Art Gallery (Dorset Natural History and Archaeology Society)**

- Gold casting waste of potential Bronze Age date from Melcombe Horsey, Dorset [DOR-2ABFA2, 2019 T443]  
(Two amorphous globs of molten gold)

Grant award: £1,500

**Eastbourne, Towner Eastbourne (The Towner Trust)**

- 'Meet me there, where the sun goes down and the moon comes up' by Sophie Barber (b.1996), 2025

Grant award: £13,925

**Exeter, Royal Albert Memorial Museum (Exeter City Council)**

- 26 Vintage analogue photographic 10x8" contact prints by Jem Southam (b.1950), 1996-2011 [7 from the 'Lyme Bay' series, 1996; 6 from 'The Pond at Upton Pyne' series, 1996-2001; 6 from 'Painter's Pool' series, 2002-3; 7 from 'River Winter' series, 2010-11]

Grant award: £10,000

**Farnham, Crafts Study Centre, University for the Creative Arts**

- 'Vase' by Angus Suttie (1946-1993), 1984

Grant award: £2,975

**Firle, The Charleston Trust (Bloomsbury in Sussex), Charleston in Firle**

- 'Flowers in a Vase' by Duncan Grant (1885-1978) and George Bergen (1903-1984), 1930

Grant award: £19,440

**Hereford, Herefordshire Museum Service (Herefordshire County Council)**

- 'The Natterers' by Clare Woods (b.1972), 2007

Grant award: £20,000

**Ipswich, Colchester Museum Development Foundation (Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service, Ipswich Borough Council)**

- 'The Eyke Pendant', early medieval pendant with runic inscription, AD 775-850 [SF-DC39C5]

Grant award: £5,000

**King's Lynn, Lynn Museum, Norfolk Museums Service (Norwich County Council)**

- Medieval gold annular brooch, found at Docking, Norfolk [Treasure case 2023 T984; NMS-302DE6]

Grant award: £1,000

**Lancashire County Museum Service (Lancashire County Council), Judges' Lodgings Museum**

- John France Press, Gillows of Lancaster, 1766

Grant award: £36,500

**Lancaster City Museums (Lancaster City Council), Lancaster City Museum**

- Late Medieval Iconographic Ring, found near Lancaster (1400-1500) [LANCUM-130F35, 2023 T396]

Grant award: £2,750

### **Leeds Museums and Galleries (Leeds City Council), Leeds Art Gallery**

- 'Professor Emily Zobel Marshall' by Curtis Holder, 2024 [plus five preparatory drawings]
- 'Emii Alrai' by Curtis Holder, 2024 [plus five preparatory drawings]
- 'Seki Lynch' by Curtis Holder, 2024 [plus five preparatory drawings]

Grant award: £12,750

### **Leicestershire County Council Museums (Leicestershire County Council), Culture Leicestershire**

- A Middle Bronze Age flange twisted gold torc, found near Houghton on the Hill, Leicestershire [2024-T737; LEIC-BD528B]

Grant award: £50,000

### **Liverpool, University of Liverpool, Sydney Jones Library**

- Roger McGough Archive, 1970s-2020s:  
Second and final tranche of papers of poet, broadcaster, children's author and playwright, Roger McGough (the University Library acquired the first tranche of his papers in 2007)

Grant award: £20,000

### **London, Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Library**

- 'Portrait of George Byfield' (c.1756-1813) by John Hoppner (1758-1810), 1800-1810

Grant award: £3,500

### **London, The Charles Dickens Museum (Dickens House & Dickens House Fund)**

- A letter and envelope, from Charles Dickens to Pauline Viardot, 19 January 1863 [Blue paper and with black ink as favoured by Dickens in this period; envelope has remains of the red wax seal]

Grant award: £1,100

### **London, The William Morris Society**

- 'The Apple Tree' Embroidered Panel, designed by William Morris and likely embroidered by May Morris, c.1890

Grant award: £1,764

### **Lowestoft Museum**

- A rare documentary named and dated polychrome creamware teapot, painted with inscription to Thomas Trip Cooper Lowestoft, 1774

Grant award: £244

**Malmesbury, Athelstan Museum Malmesbury**

- Bronze Age Hoard of three gold bracelets, found just outside of Malmesbury, Wiltshire [2022 T800; WILT-DE7029]

