

15th March 2023

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

Grants under the Arts Act Recommendations 2023

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 8th of March 2023
- There were 44 applications received
- A total ask of € 38,725
- The panel recommended the allocation of funding to 27 successful applicants, 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 | Creative Ireland Coordinator
Community, Tourism & Culture Directorate
Limerick City and County Council

Grants under the Arts Act

- On January 24th, Limerick Arts Office announced the open call for applications under the “Grants Under the Arts Act” scheme.
- The closing date for applications was 5pm Wednesday 22nd February 2023.
- 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 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 2023 panel met remotely on Wednesday 8th of March, to assess and make decisions on all eligible applications.

The panel comprised:

- Sarah Searson has worked at executive and senior management level in the arts and education sector for over 25 years. Sarah joined The Dock, in Carrick on Shannon as CEO and Creative Director in 2015 and currently serves on The Governing Body of Maynooth University and The Galway Arts Centre.
- Michael Fortune a Wexford born artist/folklorist, who is also a part-time Assistant Lecturer in Limerick School of Art and Design.

The panel was impressed with the level of requests for funding and the quality of the applications. The panel recommended, should further funding become available, that it be awarded to those with the next highest scores awarded through the assessment process. 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.

Limerick Grants under the Arts Act 2023

There were 44 applications for funding, with a total ask of €38,725, of which 27 were successful. The funding available for allocation was €20,000.

Grant Recipient	Municipal District	Amount Awarded
Arts Participation		
El Reid-Buckley	Limerick Metropolitan	€1,000
Dance		
Yovanna Torres	Limerick Metropolitan	€1,000
Literature		
Limerick Writers' Centre	Limerick Metropolitan	€1,000
Lime Square Poets	Limerick Metropolitan	€549
Dermot O'Sullivan	Limerick Metropolitan	€500
Burns Night	Limerick Metropolitan	€500
Music		
Drombanna Community Singers	Cappamore/Kilmallock	€1,000
Now and Then Media	Limerick Metropolitan	€1,000
Musical Theatre		
Limerick Musical Society	Limerick Metropolitan	€1,000
Theatre		
Torch Players Limerick	Limerick Metropolitan	€1,000
St. Saviours Community Drama Group	Limerick Metropolitan	€600
The Northside Misfits Community Drama	Limerick Metropolitan	€600
Traditional Arts		
Ballyhoura Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann (BCCE)	Cappamore/Kilmallock	€1,000
Castleconnell- Ahane- Herbertstown CCÉ	Cappamore/Kilmallock	€975
West Limerick Singing Club	Newcastle West	€800

Visual Arts		
Polish Arts Festival	Limerick Metropolitan	€1,000
Limerick Art Society	Limerick Metropolitan	€700
Courtney Sharos	Limerick Metropolitan	€600
Paddy Critchley	Limerick Metropolitan	€500
Stephanie Deady	Cappamore/Kilmallock	€500
Deirdre Power	Limerick Metropolitan	€500
Gavin Hogg	Limerick Metropolitan	€500
Aoife Doherty	Limerick Metropolitan	€446
Niamh Schmidtke	Cappamore/Kilmallock	€330
Young People, Children and Education		
Kathy Tiernan	Limerick Metropolitan	€400
Limerick Youth Theatre	Limerick Metropolitan	€1,000
Emerging Limerick Filmmakers	Limerick Metropolitan	€1,000
Total Awarded		€ 20,000

The successful applicants are as follows:

Arts Participation.

El Reid-Buckley

Working with historians, seanchaí, and local people around Lough Gur, the artist considers how traditional Limerick folklore and balladry might offer lines of enquiry in a limited publication entitled, *Looking for the Tunnel Under the Lake*. This aims to foster strong awareness of LGBTI+ issues within the area and across Limerick more widely and to foster connections between urban and rural communities and identities.

Dance

Yovanna Torres

To buy time to research, develop and embody work that reflects the artist's interpretation of early and modern fandango. She will create two original flamenco fusion choreographies for harpsichord and present them as part of the Limerick Early Music Festival.

Literature

Limerick Writers' Centre

This project, to celebrate the life and work of the late Jim Kemmy, by publishing a selective anthology of his writings for September 2023 to coincide with the anniversary of his death. The book will be launched by a prominent personality and will be on sale locally and nationally.

Lime Square Poets

Lime Square Poets aims to provide opportunities that foster connections between Irish poets via a weekly virtual poetry open mic and reading series. Hosted from Limerick, a dedicated website showcases work, attracts an international audience and promotes collaboration and lifelong learning. This funding is to cover costs associated with maintaining this online presence.

Dermot O'Sullivan

Dermot O' Sullivan to be awarded towards development of writer's professional practice.

Burns Night

Robert Burns Night 2024 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. There will be live performances of songs as well as poetry.

Music

Drombanna Community Singers

Drombanna Community singers is a voluntary, singing group founded to enhance the lives of senior members of the community. This funding will be used on equipment costs and to pay the rent of the premises used for rehearsals.

Now and Then Media

H.I.P.S.T.E.R. plans to bring Dawn Kalis, a virtuosic harpsichordist and educator, to Limerick for a concert and lecture-demonstration in May 2023. As part of their proposed concert series for 2023, it falls under their remit of Historically Informed Performance Series, Teaching, Education, and Research.

