

# OFFALY ARTS ALERT

Official Newsletter of Offaly County Council Arts Office



**Arts in Action - January - February  
News & Events**

***This issue:***

Welcome to your January edition of Offaly Arts Alert, providing all the information you'll need for a creative start to the new year!

The purpose of Offaly Arts Alert is to provide a listing of arts events and opportunities in the County. Offaly Arts Office is a service of Offaly County Council and aims to broaden and deepen access to the Arts in Offaly.

Based in Áras an Chontae, Tullamore, Co. Offaly, you can contact the Arts Office team by emailing [arts@offalycoco.ie](mailto:arts@offalycoco.ie) or calling +353 57 935 7400 during office hours; Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm. Visit our website [www.offaly.ie](http://www.offaly.ie) and social media @[OffalyArts](https://www.instagram.com/OffalyArts) for further information.

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**Offaly Arts Office**

Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí  
Offaly County Council

# Offaly Arts Alert

# What's On?

January - February Arts  
Events



## Visit Offaly

Please see the website [www.visitoffaly.ie](http://www.visitoffaly.ie) for a comprehensive list of events taking place in Offaly soon.

## Birr Theatre & Arts Centre

Check out what's on at Birr Theatre & Arts Centre to kick off your 2024.

Please see [www.birrtheatre.com](http://www.birrtheatre.com) to see the full listings of events taking place in Birr Theatre & Arts Centre across the coming year.

Highlights include *Unguarded* a new drama developed by Louth actor/theatre-maker Anthony Kinahan, Andy Irvine and Donal Lunny and much much more!

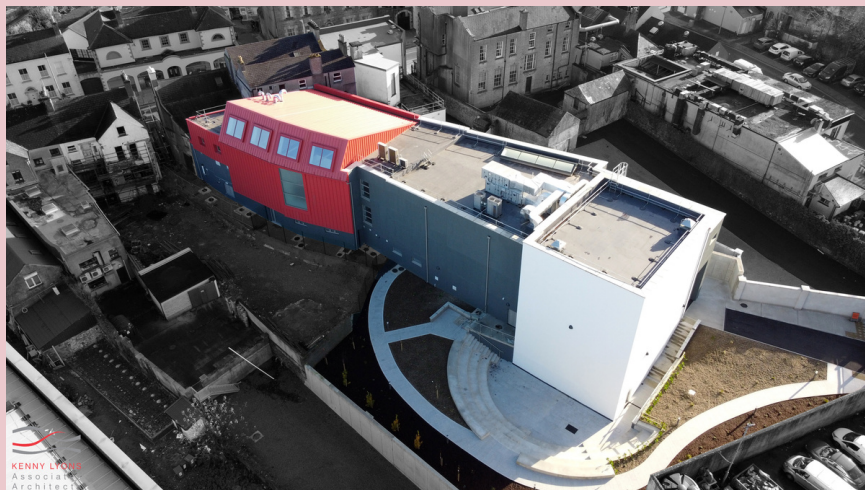


# Offaly Arts Alert

# What's On?

## Esker Arts

There's something for everyone at Esker Arts Centre this new year including Solas Quartet, Amy Donlon dance workshops, Sharon Shannon and lots more. For a full listing of events, please see [www.eskerarts.ie](http://www.eskerarts.ie)



Creative Places Edenderry is a community based project to connect, create and develop artistic and cultural activities to enhance the community engagement and spirit within Edenderry.

There are a broad range of activities happening weekly which are advertised on the [Creative Places Edenderry Facebook](#) and Instagram Pages. See the social media links and the website [www.creativeplacesedenderry.ie](http://www.creativeplacesedenderry.ie) for further [information](#).







THE BANDSTAND  
LLOYD PARK TULLAMORE

3PM 24 FEBRUARY 2024

*A Public Art Commission*



# 'FROM WITHIN'



Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí  
Offaly County Council



An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir,  
Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán  
Department of Tourism, Culture,  
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

Presented by Donlon Dance Company 'FROM WITHIN' is a newly commissioned piece of contemporary dance created with young people.

Using the elements and space within the bandstand and Lloyd Park as its inspiration, the performance will celebrate the new structure. The choreography will explore the interplay between water, outdoor space and connecting with nature and play.

No booking required.



An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir,  
Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán  
Department of Tourism, Culture,  
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media



# Art In The Landscape: Festival of Change



The Art in the Landscape: Festival of Change is a 2-day event planned to take place in April 2024, in venues and on location in both Offaly and Mayo and is for local communities and people working or interested in the arts, heritage, environment, culture, tourism, local business and community development.