Grant award: £12,500

**Northampton Museum and Art Gallery (West Northamptonshire Council)**

- A complete wound wire Early Medieval gold finger ring, found in Farthingstone, Northamptonshire [2021-T726; NARC-AC65A0]

Grant award: £1,250

**Northampton Museum and Art Gallery (West Northamptonshire Council)**

- A Bronze Age hoard consisting of 30 Copper-alloy socketed axe heads, 17 palstaves and 5 pieces of casting waste from Deanshanger, Northamptonshire [NARC-49AFF5, 2018-T806]

Grant award: £4,100

**Norwich Castle Museum, Norfolk Museums Service (Norfolk County Council)**

- 'Tombland Fair' by Alfred Munnings (1878-1959), 1909

Grant award: £12,800

**Norwich, University of East Anglia (Art Collection), Sainsbury Centre**

- 'Untitled (Tanan Kené)' by Sara Flores (b.1950), 2022

Grant award: £17,602

**Norwich, University of East Anglia (Art Collection), Sainsbury Centre**

- 'Polytype 4' by Lubna Chowdhary (b.1964), 2025

Grant award: £5,600

**Oxford, Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology (University of Oxford)**

- 'From Time to Time' by Nalini Malani (b.1946), 2004

Grant award: £23,000

**Oxford, Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford (The Chancellor Masters and Scholars of the University of Oxford), Weston Library**

- Three works by Tom Phillips (1937-2022):
  - 1) 'A Humument', 2019-2022
  - 2) 'The Library at Elsinore', 2007
  - 3) 'Song of Myself', 1995

Grant award: £28,000

**Penzance, Penlee House Gallery & Museum (Penzance Council)**

'Cornish Fisherfolk' by Walter Langley (1852-1922), 1908

Grant award: £32,000

**Plymouth, The Box: Plymouth Museums Galleries Archives (Plymouth City Council)**

1) 'Reading Sunday Papers' by Beryl Cook (1926-2008), 1973

2) 'Woman Laying on a Sofa' by Beryl Cook (1926-2008), 1964-68

Grant award: £ 8,680

**Plymouth, The Box: Plymouth Museums Galleries Archives (Plymouth City Council)**

- 'Papa Bois and Mama Glo' by John Lyons (b.1933), 2008-2010

Grant award: £14,026

**Richmond, The Green Howards Trust, The Green Howards Museum**

- Portrait of an Officer by W. Millar, 1773, traditionally identified as Captain Giles of the 19th Regiment

Grant award: £4,095

**Ripley, Princess Royal Class Locomotive Trust, West Shed Museum**

- Duchess of Gloucester locomotive nameplate, 1938

Grant award £10,920

**Rochester, Huguenot Museum (Huguenot Heritage Centre and the French Hospital)**

- The Lethieullier silver tea tray, 1732-33 (supplied by London-based Huguenot goldsmith Augustin Courtauld, engraving with elaborate cartouche and ornamental border attributed to Joseph Sympson)

Grant award: £10,000

**Saffron Walden, The Fry Art Gallery Society (North West Essex Collection Trust), Fry Art Gallery**

- Selection of 27 original woodblocks engraved by Eric Ravilious and Tirzah Garwood including scenes of East Sussex, work done at college and Essex, c.1933

Grant award: £30,000

**Shrewsbury Museum and Art Gallery, Shropshire Museums (Shropshire Council)**

- A Middle Bronze Age hoard containing two complete palstave axe heads and a third in two fragments from Ruyton-XI-Towns, Shropshire, c.1500-1300 BCE (also known as the Knockin Hoard)  
[LVPL-11F067 / 2023 T397]

Grant award: £1,050

**Southampton City Art Gallery (Southampton Culture & Tourism Service, on behalf of Southampton City Council)**

- 'Centrifugal Forces' by Laura Ford (b.1961), 2024

Grant award: £7,000

**Stoke-on-Trent, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery (City of Stoke-on-Trent Council)**

- Bronze Age penannular ring, found in Colwich, Staffordshire (the first recorded find of its type via the Portable Antiquities Scheme found within Staffordshire) [WMID-CAF4EB, 2023 T141]

