

13th May 2021

To: The Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council

Grants under the Arts Act Recommendations May 2021

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

Enclosed is a report and recommendations for the Grants under the Arts Act.

Grants under the Arts Act: Total Fund Available €20,000.

- The panel met on Wednesday 12th of May 2021
- There were 36 applications received
- A total ask of € 32,224
- The panel recommended the allocation of funding to 27 successful applications, totalling €20,000.

Limerick City and County Council is proud to support, and be associated with, high quality work produced by creative practitioners based in Limerick.

The Council is requested to approve the allocations outlined, amounting to €20,000.

Is Mise le Meas,

Dr. Pippa Little, Arts Officer,

Limerick City and County Council

Grants under the Arts Act

- In 2021, the Grants Under the Arts Act was administered in one funding strand, with the closing date for applications of 4pm, Wednesday April 28th 2021.
- A total budget amount of €20,000 is available in the fund.
- Grants Under the Arts Act funding ranges from €100 to a maximum payment of €1,000.

Criteria for selection

Limerick City and County Council offers grant funding to amateur, community or voluntary groups, or organisations, and individual arts practitioners, which in the opinion of the authority, will stimulate public interest in the arts, promote the knowledge, appreciation and practice of the arts or assist in improving the standards of the arts.

In the Arts Act, the arts are defined as painting, sculpture, architecture, music, film, drama, dance, literature, design in industry and the fine arts, and applied arts generally. The awards can be used for the professional development of artists, the arts and increasing access and participation in the arts.

Assessment

All Grants under the Arts Act applications are considered by an assessment panel, appointed by Limerick Culture and Arts Office, Limerick City and County Council.

The Panel

The assessment panel meet to assess and make recommendations on all eligible applications using the published criteria for assessment. The Grants under the Arts Act 2021 panel met remotely on Wednesday 12th of May, to assess and make decisions on all eligible applications. The panel was composed of:

- Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon, Chair of the Community, Leisure and Culture SPC, Limerick City and County Council.
- Michael McLoughlin, Visual Artist working in a wide variety of media including drawing, video, sculpture and sound. Since the mid-1990's McLoughlin has developed and presented new ways of working in a social context.
- Mary Brady is a former Arts Officer for Offaly and Laois County Councils.

The panel was impressed with the level of requests for funding and the quality of the applications. The panel also recommended that Limerick City and Council consider an increase in future funding, to enable the building of capacity around current provision and to support strategic development. Grant aid is awarded according to the Limerick Cultural Strategy: A Framework 2016-2030.

There were 36 applications for funding, with a total ask of €32,224, of which 27 were successful. The funding available for allocation was €20,000.

Limerick Grants under the Arts Act 2021

Grant Recipient	Municipal District	Awarded
Yovanna Torres, Dancer	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 600
Le Fanu Festival	Cappamore-Kilmallock	€ 1,000
Lime Square Poets	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 508
Robert Burns Night	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 100
Marty Ryan, Musician	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 400
Niall Quinn, Musician	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 1,000
H.I.P.S.T.E.R	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 1,000
Paul O'Connor, Musician	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 500
Bottom Dog Theatre Company	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 1,000
Dr. Simon Thompson, Theatre Practitioner	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 1,000
Limerick Youth Theatre	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 1,000
The Limerick Theatre and Performance Hub, t/a The GAFF	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 1,000
The Northside Misfits Community Drama Group	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 1,000
Torch Players Limerick	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 1,000
Aisling Burke O'Connor, Artist	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 209
Clara McSweeney, Artist	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 500
Courtney Sharos, Artist	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 560
Gavin Hogg, Artist	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 906
Gerry Davis, Artist	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 1,000
Gerry O'Mahony, Artist	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 717
James Furlong, Artist	Adare-Rathkeale	€ 800
Julie Brazil, Artist	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 700
Michelle Prenderville, Artist	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 500
Polish Arts Festival	Limerick Metropolitan	€ 1,000
Sheila Richardson, Artist	Adare-Rathkeale	€ 500
Stephanie Deady, Artist	Cappamore-Kilmallock	€ 500
Veronica Santorum, Artist	Cappamore-Kilmallock	€ 1,000
Total Awarded		€ 20,000

The successful applicants are as follows:

Yovanna Torres, Dancer

Artist's bursary to support *Finding My Voice*, a project that aims to document Yovanna's journey as a dancer and to serve as an electronic journal that narrates the most impactful experiences of her life in Ireland through video, poetry and texts.

Le Fanu Festival

A community festival celebrating and exploring the Le Fanu family and their connection to Abington, Murroe. The vision for the Le Fanu Festival is the cultural enrichment and enhancement of 'place' through literature, music, architecture and storytelling.

Lime Square Poets

Lime Square Poets aims to provide opportunities fostering connections between Irish poets via weekly virtual poetry open mic and reading series'. They will develop a dedicated website to showcase work, attract an international audience, and promote collaboration.

Robert Burns Night

Robert Burns Night at Dolan's will mark the worldwide festival night celebrating Scotland's national poet. Haggis and sandwiches, neeps and tatties, alongside pipe and violin music, and other Scottish traditions will also feature on the night. This will be the 18th year of this event.