[MORE INFORMATION HERE](#)

Events will take place in:

Offaly - Esker Arts Centre, Tullamore on Friday 5th April 2024 and Lough Boora Sculpture Park on Saturday 6th April 2024.



# LOCAL & NATIONAL NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES

2024 OFFALY ARTS GRANTS

FESTIVALS SUPPORT GRANT



Please see:

<https://www.offaly.ie/festival-grants/>



Applications are now open for the Festivals Support Scheme

- Festival Arts Grants - CLOSING DATE Monday 19th February 2024  
3pm

Click on the following link to hear Arts Officer Dr. Sally O' Leary discussing the available funding on Midlands 103.

<https://www.midlands103.com/podcasts/encore/episode/episode-425/>

This topic is covered 10 minutes into the above podcast.

# Tionól - a gathering of ideas (Big & small)

## Call out for Ideas for Art in Landscape: Festival of Change



### ART IN THE LANDSCAPE: FESTIVAL OF CHANGE

#### Tionól - a gathering of ideas (Big & small)



The Art in the Landscape: Festival of Change is a 2-day event planned to take place in April 2024, in venues and on location in both Offaly and Mayo and is for local communities and people working or interested in the arts, heritage, environment, culture, tourism, local business and community development.

As part of the Art in Landscape: Festival of Change there will be an event called Tionól – a gathering of ideas; a creative space to share ideas and an opportunity for participants to share their 'big' or 'small' ideas around Art in the Landscape.

If you have an idea, you would like to share and discuss at the Tionól event you can submit it for consideration. Ideas will be shortlisted based on having a mix of ideas from different sectors at the event. Selected presenters will have presentation slots of 10 minutes each.

Deadline for ideas is Monday 12th Feb 2024. Please submit using the link below - queries welcome from January 3rd 2024.

[LINK TO SURVEY](#)

Further details available:

[Gaeilge](#)  
[English](#)

Tionól will take place in:  
Offaly - Esker Arts Centre, Tullamore on Friday 5th April 2024.



# Art In The Landscape: Festival Of Change



## ART IN THE LANDSCAPE: FESTIVAL OF CHANGE Artist Proposals Invited



[To download Artists Brief Click Here](#)

**Closing date 12 Noon February 12th 2024**

Offaly County Council Arts Office invites regional professional artists from any artform, (individuals or a company) to submit a proposal for a workshop or performance to be delivered as part of the forthcoming Festival Of Change. Artist(s) can submit proposals for consideration, with delivery of activity to take place either in Lough Boora Sculpture Park or Esker Arts in April 2024.

A maximum budget of €500 is available for artists who wish to deliver a talk/workshop/activity/performance to be incorporated into the programme of Festival Of Change. The budget is a total cost and must include all travel, materials, VAT. Applicants will only be eligible to make one project application.

The Arts Office envisages that the proposals will enable local professional artist(s) to showcase their artform, providing opportunity to respond to the thematic scope and to collaborate as part of this wider project.

# Offaly County Council Youth Arts Commissions 2024



## [Link to Youth Arts Commissions Brief 2024.](#)

Offaly County Council Arts Office invites professional artists, individuals or groups, to work with youth organisations to submit a proposal for the delivery of a Youth Arts Project for the cohort of 13 – to 25 -year-olds within Offaly.

The commission is open to submissions from all art disciplines including visual arts, film, animation, digital arts, performing arts, literature or sound art.

The commission can concentrate on one art form or a range of art forms but must include the participation of/engagement with a professional artist.

Young people's active participation and the co-creation of work should be central to the youth arts project.

A maximum budget of €5,000.00 is available per project, with a maximum of three projects funded.

The closing date for applications is 4pm on 15th February 2024.



# Irish Writer's Centre - Opportunity for Offaly Writer



**Application opens February 1st**

**Calling all Offaly writers.**

**Apply to the IWC National Mentoring Programme 2024**

**Each year, the Irish Writers Centre sets up over 30 mentorships across the island of Ireland. Writers receive sustained creative and professional mentoring from an acclaimed Irish writer of their choosing. Writers living in all thirty-two counties can apply. Accepted genres/forms: literary fiction, creative non-fiction, children's / young adult fiction and poetry. This initiative is supported by Offaly County Council Art Office and the Arts Council of Ireland.**

**Application deadline: Saturday 2 March, 2024.**

**Find out more: <https://irishwriterscentre.ie/national-mentoring-programme>**



# Creative Ireland Community Grants



Offaly County Council's Creative Ireland programme seeks to support communities and artists working together to explore and present aspects of Offaly's heritage through varying art forms.

