



## A New Year, A New Arts Foundation

Three friends of a Cheshire-based veterinary neurologist, Ulrike Michal, are proud to officially launch a new arts foundation in her memory.

The Ulrike Michal Foundation for the Arts will exist "to promote, encourage and extend the love, appreciation, enjoyment, understanding and practice of fine, decorative and applied arts among people of all ages through experiences at museums, art galleries, historic properties and in the community at large, both as individuals and communally, as participants and spectators," across north Wales, Merseyside and the border counties of Cheshire, Shropshire and Herefordshire.

David Brown, Chairman of the Ulrike Michal Foundation, said "As well as her very successful professional career, Ulrike was a talented artist and it is entirely appropriate that her memory should be preserved by providing help and encouragement to other artists and arts -related organisations through this charity in her name."

Lynn Podmore, Treasurer of the Ulrike Michal Foundation, said "A bequest from Ulrike's estate has made possible the establishment of this foundation and to provide grants to enable more people to enjoy and practice the traditional skills of the fine and decorative arts that she so enjoyed."

Jonathan Gammond, Secretary of the Ulrike Michal Foundation, added "We encourage artistic individuals and art organizations from the regions in Wales and England where the Foundation operates to apply. More details concerning the grants programme and eligibility criteria are available on our website: www.umfffta.org.uk"

For more information, contact: info@umffta.org

Website: www.umffta.org.uk

## **Background Information**



Ulrike Michal moved to England in November 2006 from her native Switzerland to work as a veterinary neurologist and surgeon at the Chestergates Veterinary Hospital, situated between Ellesmere Port and Chester. While there she established an international reputation among dog and cat owners for her expertise in veterinary medicine and her skills as a surgeon.

Alongside her professional career, Ulrike had a lifelong love of art, gaining much pleasure as a practising artist, as an active member of the Liver Sketching Club, pursuing her interest in the artists of the Italian Renaissance, and as a part-time fine arts student at the University of Bangor, north Wales. Ulrike Michal died from cancer on April 6th 2016, aged 39.

The Foundation has chosen the region of north Wales, Merseyside, Cheshire, Shropshire and Herefordshire for its activities because these are the places Ulrike knew best and loved.