

ISSUE 4 · DECEMBER 2023

# OFFALY ARTS ALERT

Official Newsletter of Offaly County Council  
Arts Office

**Arts in Action - December News & Events**

***This issue:***

Welcome to your December edition of Offaly Arts Alert, providing all the information you'll need for a fun filled, creative and cultural festive season!

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?



December 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 across the season.

## Share the magic of theatre this Christmas at Birr Theatre & Arts Centre

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

Highlights include Birr Stage Guilds - A Winters Tale, Abba Forever, Elfie Saves Christmas and much more!



# Offaly Arts Alert

# What's On?



There's something for everyone at Esker Arts Centre this festive season...OH YES THERE IS!! For a full listing of events, please see [www.eskerarts.ie](http://www.eskerarts.ie)

"We are delighted to be finally presenting a programme of arts events and activities in this fabulous building in the heart of Tullamore. This season has loads of highlights to look forward to – with something for everybody."

Séan Walsh, Artistic Director



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](#).

# **LOCAL & NATIONAL NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES**



Applications are now open for the Offaly Arts Grants 2024 including; the Arts Acts Grants, the Festival Arts Scheme and the Professional Artists Support Award. Please see the following links for further information.

## **One stop page for all grants information**

- **Professional Artists Support Scheme** - CLOSING DATE Monday 22nd January 2024 3pm
- **Arts Acts Grants** - CLOSING DATE Monday 22nd January 2024 3pm
- **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

# ***Creative Places Edenderry: Funding available***



The poster features a light blue background with a central green leaf logo. At the top left is the 'creative PLACES EDENDERRY' logo, and at the top right is the 'Creative Lives' logo. The main title 'SEED FUNDING' is written in large, bold, green capital letters. Below the title, four bullet points provide details about the grants, application period, information session, and a Zoom session. At the bottom, there is a call to action with an email address and a row of logos for the Offaly County Council and various arts funding partners.

**creative PLACES EDENDERRY**

**Creative Lives**

**SEED FUNDING**

- 6 X €1000 SEED FUNDING GRANTS AVAILABLE
- APPLICATIONS OPEN FROM THE 1ST OF DECEMBER 2023 - THE 31ST OF JANUARY 2023
- INFORMATION SESSION ON THE 9TH OF NOVEMBER AT EDENDERRY LIBRARY , 2PM - 4PM
- ZOOM QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION ON TUESDAY THE 12TH OF DECEMBER AT 2PM

For more info or to register for one of the information sessions please email: [info@creativeplacesedenderry.ie](mailto:info@creativeplacesedenderry.ie)

**Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí**  
Offaly County Council

**arts council**  
Midwest  
eastlow

**funding the arts**

**Applications Open from 1st December 2023 - 31st January 2024  
6 grants of €1,000 are available.**

**Zoom Information session: Tuesday 12th December at 2pm  
To register and for further information email  
[info@creativeplacesedenderry.ie](mailto:info@creativeplacesedenderry.ie)**



A horizontal banner at the bottom of the page containing logos for the Offaly County Council and various arts funding partners, including 'arts council Midwest eastlow' and 'funding the arts'.

**Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí**  
Offaly County Council

**arts council**  
Midwest  
eastlow

**funding the arts**

**OFF  
LINE**



## ***FILM MAKERS TAKE NOTE SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN FOR 2024!!!***

Got a short film you would like to be considered for the 15th edition of OFFline next year?

OFFline Film Festival are now accepting live-action and animation short submissions for their 2024 Festival.

If you like a bargain, the Lightning Flash Deadline is 31st December! So, if you'd like to get ahead of the crowd, submit your short now via Film Freeway at the link the below.

OFFline takes place from 9-13 October 2024 in beautiful Birr.

**OFFLINE**  
FILM FESTIVAL

9-13 OCTOBER 2024

### **OFFline Film Festival 2024**

OFFline Film Festival is an exciting event for film lovers and makers alike. Irish and international films are screened in an array of quirky venues around t...

 FilmFreeway

## ***Funding Workshop for Musicians 50+***



This summer First Music Contact worked in collaboration with Age & Opportunity to survey professional musicians aged 50 & over, working in Ireland, to assess their needs and to hear about their experiences as they move forward in their careers.

One of the main areas of professional development that emerged from this survey was the need for more information on the funding and supports available for arts practices. In response, Age & Opportunity and First Music Contact are delighted to announce an online workshop on the topic of funding and bursaries with speakers from Kilkenny Arts Office, The Arts Council and Culture Ireland taking place online this December.