Application forms and details about the programme are available on our website; [https://www.offaly.ie/occ\\_news/creative-ireland-community-project-call-for-applications-2024/](https://www.offaly.ie/occ_news/creative-ireland-community-project-call-for-applications-2024/)

Sample projects from Offaly and nationwide can be seen on <https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/en/>

Grants can range from €250 - €1,500 for exploratory/incubator grants and developing the artist's work with the community.

It is anticipated that a range of projects will be supported at €2,500 to €5,000 and in exceptional circumstances up to €8,000. Projects must be completed and paperwork submitted by the end of October 2024.

The closing date for receipt of applications is noon, Friday 23rd February 2024.

If you have any queries in relation to the grant scheme or would like to discuss a project idea, please contact Offaly's Creative Communities Engagement Officer, Karen Gray on 086-0828313 or by email to [kgray@offalycoco.ie](mailto:kgray@offalycoco.ie).

Clár Éire Ildánach  
Creative Ireland  
Programme



# Creative Places Edenderry: Seed Funding available



**Applications Open. Announcing Seed Funding scheme as part of the Creative Places: Edenderry programme**

**6 x €1,000 Seed Funding grants will be available to anyone in Edenderry and the surrounds who has an idea for a creative or artistic cultural project that they would like to explore and develop, and which will benefit the Edenderry community.**

**Applications are open until Wednesday 31 January 2024. [Guidance on how to apply will be available here](#)**

**If you're interested in applying or learning more, please email [info@creativeplacesedenderry.ie](mailto:info@creativeplacesedenderry.ie)**

**If you have any questions, please contact the Creative Places: Edenderry Coordinator, Seonaid Murray, on [info@creativeplacesedenderry.ie](mailto:info@creativeplacesedenderry.ie) or +353 (0) 871087587**



# Birr Festival Of Music - Trench Award



**Applications are now open for The Trench Award 2024!**

**Now in its eleventh year, the purpose of The Trench Award is to assist singers and musicians from the Midlands/Mid-West region to develop their professional classical music careers.**

**Six finalists will be invited to perform a 15-minute programme at the Trench Award Gala Concert during Birr Festival of Music on Sunday 5 May at Birr Theatre & Arts Centre when a number of bursaries will be awarded.**

**Deadline to apply | Thursday 22 February 2024  
[Click here for more info](#)**



# Eden FM Community Radio



**Are you ready to make your voice heard? Eden FM Community Radio is on the lookout for passionate volunteers to join our dynamic team!**

## **Opportunities Await:**

**Presenter Extraordinaire:** Ever dreamt of being the voice behind the mic? No experience necessary – just bring your enthusiasm and a love for sharing stories and music. Free training will be provided.

**Creative Researcher:** Dive into the heart of community stories! Unearth fascinating tales, conduct interviews, and be the storyteller that brings our community together.

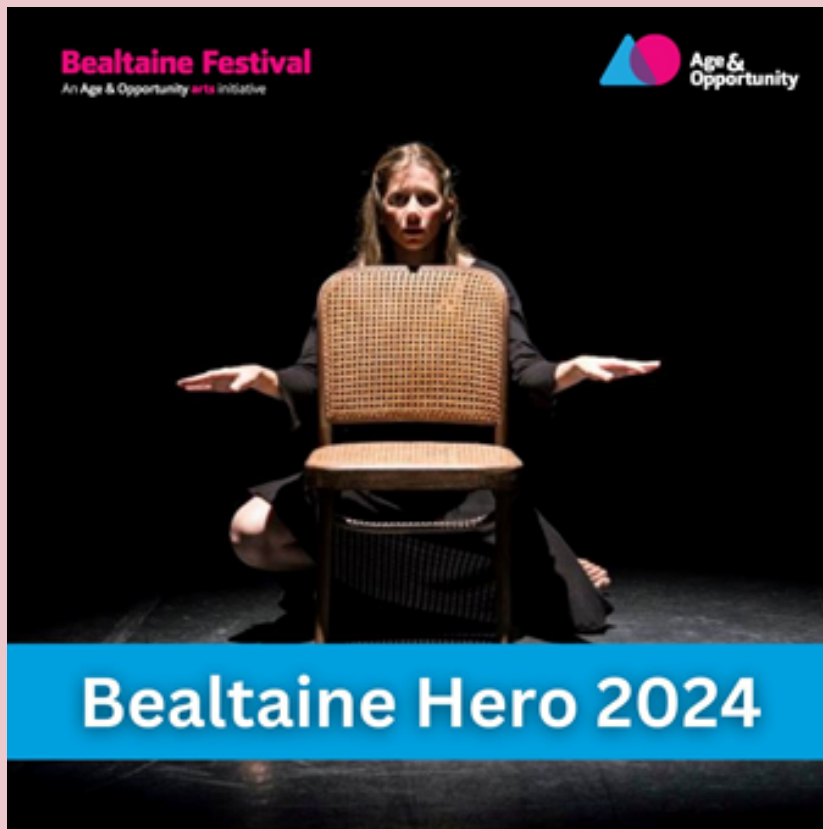
**Community Enthusiast:** Are you passionate about what's happening in your neighbourhood? Be the bridge between our radio station and the pulse of the community.

