

OFFALY ARTS ALERT

Official Newsletter of Offaly County Council Arts Office

MINI MOVIES

CALL OUT TO FILMMAKERS AND ANIMATORS



Arts in Action - January - February 2025
News & Events

Welcome to Issue 11 of Offaly Arts Alert.

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 or calling +353 57 935 7400 during office hours; Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm. Visit our website www.offaly.ie and social media @OffalyArts for further information.

This issue:

Welcome
PAGE 01

What's On?
PAGE 02 - 04

Arts Office News
PAGE 05-06

Local Funding
Opportunities & News
PAGE 06-08

FilmOffaly News
PAGE 09

National Funding
Opportunities & News
PAGE 10 - 13

Artists Wellbeing
PAGE 14



Offaly Arts Office

Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí
Offaly County Council

Offaly Arts Alert

What's On?

January | February
Arts Events

Birr Theatre & Arts Centre

French Film Friday on January 24th - 3 French Movies in one day full of Gallic creativity

- At 10am "Le Fabuleux Destin d'Amélie Poulain" Everyone's favourite whimsical and heartwarming tale of a shy Parisian waitress who discovers joy in transforming the lives of those around her through small acts of kindness,
- At 1pm "Toni en famille" a brand-new release focusing on a modern French Family
- At 8pm the acclaimed "Portrait of a Lady on Fire" that will delight, and challenge cinema goers.



Laughing Wild a play written by Christopher Durang and performed by the Nomad Players On the 22nd of February

In 1987 New York, in the middle of a widespread AIDS epidemic, a man and woman are trying to function and looking to fulfill their hopes of human connection. But is this only possible in their dreams? Fun, mad, ironic and smart, Laughing Wild couldn't be more relevant to the agonies of modern existence.

Wildwood, an amazing and unusual duo of classical musicians on February 28th
Veterans of Crash Ensemble, Deirdre O'Leary & Alec Petcu have concocted a very special programme for adventurous music lovers. Together they deliver a very dynamic performance of a truly unique duo, full of energy & passion. They created some superb magical & mystical soundscapes.



For a full listing of events, please see www.birrtheatre.com

Offaly Arts Alert

What's On?

January-February
Arts Events

Esker Arts

Carducci Quartet

Thursday 14th January, 8pm

Featuring two Cork musicians, the Carducci Quartet is one of the longest established and most admired string quarters on the world stage. They return for their latest tour of Ireland with a beautiful programme including one of Shostakovich's finest string quarters, marking the 50th anniversary of his death in 1975.

Highly celebrated for their interpretation of contemporary repertoire, the Carducci Quartet has curated many diverse projects and is regularly invited to perform new works. Recent and upcoming premieres include works by Simon Rowland-Jones, Gavin Higgins, Karl Jenkins, Jonny Greenwood and Kate Whitley. In 2015 they curated projects around Philip Glass and Steve Reich as part of the Royal Philharmonic Society Award winning 'Minimalism Unwrapped' at Kings Place in London.



Declan's Got Talent

Friday 17th January, 8pm

A new dark comedy by Peter Gowen.

Now in his sixties Declan has decided that he wants to prove something to himself and he has actually managed to get past the first round of auditions for Britain's Got Talent!

After years of suffering from a lack of confidence Declan has decided to 'go for it!' and his best friend is coming along for the ride...

We see Declan trying to prepare for his upcoming audition & give it his all BUT there is someone else there! As Declan tries to silence his 'Friend' we are dragged back to the late sixties East Cork/West Waterford where we follow Declan attempting to enter the Church, cope with his infatuations and watch him triumph over his negative friend.



The Last Pearl

Wednesday 26th February, 8pm

The world is drowning in this exquisite dive into troubled waters by Ireland's Blue Raincoat Theatre Company, touring the fourth of a series of devised shows after premiering in Sligo in 2022. It's there in the stormy seas conjured up by the five people on stage who use shadow puppets, model houses and all manner of impressionistic techniques to make their point without having to hector or harangue. Director Niall Henry's exquisitely realised construction focuses on a pearl diver and her struggles to survive with her daughter in the face of a seismic typhoon. With houses blown away and boats wrecked by waves, the seabed has become a junkyard, and the chances of finding buried treasure are rare.