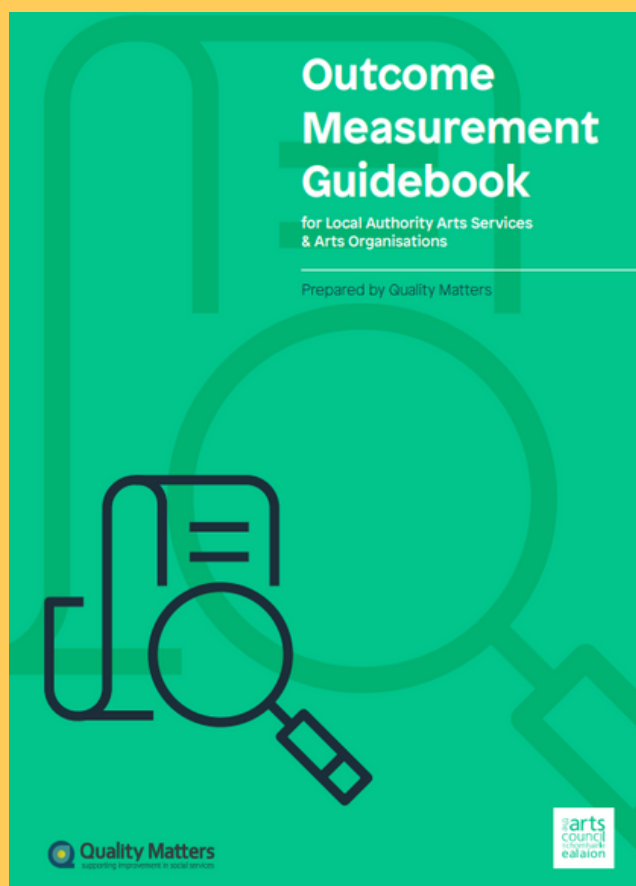
The online workshop will take place on Wednesday 13th December at 3pm.

Head to the link below to register for free now!

<https://fundingworkshopoldermusicians.eventbrite.ie>



# ***Art's Council's Outcome Measurement Guidebook - Live Q & A Session on Outcomes Measurement December 13th 2023***



## **Art's Council's Outcome Measurement Guidebook - Live Q & A**

**To support arts organisations to use the Arts Council's Outcomes Measurement Guidebook Quality Matters will be hosting live Q & A sessions open to anyone using or planning to use the Guidebook. The sessions will take place over zoom and all are free to attend.**

**The next session will be held on December 13th, 2023 from 2:00 – 3:00pm. Come along, if you would like to learn more about the guidebook and how to use it.**

**When: December 13th, 2023 from 2:00 – 3:00pm**

**Where: via Zoom**

**How to join: [Use this link to register](#) for the event and then you will receive participation details**

**[Register Here](#)**

**Cost: Free**

**If you have any questions about this event please email [Anne@qualitymatters.ie](mailto:Anne@qualitymatters.ie)**



# **CHORAL LEADERSHIP DAY**

## Empowering Inclusive Music-Making

Saturday 20th January 2024, 10:30am to 4:30pm  
Dublin City University, All Hallows Campus

## **Choral Leadership Training**

Teachers and choral leaders are invited to a diverse and interactive day that will include:

- sessions on vocal warmups and choral repertoire
- strategies and methods for fostering socially inclusive participation in choirs
- demonstrations/ short performances by school and youth choral groups

Refreshments available on the day.

Free admission - advance booking required.

See <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/choral-leadership-day-empowering-inclusive-music-making-tickets-732684016617> for details

This event is funded by the European Commission under the project, IN-Voice4Mpowerment and is supported by the School of Theology, Philosophy, and Music at Dublin City University.



**The 2023 Zurich Portrait Prize and Zurich Young Portrait Prize exhibitions are now open at The National Gallery of Ireland.**

**Visit the exhibitions in Room 23 to pick your favourite and see if the judges agree, or if you can't travel to see them in person, you'll find them all online.**

**Explore the finalists in the Zurich Portrait Prize: <https://bit.ly/3R4oSGe>**

**Explore the finalists in the Zurich Young Portrait Prize:**

**<https://bit.ly/3N6JQ6f>**

**The Zurich Portrait Prize and Zurich Young Portrait Prize exhibitions are sponsored by Zurich Insurance plc.**

## *Connecting Artists Programme 2024*



**CONNECTING  
ARTISTS  
2024**



As part of the Connecting Artists Programme 2024, Connections Arts Centre will recruit 10 volunteer mentors, who will each be partnered with an artist participating in our programme.