Grant award: £600.00

**Stoke-on-Trent, The Potteries Museum & Art Gallery (City of Stoke-on-Trent Council)**

- Late Bronze Age Dress Fastener found in Ellastone, Staffordshire, 1000-800 BCE (Ewart phase) [2023 T450; DENO-A4D394]

Grant award: £50,000

**Swindon, National Trust, Oxburgh Hall**

- 'Queen Esther sends the Royal Decree', early 16th century tapestry by an unknown artist

Grant award: £30,000

**Taunton, South West Heritage Trust (Somerset Council), The Museum of Somerset & Somerset Heritage Centre**

- Roman gold finger ring (CE 200 to 325) and associated hoard (CE 253 to 296, likely buried around CE 297) from Ilminster, Somerset [SOM-98F54A and SOM-D31FA2]

Grant award: £30,000

**Taunton, South West Heritage Trust (Somerset Council), The Museum of Somerset & Somerset Heritage Centre**

- A Collection of Artworks and Ephemera by and relating to Sarah Biffin (1784-1850), 1807-1848

Grant award: £20,000

**Truro, Royal Institution of Cornwall, Cornwall Museum and Art Gallery**

- A Bronze Age gold terminal fragment, found in St Levan, Cornwall [CORN-790C6D; 2023 T1124]

Grant award: £200

**Truro, Royal Institution of Cornwall, Cornwall Museum and Art Gallery**

- A gold memento mori ring, 1702, from St. Enoder, Cornwall 1600-800 BC [2022-T1117; CORN-698709]

Grant award: £900

**Wakefield, National Coal Mining Museum for England**

- 'Grimethorpe Colliery Band' by Joe Scarborough (b.1938), 2021

Grant award: £4,000

**Wakefield, The Hepworth Wakefield (Wakefield Council)**

- 'I think about you more than I should' by Lindsey Mendick (b.1987), 2024

Grant award: £3,000

**Waltham Abbey, Epping Forest District Museum CIO (Epping Forest District Council)**

- Early Medieval Finger Ring found near Harlow, Essex (c.550-650 CE) [2023 T265; ESS-2E1CD2]

Grant award: £11,000

**Warwick, Warwickshire Museum Service (Warwickshire County Council)**

- An Early Medieval gold & silver alloy pendant, found near Alcester, Warwickshire [2022-T644; WAW-2AE687]

Grant award: £1,500

**Winchester, Hampshire Cultural Trust (Hampshire County Council and Winchester City Council), Winchester City Museum**

- Early Medieval Gold & Enamel Finger-Ring, found in Wield, Hampshire [2021-T432; BERK-D7F574]

Grant award: £1,000

**Winchester, The Royal Logistic Corps Museum Trust CIO, The Royal Logistic Corps Museum**

- Military Medal of Sub-Conductor R. W. Parker R.A.O.C, 1944

Grant award: £1,612

**Witney, Oxfordshire County Museums Service (Oxfordshire County Council), The Oxfordshire Museum & Museums Resource Centre**

- Late Roman Coin Hoard, found near Wallingford, Oxfordshire, AD 352 to 402 [2019 T732; OXON-E56F02] (223 silver late Roman siliquae, one base metal late Roman nummus, a silver-plated contemporary copy denarius and a base silver radiate)

Grant award: £2,145

**Wolverhampton Art Gallery (City of Wolverhampton Council)**

- 'Blackbirds Singing in the Dead of Night' by Shaquéelle Whyte (b.2000), 2025

Grant award: £16,000

**York, Borthwick Institute for Archives, The University of York**

- Eric Morecambe diaries, notebooks and address books, c.1977-1983

Grant award: £1,000

**York, Borthwick Institute for Archives, The University of York**

- Galton and Simpson Archive, the 'Hancock' scripts, 1961

Grant award: £14,997

**York, The Quilters' Guild of the British Isles, The Quilt Collection**

- 'A Domestic Scene in Chorlton' by Dr Sarah-Joy Ford, 2023

Grant award: £4,875

Number of grants given: 69

Value of grants given: £733,750

\*£8,750 unclaimed grant funds offered in 2024-25 were reallocated in 2025-26.