Marty Ryan, Musician

Marty Ryan brings together the vibrant skateboard community in Limerick to create a piece of music using found sound from Limerick skateboarders. Using sounds captured at Limerick skate spots, Marty has used cutting-edge music technology to incorporate this into a musical piece.

Niall Quinn, Musician

Limerick band The Hitchers are aiming for a 25th Anniversary, limited edition, re-release of their critically acclaimed 1997 debut album on a not-for-profit basis.

H.I.P.S.T.E.R

A weekend course in Renaissance Flute, in late autumn 2021 at the People's Museum of Limerick, with flautist Amanda Markwick. This is part of Early Music organisation H.I.P.S.T.E.R.'s ongoing series of concerts and courses, giving Limerick musicians the opportunity to increase skills and performance practice, in historical instruments.

Paul O'Connor, Musician

To produce Volume 4 of *A Litany of Failures*, a multimedia music project showcasing the best of independent and alternative music in Ireland.

Bottom Dog Theatre Company

Support for the production of the 13th series of rehearsed readings, *Four Seasonal Plays*, engaging four external directors to work with invited local and national casts in a month long season of diverse plays, from Irish and international writers.

Dr. Simon Thompson, Theatre Practitioner

Develop a short digital theatre performance, which focuses on stimulating the audience's sensory experience. The performance will offer the viewer a number of options on how they engage with the piece, which will subsequently make the work more inclusive and accessible to those with sensory differences.

Limerick Youth Theatre

LYT plans to make two films with its first and second year members. The two groups have spent 10 weeks learning about film and have pitched their film ideas to one another, two of which have been selected and are in development.

The Limerick Theatre and Performance Hub, t/a The GAFF

The GAFF will return to working with Moyross Community Drama to deliver a series of workshops with a view to reinvigorating and reviving the drama activity in this community, which has been interrupted since early 2020 due to COVID-19.

The Northside Misfits Community Drama Group

The Northside Misfits Community Drama Group have spent recent months adapting their play *taLK* to film format. The group have been working with trained and experienced cinematographer Brendan Hickey from Moyross to storyboard and draft a shooting schedule in line with Covid-19 government guidelines.

Torch Players Limerick

The production of *Lemons* by Sam Steiner in the Belltable, on September 2nd and 3rd, and a revival of *Lost in Yonkers* by Neil Simon which opened a five night run at the Belltable on March 10, 2020 but had to close after two performances due to COVID-19.

Aisling Burke O'Connor, Artist

Artist's bursary to develop a series of new paintings to portray the duality of existence, through a global pandemic, as an artist and mother in 2021. The support will cover painting materials and a professionally curated online exhibition of the works.

Clara McSweeney, Artist

Artist's bursary to provide Clara with the opportunity to expand her analogue film knowledge and provide the necessary training and equipment to create a new body of work, consisting of a series of painted ink Super 8 films of various abandoned spaces in Limerick City.

Courtney Sharos, Artist

Artist's bursary supporting Sharos' practice to conduct a body of research, complete and showcase a performative triptych and allow the opportunity to exhibit live work with an audience in the form of a solo show in Spacecraft Artist's Studios project space.

Gavin Hogg, Artist

The production of a self-published book on Gavin's practice, focusing on work created during lock-down. The book will be produced via on-line publishing and will feature various texts drawn from his writings and documentation of paintings and collages.

Gerry Davis, Artist

To continue to work for exhibitions, which have extended into their third year of production due to exhibition delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. This Artist's Bursary will assist Gerry in bringing this project into new territory and developing his practice as an artist in Limerick.

Gerry O'Mahony, Artist

Artist's bursary for the development of his studio practice. New themes and a body of experimental and innovative work is emerging, that is planned for exhibit in 2023.

James Furlong, Artist

Artist's bursary to support the creation of an exhibition of painting and drawings, combined with texts drawn from popular culture, exploring the concept of individual meanings in art, as explored by the theorist Roland Barthes. This work will be exhibited in Dooradoyle Library.

Julie Brazil, Artist

Artist's bursary to provide time and materials to create a series of new work during the summer of 2021. This series of work will be video documented for her website and for future online /on site shows.

Michelle Prenderville, Artist

Artist's bursary to support the artist's practice and advance her artistic development by producing streams of consciousness works that are mature, purposeful and liberating.

Polish Arts Festival

To hold an exhibition of Polish visual artist Adriana Laube's work in The Hunt Museum, and workshops (Live Painting Session & Family Painting Session) available to the community as part of the 14th Polish Arts Festival in Limerick.

Sheila Richardson, Artist

To complete a new body of work for solo Exhibition, with accompanying catalogue, for Draiocht Art Gallery, Adare. The Exhibition, titled *Looking Out to Sea*, was created over the last two years in Cappamore Artists' Studios.

Stephanie Deady, Artist

Artist's bursary for the development of her studio practice, towards an upcoming solo show with the Kevin Kavanagh gallery in 2022.

Veronica Santorum, Artist

Artist's bursary to support her first solo exhibition, at Friars Gate theatre in December 2021, bringing her to a new stage in development as an artist. It explores isolation during COVID-19 and emergence from this experience. An online version of the exhibition will be created and shared on social media.