## **How to Get Involved:**

**Email: [volunteers@edenfm.ie](mailto:volunteers@edenfm.ie)**

**WhatsApp: 0873335975**

# Bealtaine Hero Award: Open Call 2024



**Applications for the Bealtaine Hero Award 2024 are now open!**

The call for applications to the Bealtaine Hero Award is open to local, community based groups (or individuals) who wish to submit proposals for an event that offers an ambitious, creative and experimental invitation to their community this May, and that celebrates the spirit of the festival. All art forms and event types will be considered, however non-arts events will not be considered (please see guidelines for examples of arts and non-arts events).

Two awards of €500 will be made to the two successful applicants.

Deadline: 5pm, Friday February 19th 2024.

## Application Process:

Those wishing to apply for the Bealtaine Hero Award should complete the online application form, from the link below.

**Online Application Form: <https://www.tfaforms.com/5103208>**

**Application Guidelines: [Bealtaine Hero Award 2024 guidelines](#)**

# **Blue Teapot Performing Arts School Accessible Theatre Course**



*Into the Dark Woods, By Blue Teapot Theatre Company.  
Image by Anita Murphy.*

**The curtain is now up for the annual enrolment into the Performing Arts School for September 2024.**

**This is an opportunity for adults with an intellectual disability aged 18 and over, to access formal training leading to certification in QQI Awards, starting with Level 2 General Learning Major Award and progressing in Years 2 and 3 into Level 3.**

**Places are limited and candidates will be asked to attend interviews and auditions in February. Audition Day will be Friday 23rd February.**

**Deadline for received applications is Wednesday 31 January.**

**Email [training@blueteapot.ie](mailto:training@blueteapot.ie) or telephone 087 652 0146 (Monday to Thursday 9am to 5pm).**



# Cavan Arts Festival: Open Call



**Open Call | Artist Bursary 2024 for new outdoor, site specific, installation from Cavan Arts Festival: Cavan Arts Festival are very pleased to announce a new artist bursary call out for 2024.**

**This €2000 bursary is for the creation of a new outdoor, site specific, installation for Con Smith Park from May 16th-19th 2024. The purpose of the bursary is to support the development of new work and to create sustainable collaborative relationships with artists and the festival going forward, with the hope of sowing the seeds for a new Land Art Collective.**

**For application details and all information see [www.cavanartsfestival.ie](http://www.cavanartsfestival.ie)**



# **SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN FOR CIFF2024**

Early Bird Deadline: Friday 9th March

Visit

**[corkfilmfest.org](https://corkfilmfest.org)**

for more information

## **Cork International Film Festival**

**Calling all filmmakers!**

**Submissions for the 69th Cork International Film Festival are officially open. Submit your films by the Early Bird Deadline on Friday, 9th March and avail of discounted submission fees.**

**Visit <https://corkfilmfest.org/submissions/> for more info or submit your films now via the online submission platform [FilmFreeway](#)**

**LAOIS SHORT FILM BURSARY AWARD**

**€10,000 funding  
for your next film!**



Apply by 5 pm  
**22<sup>nd</sup> FEB** 2024

To apply, please email  
[artsoff@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:artsoff@laoiscoco.ie)



Clár Éire Irdánach  
Creative Ireland  
Programme



Apply for the Laois Short Film Bursary Award and get up to €10,000 for your film production.

Submit your application to [artsoff@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:artsoff@laoiscoco.ie) by 5pm Thursday 22nd February.