There's something for everyone at Esker Arts
For a full listing of events, please see 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.

Activities are advertised on the [Creative Places Edenderry Facebook](#) and Instagram pages.

See www.creativeplacesedenderry.ie

for further information.

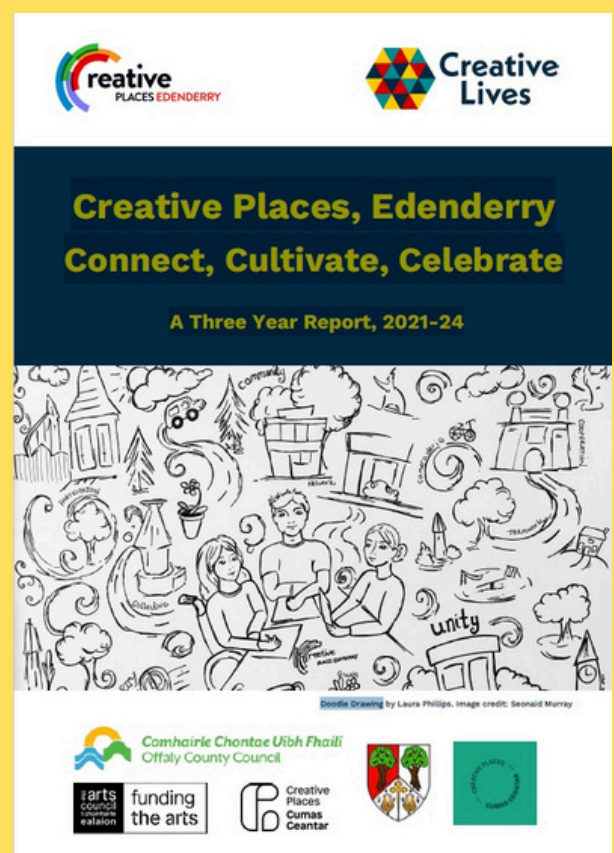
CP Edenderry 3 Year Report 'Connect, Cultivate, Celebrate'

Creative Places, Edenderry was established in September 2021, supported by The Arts Council of Ireland / An Comhairle Ealaíon (as part of the national Creative Places programme) and led by Creative Lives, in partnership with Offaly County Council's Arts Office and the Municipal District of Edenderry.

Creative Places, Edenderry works with people of all ages and backgrounds to create a richer, more inclusive, and more cohesive creative community in the town and surrounding areas. The project was developed collaboratively by the people of Edenderry with community ownership and sustainability at the heart of what we do together.

The Connect, Cultivate, Celebrate report reflects on the first three years of the Creative Places, Edenderry project, from 2021 to 2024.

You can view or download the [Report Here](#)



ActiviTEA!
Weekly Arts based workshops with Jenny!

Every Tuesday, 11am to 1pm
The Cabin, Edenderry

Visual Arts Project
for and by people who
identify as disabled with
Eleanor Farrelly
Tuesdays, 11am - 12.30pm
The Parish Centre, Edenderry

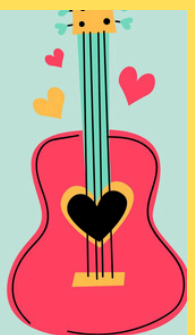
Community Social
With Nesrin!
Weekly drop in Arts Based Workshops
Every Friday
12.30pm to 2.30pm
The Parish Centre, Edenderry

**MONDAY
MUSIC GROUP**

With Angi Ward

2pm - 3.30pm
The Parish Centre

Please register by emailing:
info@creativeplacesedenderry.ie



Offaly Arts Office News

You can contact us by email: arts@offalycoco.ie
or call us on 0579346800

YOUTH ARTS COMMISSIONS 2025



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. For more details on how to apply click here [Youth Arts Commissions 2025](#)

CLOSING DATE 14th Feb 2025 at 4PM

Mini Movies Programme 2025 – Call Out for Proposals Call-Out to Filmmakers and Animators

Offaly County Council Arts Office is currently seeking proposals/quotations from Professional Film Facilitators for the delivery of a six-day programme of film workshops to schools in Offaly. The programme will consider either animated or live action.

