

15th May 2024

**To: The Mayor and Each Member of Limerick City and County Council
Grants under the Arts Act Recommendations 2024**

A Chomhairleoir, a Chara,

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

Total Fund Available €20,000.

An independent assessment panel met on Wednesday 13th March 2024 and considered all applications based on the guidelines and criteria for the Grants Under the Arts Act scheme.

- 52 applications were considered under this scheme, with a total ask of €49,817.59
- The assessment panel has recommended the allocation of funding to 28 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 recommended allocations.

Mise le meas,

Etain McCooey
Arts Officer | Creative Ireland Co-ordinator
Community, Tourism & Culture Directorate
Limerick City and County Council

Grants under the Arts Act

- On January 29th, 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 28th February 2024.
- A total budget 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 to 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 Grants under the Arts Act 2024 panel met remotely on Wednesday 13th of March, to assess and make decisions on all eligible applications, using the published criteria for assessment.

The panel comprised of:

- **Austin Ivers**, Galway based artist and educator, lecturing in Contemporary Art at GMIT. Having initially studied printmaking in LSAD and CCAD, his practice has been almost exclusively digital (durational and still) objects for over 20 years. Austin has had one-person shows in the Galway Arts Centre, 126 and the Dock, Carrick-on-Shannon and exhibited in group shows including the RHA Annual & Tulca.
- **Fiona Flavin**, Assistant Arts Officer – Tipperary County Council. Fiona is committed to supporting arts organisations and arts practitioners, fostering an environment where the arts can thrive and be accessible to all, and enriching communities through the power of the arts. She has extensive experience spearheading and facilitating arts initiatives in education and community settings.

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 distributed to those that were not awarded full allocations. 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 2024

There were 52 applications for funding, with a total ask of €49,817.59, of which 28 were successful. The funding available for allocation was €20,000.

Grant Recipient	Municipal District	Amount Awarded
Arts Participation		
Hospital Arts and Culture	Cappamore-Kilmallock	€700
Polish Arts Festival	Metro	€1,000
Dance		
Limerick Mental Health Association	Metro	€900
Yovanna Torres	Metro	€700
Literature		
Lime Square Poets	Metro	€605
Le Fanu Festival	Cappamore-Kilmallock	€720
Rose Seritova	Cappamore-Kilmallock	€450
Music		
Now and Then Media	Metro	€1,000
Yonit (Joelle Lea) Kosovske	Metro	€1,000
St. Johns Brass & Reed Band	Metro	€500
Emily Heagney	Metro	€370
Other		
Mizracha Smishkewych Kosovske	Metro	€700
Theatre		
Jonathan Hughes	Metro	€500
Bottom Dog Theatre Company	Metro	€1,000
The Northside Misfits	Metro	€1,000
Visual Arts		
Stephanie Deady	Metro	€1,000
Gavin Hogg	Metro	€930
Limerick Arts Society	Cappamore-Kilmallock	€1,000
Kerry Guinan	Metro	€990
Carl Doran	Metro	€510
Carey Long	Metro	€800
MidWest Irish Patchwork Society	Metro	€500
Julie Brazil	Metro	€500
The Engine Room	Metro	€370
Gerry O' Mahony	Metro	€450
Young People, Children and Education		
Limerick Youth Theatre	Metro	€1,000
Foróige West Limerick Youth Initiative	Metro	€700
Total Awarded		€ 20,000

The successful applicants are as follows:

Arts Participation.

Hospital Arts and Culture

Arts Participation

Cappamore - Kilmallock

Hospital Arts and Culture is an event where all people from the very young to the very old can participate in a diverse range of artistic activities, events that promote wellbeing and provides opportunities for people to meet/interact in the community, emphasis also being placed on arts and culture.

Polish Arts Festival

Arts Participation

Metro

PAF will showcase the visual art exhibition of illustrations by students of Polish Weekend School created with and curated by a professional visual artists selected in submission process. The work will be made in response to the PAF commissioned bilingual stories related to King's John Castle and Limerick Lace.

Dance

Limerick Mental Health Association

Dance

Metro

LMHA wishes to collaborate with Dance Limerick and offer a series of movement classes. Titled Feel Dance Move, the classes would support individuals' mental health and would bring together the group into a community. Utilising creative dance, improvisation and contemporary dance, individuals may express themselves through movement and be part of community.

Yovanna Torres

Dance

Metro

Yovanna Torres is a professional dancer and specialises in Irish traditional dance, Flamenco, and Mexican folk dance. Torres' project explores gentle movement and mindfulness during pregnancy. It aims to document personal experience, gather resources, and promote self-care practices as a mover. By fostering mindfulness and connection with the baby, she seeks to enhance well-being and create an archive of her dance practice during this period.

Literature

Lime Square Poets

Literature

Metro

Lime Square Poets is dedicated to fostering connections among Irish poets through a weekly virtual poetry open mic and reading series. Hosted from Limerick, our efforts are conducted via a dedicated

website and social channels, aiming to showcase work, attract a global audience, and encourage collaboration and continuous learning.

Le Fanu Festival

Literature

Cappamore - Kilmallock

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

Rose Servitova

Literature

Cappamore - Kilmallock

Rose Seritova is seeking support with the research stage of her fifth book (collection of essays) inspired by the life of fellow Limerick woman and author, Kate O'Brien. It is her intention to explore the earlier Kate O'Brien Papers (1927-1938) held at the National Library of Ireland in Dublin.