For further information click the link below or contact [artsoff@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:artsoff@laoiscoco.ie).

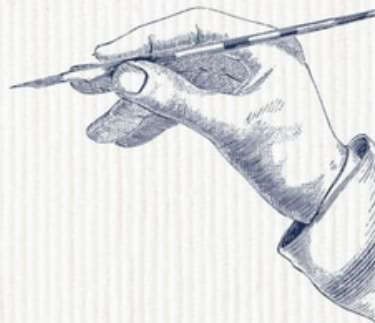
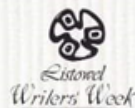
<https://laois.ie/.../Laois-Short-Film-Bursary-2024...>

Pigott Poetry  
Prize Award

2024

First Prize:  
€12,000

Closing Date:  
20th February 2024



KINDLY SPONSORED BY MARK PIGOTT KBE & THE PIGOTT FAMILY

[WWW.WRITERSWEEK.IE](http://WWW.WRITERSWEEK.IE)

068-21074

The Pigott Poetry Prize  
2024 - Now open for  
submissions 🎉

The Prize: €12,000

For more information  
please email  
[info@writersweek.ie](mailto:info@writersweek.ie)



# Phelim Donlon Playwright's Bursary

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

### PHELIM DONLON PLAYWRIGHT'S BURSARY AND RESIDENCY 2024

Closing: Tuesday 6 February



**IRISH THEATRE INSTITUTE**  
creating opportunities abroad strengthening resources at home

**This Bursary & Residency provides a professional playwright with time, physical resources and mentoring towards writing a new play. The award comprises an ITI writers' bursary of €2,000 and 2 weeks' fully resourced residency in Tyrone Guthrie Centre, Annaghmakerrig. The shortlisted artists will each receive €500.**

**The Phelim Donlon Playwright's Bursary & Residency is supported through the generosity of a private donor and funded by The Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon**

**More: <https://loom.ly/AQWGWCXY>**

# Minding Creative Minds Workshops

## WORKSHOP

### SETTING GOALS & DEVELOPING POSITIVE HABITS

WITH BRIAN O' REGAN



A practical introduction to setting and achieving professional goals through effective habits and self-management.

Wednesday, Jan 31st  
13:00 - 14:00 hrs.

 Via Zoom

Workshop with Brian O' Regan where he will teach you a practical introduction to setting and achieving professional goals through effective habits and self-management:

See more at:

<https://mindingcreativeminds.ie/events/setting-goals-developing-positive-habits-with-brian-o-regan/>

Register at: [CLICK HERE](#)

**Wed 31st Jan 13:00 - 14:00**

## WORKSHOP

### APPROACHING THE MEDIA

WITH DWAYNE WOODS



Dwayne Woods is an artist manager and publicist working in the music industry for the last 13 years in Ireland. He is the founder of his own company Butter Wouldn't Melt and works with a diverse range of alternative artists.

This workshop is an opportunity for creatives to learn the essential tools for the best results when approaching the media or potential partners.

*Does your stomach turn at the thought of marketing yourself to media?*

*Register now for a workshop with Dwayne from 'Butter Wouldn't Melt' to learn essential tools to get the best results when approaching media.*

***Thursday, Jan 25th @ 6pm via Zoom***

***<https://mindingcreativeminds.ie/.../approaching-the.../>***

# ARTS COUNCIL FUNDING DEADLINES

the arts  
council  
an chomhairle  
ealaíon

SEE [WWW.ARTSCOUNCIL.IE/FUNDING](http://WWW.ARTSCOUNCIL.IE/FUNDING)  
FOR AVAILABLE AWARDS WITH VARIOUS  
STRANDS AND CLOSING DATES

