Application Instructions:

Please complete the Herman Lee and Nell Stuart Donovan Trust Application in its entirety. In addition to the application, a maximum of four additional pages may be attached to respond to questions. Artist renderings and samples can be included in the four additional pages. An electronic copy of the application must be submitted by April 5, 2024, to Kim Lush at kim.lush@uky.edu. In some cases, the Advisory Committee may request a more detailed proposal or request the applicant to make a presentation on the project. An applicant will be contacted if additional information or a presentation is necessary. The Advisory Committee will review the applications submitted and make recommendations to President Capilouto for funding in May 2024 for the 2024-2025 Academic Year.

The Advisory Committee for The Donovan Trust will consider proposals for amounts no greater than $10,000. Projects must meet the purposes stipulated in the Trust as follows:

“…for the promotion and creation of an atmosphere and environment of culture, refinement, and gentility to encourage the growth of the students into gentlemen and women whose education may reflect the influence of such an atmosphere and environment;

To enrich the educational opportunities by providing increased stimulus to the students to cultivate and develop into men and women with an appreciation of the qualities of beauty and loveliness;

That no part of this endowment ever be spent for ordinary recurring expenses of operation or maintenance, but that it be spent for what are so frequently thought of as the luxuries of an institution, such as beautiful books, for the promotion of musical programs, for acquiring beautiful pictures, for the production of flowers and shrubs, or for any investment that will promote an appreciation of the lovely and beautiful in the environment in which students live and study.”

An applicant with a proposal involving long-range plans for building renovation or campus development should consult with Kevin Locke at kevin.locke@uky.edu prior to submission. Also, an applicant with a proposal involving landscaping should contact Kevin Locke to consult the UK master plan and should consult a professional landscape architect to direct the design process. Appropriate drawings should be included with the application.

No awards will be made for art to be erected or displayed in an area designated as a public place without the approval of the Committee for Art in Public Places. This approval is not required prior to submission of an application for the Donovan Trust. However, approval will be required prior to the final award of any funds from the Donovan Trust.

Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding. It is the responsibility of the applicant to fully complete the application and to provide any necessary supporting documentation (e.g., estimated cost of project) and secure any necessary pre-approvals (e.g., consult with Kevin Locke for proposals to utilize outdoor space).

Please note that the word “promote” in the Donovan Trust does not carry the contemporary meaning often associated with marketing or advertising. Funds for the Donovan Trust will not be awarded for the production or dissemination of promotional materials.