Music

Now and Then Media Ltd

Music

Metro

H.I.P.S.T.E.R. Ireland presents the second annual hurdy-gurdy discovery weekend, which kicks off with a concert of music on the zanfona (hurdy-gurdy) by Germán Díaz, following on from their last successful discovery weekend held in the winter of 2022 - 2023.

Yonit Kosovske

Music

Metro

Yonit Kosovske will create a new body of work titled 'Seams in my Socks'—an interdisciplinary performance piece for contemporary harpsichord, poetry, electronics, and film. The project is inspired by the artist's personal experiences with "stimming" (repetitive body movements often associated with autism), sensory processing issues, number obsession, and fascination with patterns.

St. John's Brass & Reed Band Limerick

Music

Metro

The proposed project is the purchase of new sheet music in order to enable the bands musical director to create an exciting musical programme in advance of their up-coming performances.

Emily Heagney

Music

Other

Emily Heagney has been awarded a place on a 10 day residential course in August 2024 with Ulster Youth Orchestra playing double bass, following a competitive audition process in Belfast in December 2023. The grant will enable her to attend.

Other

Mizracha Smishkewych Kosovske

Other

Metro

The proposed project is a short film called 'Picture Girl', about a nonverbal autistic teenage girl who expresses her romantic feelings through art. It is a story offering representation for disabled people, queer people, and about one's strong personal connection with art.

Theatre

Jonathan Hughes

Theatre

Metro

Jonathan Hughes wants to research, develop and write a short theatre project here in Limerick City based around the themes of shame, trauma and pride told through humour around two men coming to terms with their sexuality later in life.

Bottom Dog Theatre Company

Theatre

Metro

The company will produce a series of 4 rehearsed readings of Pulitzer-winning plays to mark their 15th anniversary making theatre in Limerick. They will engage 4 directors and invite local/national casts to publicly perform each Sunday in May at No.1 Pery Square. The project will share large scale plays with local audiences while creating employment opportunities for professional artists.

The Northside Misfits Community Drama Group

Theatre

Metro

To mark their 10th anniversary, The Northside Misfits will stage a 2 night performance of their self-penned play, 'Mein Gott'. The performance will take place in Belltable on the 16th and 17th of May 2024. The Misfits have written and will produce (gathering props, costumes and set), publicize and stage their play.

Visual Arts

Stephanie Deady

Visual Arts

Cappamore - Kilmallock

The award will allow the artist to spend more time developing her studio practice, and to focus on three specific bodies of work during the year ahead.

Gavin Hogg

Visual Arts

Metro

Building on the interested created in collograph as a print medium in his exhibition in Limerick Museum in Nov 2023, Gavin Hogg intends creating an exhibition of collograph prints. Where, in Spacecraft Project space, the plates themselves will also be exhibited as works of art alongside the finished print on paper.

Limerick Arts Society

Visual Arts

Metro

The aim of the Art Appreciation Programme is to experience, broaden understanding, deepen appreciation and increase the enjoyment of visual arts for general audiences, practicing artists and those with an interest in viewing and owning art works. It will deliver 5 audio-visual presentations by prominent local and national artists.

Kerry Guinan

Visual Arts

Metro

Kerry Guinan is seeking expenses for a scientifically and logistically complex art installation, currently in production, titled Tangible Earth; an interactive, touch-based artwork that takes the form of a heated rock, which will be conditioned for deep geological time. The artwork will be exhibited in the Luan Gallery, Athlone in 2024.

Carl Doran

Visual Arts

Metro

The artist has been working on and continues to work on a series of paintings and drawings depicting Wickham St Studios - About the Studio. He will also be welcoming visitors for Culture Night within Wickham St. Studios, and is aiming to promote his Animation, Skippy's Tale to a broader audience.

Carey Long

Visual Arts

Metro

A collaborative project between visual artist Carey Long and photographer Shane Vaughan. Shane will be documenting his new body of work for his first solo show 'Live Vs Death'. These images will be used for his show. During this project, Shane will be teaching Carey Long how to shoot on film.

Midwest Branch Irish Patchwork Society

Visual Arts

Metro

Exhibition of textile art quilts on the theme of 'Local Heroes' from IPS quilt group based in Limerick City & County, to be hung in Dooradoyle Library October 2024 illustrating many facets of textile quilt art and how the local community influences us and is celebrated as Heroes.

Julie Brazil

Visual Arts

Metro

Julie Brazil's solo exhibition, scheduled for the month of June 2024, in Limerick Museum, will showcase new recent paintings. This exhibition will be her first in person exhibition since 2018. The proposal includes funding for materials, cost of transport, framing, documentation and marketing of the exhibition and administration.

Gerry O'Mahony

Visual Arts

Metro

Presently working on larger works (acrylic & mixed media on board), a series begun last year after 2 artist residencies. Some pieces from this ongoing series are currently on exhibition at the Courthouse Gallery, Ennistymon. Gerry is now creating more work for exhibition in Limerick Museum in September 2024.

Young People, Children and Education

Limerick Youth Theatre

Young People, Children and Education (YPCE)

Metro

The collaboration between Limerick Youth Theatre and Avista (formerly known as the Daughters of Charity Service) returns for its eleventh show at Belltable on 10 & 11 April 2024 in Belltable for two performances where The Creative Show presents A Night at the Cinema written and directed by Myles Breen.

Foróige West Limerick Youth Initiative

Young People, Children and Education (YPCE)

Newcastle West

Foróige members want to work on a mural painting in Monagea. Street art is usually associated with urban landscapes. Youth artists want to bring their creative spark to a rural setting, turning a plain wall into a visual artwork so as to add colour and beauty to West Limerick.