

13th May 2024

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

Report: Recommendations from the Assessment Panel: Dolores O'Riordan Music Bursary 2024

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

Enclosed is a report and recommendations from the Assessment Panel of the Dolores O'Riordan Music Bursary Scheme 2024.

Dolores O'Riordan, singer, songwriter and lead vocalist with The Cranberries, was one of Ireland's most enduringly popular artists. Following discussion with Dolores' mother Eileen and her family, Limerick City and County Council established the Dolores O'Riordan Music Bursary in 2019, to remember and commemorate the global superstar.

This bursary, now in its sixth year, aims to support a Limerick professional musician in their career development. On 20th March 2024 an open call was issued and Limerick based professional musicians were invited to submit applications for the bursary of €4,000, to develop their artistic practice. The bursary closed for applications on 24th April 2024.

Dolores O'Riordan Music Bursary: Total Fund Available = €4,000

- The Assessment Panel met on Wednesday 8th May 2024
- 11 applications were received
- A total ask of €41,000
- The panel recommended the allocation of funding to 1 successful application totalling €4,000

Grant Recipient	Grant Awarded
Abe Sloan (Abigail Butler)	€4,000

The approval of the Council is requested to allocate this award.

Mise le meas,



Etain McCooey

Arts Officer | Creative Ireland Co-ordinator
Limerick City and County Council

On 20th March 2024 an open call was issued inviting applications from professional artists who wished to be considered for a Bursary of up to €4,000 for the development of work/professional skills. The bursary closed for applications on 24th April 2024.

The Assessment Panel

The Assessment Panel met on Wednesday 8th May 2024 to assess and make recommendations on all eligible applications, according to the criteria of the award. The members of the Assessment Panel for the Dolores O'Riordan Music Bursary Award 2024 were:

Hannah Pinkheard, Assistant Arts Officer with Kerry County Council

Megs Morley, Director and Curator at Galway Arts Centre

Marie O' Byrne, Director of Glor Theatre, Ennis, Co Clare

Information on successful applications

The Assessment Panel for the Dolores O'Riordan Music Bursary 2024 agreed that the following recommendations go forward for approval to full Council.

Dolores O'Riordan Music Bursary: Successful proposal from Musician, XXX

Grant Recipient	Grant Awarded
Abe Sloan (Abigail Butler)	€4,000

Abigail Butler

Abigail Butler is a singer-songwriter from Newcastlewest, County Limerick, who performs and records as 'Abe Soare'. The bursary will enable the artist to record a 12 track album during 2024. Four singles which have already been released to critical acclaim, will be included in the finished LP. The artist has won the Live95fm 'Local Heros' music award and was nominated by Hot Press Magazine's 'Hot for 2022' issue. A graduate of the World Music Academy in UL, the artist has indicated that they are influenced by singer songwriters such as Emma Langford and Wallis Bird.