Mentors will support an artist who is participating in a 10-week online programme.

By sharing expertise and best practices, mentoring artists have the opportunity to help participants develop their profile, build on their confidence, and empower them to develop their talent & creativity.

Interested in volunteering as a mentor or learning more about us?

Click the link below to visit our website:

<https://www.connectionsartscentre.ie/connecting-artists-2024>



# 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>07 December 2023</b> 17:30	<b><a href="#">Co-funding Award</a></b> The Co-funding Award 2024 is subdivided by strands. Strand 1: Co-funding Award for Creative Europe Cooperation Projects commencing in 2024. Strand 2: Co-funding Award for Partner Meetings in preparation for Creative Europe Cooperation Project applications.	Maximum award <b>Unlimited</b> <b>Accepting applications</b>
Application deadline <b>11 December 2023</b> 17:00	<b><a href="#">iIDÁNA</a></b> iIDÁNA is designed to enhance the TG4 schedule by supporting the making of ambitious and cinematic long-form documentaries on the arts in Irish.	Maximum award <b>€135,000</b> <b>Accepting applications</b>
Application deadline <b>Ongoing</b>	<b><a href="#">Writers in Schools Scheme</a></b> The Writers in Schools Scheme part-funds visits by writers and storytellers to schools throughout the island of Ireland.	Maximum award <b>€200</b> <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)



## **Scéim na gCompántas Drámaíochta Proifisiúnta agus Amaitéarach 2024**

**Tá áthas ar Fhoras na Gaeilge a fhógairt go bhfuil Scéim na gCompántas Drámaíochta Proifisiúnta agus Amaitéarach 2024 oscailte anois.**

**Is é an spriocdháta le haghaidh iarratas:**

**12 meán lae, Dé hAoine 26 Eanáir 2024**

**Ní ghlacfar ach le hiarratais a chuirfear isteach go leictreonach.**

**Chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil téigh chuig:**

**<https://www.forasnagaeilge.ie/funding-schemes/sceim-na-gcompantas-dramaiochta-proifisiunta-agus-amaitearach-2024/>**

**nó déan teagmháil linn ag:  
[feilte@forasnagaeilge.ie](mailto:feilte@forasnagaeilge.ie)**

## **Professional and Amateur Drama Companies' Scheme 2024.**

**Foras na Gaeilge is pleased to announce that the Professional and Amateur Drama Companies' Scheme 2024 is now open.**

**The deadline for applications is:**

**12 midday, Friday 26 January 2024**

**Only applications submitted electronically will be accepted.**

**For further information visit:**

**<https://www.forasnagaeilge.ie/funding-schemes/the-professional-and-amateur-drama-companies-scheme-2024/?lang=en>**

**or contact us on:  
[feilte@forasnagaeilge.ie](mailto:feilte@forasnagaeilge.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/>



The festive period can pose challenges for everyone.

Here is a link to an article on Offaly Live covering the topic of Winter Wellbeing, that offers some tips on wellness, that may be helpful to enact over the festive season.

[5 cheap and easy ways to support your mental health this winter - Offaly Live \(offalyexpress.ie\)](https://www.offalyexpress.ie/5-cheap-and-easy-ways-to-support-your-mental-health-this-winter)

Minding Creative Lives also has some excellent mindfulness and meditation resources, which have been curated with the creative community in mind. [Mindfulness & Meditation with Ben Glover - Minding Creative Minds](#)

For anyone needing hands-on practical support on matters as broad-ranging as support with managing stress, to support with legal matters, financial assistance and life coaching, please see [Home - Minding Creative Minds](#)

**Helpline: ROI: 1800 814 244**

**NI/UK: 0800 0903677**

**International: +353 1 518 0277**

**Or Text/WhatsApp "Hi" to 087 369 0010**

**(when you receive a response please mention "Minding Creative Minds" or that you are in contact from the Creative Sector)**

The above-listed contacts give access to an experienced team of trained counsellors and psychotherapists who can offer medium-term intervention for those in the creative sector seeking help.



**WISHING YOU A SAFE AND PEACEFUL FESTIVE SEASON  
FROM ALL OF THE TEAM IN OFFALY ARTS OFFICE**



**Tha**nk  
**Y**ou!

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