Musical Theatre

Limerick Musical Society

Limerick Musical Society is delighted to be premiering *Titanic: The Musical* at UCH for three nights in April 2023. An iconic Musical combining history with live theatre, this is a huge undertaking requiring a large cast and a set designed specifically for UCH. Funding allocated will go towards the cost of set materials.

Theatre

Torch Players Limerick

There are two strands to this proposal. The first is a production of *Sive* by John B Keane in Belltable theatre for five nights in March. The second will be production of 2 to 3 One Act plays in the Loft Theatre in October. It is envisaged that both shows will reach out to citizens of all ages and thus contribute to a culturally vibrant Limerick.

St. Saviours Community Drama Group

St. Saviours stage their World Premier and 14th original production at the Belltable on the 2nd and 3rd of May 2023, entitled, *Mission Impossible!* They have booked a lighting and sound operator for their event.

Northside Misfits

The Northside Misfits are celebrating their 9th year by booking the Belltable for two nights to premiere their new play, *The Balla Gurls!* on the 31st of May and the 1st of June.

Traditional Arts

Ballyhoura Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann (BCCE)

Engaging the public with the works of the Joyce Brothers, through holding three traditional music performances, featuring tunes and songs from the collection, played by accomplished musicians from the Munster region. The performances will be held in the months preceding the festival in October 2023.

Castleconnell- Ahane- Herbertstown CCÉ

The Inaugural Thomas Connellan Harp Festival will take place at the Lough Gur Visitor centre in September 2023. The one-day festival programme will include beginner, intermediate and advanced workshops from expert tutors for harping students followed by a concert.

West Limerick Singing Club

West Limerick Singing Club holds the annual Garry Mc Mahon singing weekend, a tribute to the renowned sean nós and ballad singer and composer. This will be held on Oct 13th to 15th in Abbeyfeale, County Limerick.

Visual Arts

Polish Arts Festival

PAF will highlight Irish and Polish photographic talent in the form of a month-long exhibition in The Hunt Museum. The exhibition is themed around Climate Change and Sustainability and will be accompanied by workshops and performances.

Courtney Sharos

To deliver a costume-making workshop at the end of October using recycled materials. The workshop will be open to the public and based in Spacecraft Studios project space. The aim is to celebrate and reignite enjoyment of Celtic traditions of costume making and generate engagement with the community and cultural activities.

Limerick Art Society

Funding to establish a Pilot, Art Appreciation Programme based in Limerick, building on the current agenda of Limerick Art Society, in addition to its ongoing programme of development in the visual arts. As part of this, a proposal to launch an initial programme of two presentations in Kilmurry Art and Heritage Centre is also part of this project.

Paddy Critchley

To make work for three major shows coming up this summer. The first is a group show in the Limerick City Gallery of Art. The other two are solo shows in The Dock, and The Dunamaise Arts Centre.

Stephanie Deady

Funding for a publication, with images, of her most recent works. It would be beneficial to the artist to have a physical publication when approaching potential curators and art directors in the region as well as having it for upcoming exhibitions and opportunities.

Deirdre Power

Through the medium of drawing and visual interpretation, artists Deirdre Power and Brian MacMahon explore places and histories that have a range of resonances for current conditions and intersections at play in the city. Accessing the urban environment as a place for cultural exchange, the project seeks to exemplify best practice in socially engaged art and will be a collaboration between artists, historians and members of the public.

Gavin Hogg

Paying tribute to the history and labour of Limerick lacemakers this grant will fund research into the patterns and traditions of Limerick Lace and the cost of art materials towards creating a series of drawings and prints to be exhibited in Limerick Museum in November 2023.

Aoife Doherty

A two-week multidisciplinary exhibition, to mark the conclusion of Limerick Printmakers Bursary 2022-23, in May of 2023 at Spacecraft Studio. The exhibition will include an editioned print made during this year long bursary, as well as mixed media artwork relating to the project.

Niamh Schmidtke

This project uses 3D ceramic printing, with clay from the riverbank of a new renewable energy initiative along the River Shannon, linking the regions clay to minerals extracted for renewable technology. The results of this project will be exhibited in the Hunt Museum this summer, alongside a public program of climate resources within Limerick.

Young People, Children and Education

Kathy Tiernan

An Exhibition of artwork by teenagers, each person having attended five weekly art workshops to create their pieces. The focus of this group is inclusion, diversity and

community; it will provide a safe and enjoyable space to create work for five afternoons over five weeks culminating in a display of the artwork at local businesses.

Limerick Youth Theatre

The collaboration between Limerick Youth Theatre and Avista (formerly known as the Daughters of Charity Service) returns for its tenth show at Belltable on 22nd & 23rd of March 2023 in Belltable for two performances where The Creative Show presents *ShamStory & De Real History of Limerick* written and directed by Myles Breen.

Emerging Limerick Filmmakers

ELF had another successful year of production, with films completed in February and another to shoot in April. They have collaborated with local editor Phil Shanahan and sound editor Ronan Mitchell to deliver editing masterclasses to support the young filmmakers. This grant is to fund the costs for mentorship fees, location rental and facilitation costs.