Application deadline <b>15 February 2024</b> 17:30	<a href="#">Arts Participation Bursary Award</a> The primary focus of the Arts Participation Bursary Award is on the artist and the exploration and development of the applicant's own individual artistic practice. The award is to support individual professional artists working in any artform to develop their arts participation practice, including collaborative, community and socially engaged arts practices.	Maximum award €20,000 <b>Accepting applications</b>
Application deadline <b>15 February 2024</b> 17:30	<a href="#">Circus Bursary Award</a> The award supports individual professional artists at any stage of their career in the development of their arts practice.	Maximum award €20,000 <b>Accepting applications</b>
Application deadline <b>15 February 2024</b> 17:30	<a href="#">Dance Bursary Award</a> The purpose of the award is to support professional artists in the field of dance to develop their art practice. It provides artists at any stage of their career with the time and resources to think, research, reflect and critically engage with their art.	Maximum award €20,000 <b>Accepting applications</b>
Application deadline <b>15 February 2024</b> 17:30	<a href="#">Deis Recording and Publication Award</a> The purpose of the Deis Recording & Publication Award is to provide support for traditional arts projects, or projects involving collaboration between the traditional arts and other artforms, that focus on the recording or publication of work. Next date to be announced.	Maximum award €10,000 <b>Accepting applications</b>
Application deadline <b>15 February 2024</b> 17:30	<a href="#">Dámhachtain Sparánachta Litríochta don Ghaeilge</a> Dámhachtain sparánachta litríochta don ghaeilge	Maximum award €20,000 <b>Accepting applications</b>
Application deadline <b>15 February 2024</b> 17:30	<a href="#">Film Bursary Award</a> The award supports professional individual artists at any stage of their career working in the field of experimental or non-narrative film making to develop their arts practice.	Maximum award €20,000 <b>Accepting applications</b>
Application deadline <b>15 February 2024</b> 17:30	<a href="#">Literature Bursary Award - English Language</a> The award supports professional individual writers (writing in the English language) in the development of their arts practice.	Maximum award €20,000 <b>Accepting applications</b>

## Other Funding Opportunities

THE FOLLOWING LINK WILL BRING YOU TO AN OVERVIEW BY VISUAL ARTISTS IRELAND ON SUITABLE FUNDING - INFORMATION IS APPLICABLE TO OTHER MEDIUMS ALSO.

[WWW.VISUALARTISTS.IE](http://WWW.VISUALARTISTS.IE)  
SEE ALSO [WWW.CULTUREIRELAND.IE](http://WWW.CULTUREIRELAND.IE)



# Job Opportunities In The Arts



The following sites contain a broad range of roles currently advertised in the Arts.

See:

- [www.visualartists.ie](http://www.visualartists.ie)
- <https://theatreforum.ie/jobs/>
- <https://artsmanagement.ie/jobs/>
- <https://www.create-ireland.ie/category/opportunities/>
- <https://www.artconnect.com/opportunities>




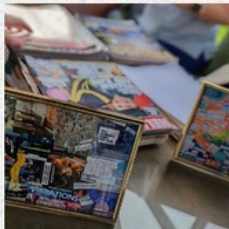
# Artist Wellbeing

## Self Love: Vision Board Workshop

 Date: February 9th

 Time: 7:00 PM - 9:30 PM

 Location: The Fumbally  
Stables, Dublin 8



January is a great time to focus on recharging, regrouping and planning for the year ahead. Here is an interesting workshop we came across that might be of interest to the creatives in our midst.

### Create your own Vision Board:

Margaret will give a brief breakdown on how to know what to add to your vision board. Discussing the importance of vision boards as a visual representation of one's goals and aspirations. Enjoy tea and cake while you're creating your vision board.

Booking: [cululinnretreats@gmail.com](mailto:cululinnretreats@gmail.com)

By the end of January sunset will be 5:14 PM, giving us an extra 45 minutes of daylight.

March 1 - 6:14 PM

April 1 - 7:11 PM

May 1 - 8:06 PM

Brighter days are on their way.

GOOD  
things  
ARE  
COMING



# Artist Wellbeing



**ADULT CONFIDENCE AND  
IMAGINATION BUILDING**

**WORKSHOP BY PETER WRIGHT**

GOMA WATERFORD SATURDAY 27TH JANUARY 2024 2.00–4.30pm €10



[www.gomawaterford.com](http://www.gomawaterford.com) • 6 Lombard St, Waterford • [gomawaterford@gmail.com](mailto:gomawaterford@gmail.com)



**January Workshop | Adult Confidence and Imagination Building from GOMA Waterford: 'Create or Be Created'**

**What are the stories we tell about ourselves, and are they still useful? This workshop with Peter Wright is intended to enhance your confidence, creativity and imagination – and sense of play. The workshop will include self-expression, somatic movement and music.**

**Date: Saturday 27th January 2024**



**Time: 2pm-4.30pm**

**Location: GOMA, 6/7 Lombard Street, Waterford**

**Cost: €10 Contact: 087 196 1923 [gomawaterford@gmail.com](mailto:gomawaterford@gmail.com)**



**WE LOOK FORWARD TO 2024 BRINGING OPPORTUNITIES TO CREATE AND CONNECT IN OUR UNIQUE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE.**



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