Mini Movies are both action and stop motion short movies created by kids. Since 2012 Offaly County Council Arts Office has funded a professional film artist to work with three schools in the Birr Area over several days. The result are mini movies which are then screened at the OFFline Film Festival.



For full project brief and to apply click [HERE](#)

CLOSING DATE FRIDAY 17TH JANUARY 2025 @ NOON

Current Funding Opportunities

Applications are now open for the Offaly Arts Grants 2025 including; the Arts Acts Grants, the Festival Arts Grants and the Professional Artists Support Scheme.

Please check the Offaly Arts website for further information.

[One stop page for all grants information](#)

- **Professional Artists Support Scheme - CLOSING DATE Monday 20th January 2025 3pm**
- **Arts Acts Grants - CLOSING DATE Monday 20th January 2025 3pm**
- **Festival Arts Grants - CLOSING DATE Monday 17th February 2025 3pm**
- **Youth Arts Commission - CLOSING DATE Friday 14th February 2025 4pm**

Gathering 2025 Freelance Artist Bursaries Support

Offaly County Council Arts Office is offering 2 bursaries for arts practitioners based in the Offaly area to attend the Performing Arts Forum Gathering in Limerick on 27 and 28 May 2025.

Hundreds of artists, arts workers and arts organisation people from arts centres and production companies, festivals and funders are getting together in Limerick for two days of conversation, provocation, and inspiration. Sessions will take place in the Lime Tree Theatre with an artistic programme on the first evening of the event. The event happens from approx. lunch time on 27 May to a late lunch on 28 May.

Each Artist Bursary will cover:

- Ticket to Performing Arts Forum Limerick Gathering (includes all day sessions, two lunches, dinner, coffee breaks and the artistic programme)
- Artist Honorarium of €150
- Accommodation and Travel Contribution of €150 (To be arranged by the artist - see www.performingartsforum.ie for details of accommodation deals)

NOTES FOR APPLYING:

Applications will open on February 4th - please check our website and social media portals for details and link to the application form

Applicants must be living in the Offaly area.

Priority will be given to first time applicants on a first-come, first-served basis



Current Funding Opportunities

Creative Ireland Grant Programme NOW OPEN



Offaly County Council, with financial support from the Creative Ireland programme, seeks to award grants to communities and artists working together to explore and present aspects of Offaly's heritage through varying art forms. These grants will range from incubator grants (exploring a project idea) to project delivery grants. Projects may be phased over a few years¹, exploring concepts and developing relationships between the artist and community in year one and building on this in future years.

It is envisaged that grants will range from €250 - €1,500 for incubator /exploratory concept grants and developing the artists' work with the community – to a range of projects supported up to €5,000, with grants up to €8,000 (awarded for the delivery of exceptional projects).

The closing date for receipt of submissions is noon on Friday 21 February 2025

For more information please contact Creative Communities Engagement Officer at kgray@offalycoco.ie



Visit Offaly

Please see the website www.visitoffaly.ie for a comprehensive list of events taking place in Offaly soon. Here you will find all the up to date information on activities and events for the summer season.

Public Art Commission

Esker Arts in collaboration with Lough Boora



Offaly County Council Arts Office announces a call to professional artists for proposals for a public art commission for Esker Arts, in conjunction with Lough Boora Sculpture Park.

Offaly's Arts Office are seeking proposals that will demonstrate how artist(s) will work collaboratively with communities of both Esker Arts and Lough Boora Sculpture Park. Offaly County Council is looking for an imaginative project that demonstrates an innovative approach, enabling creative dialogue between stakeholders and communities, while representing best practice within the realm of public art practice.

For full brief and details click here:

[Esker Arts Public Art Commission Brief](#)

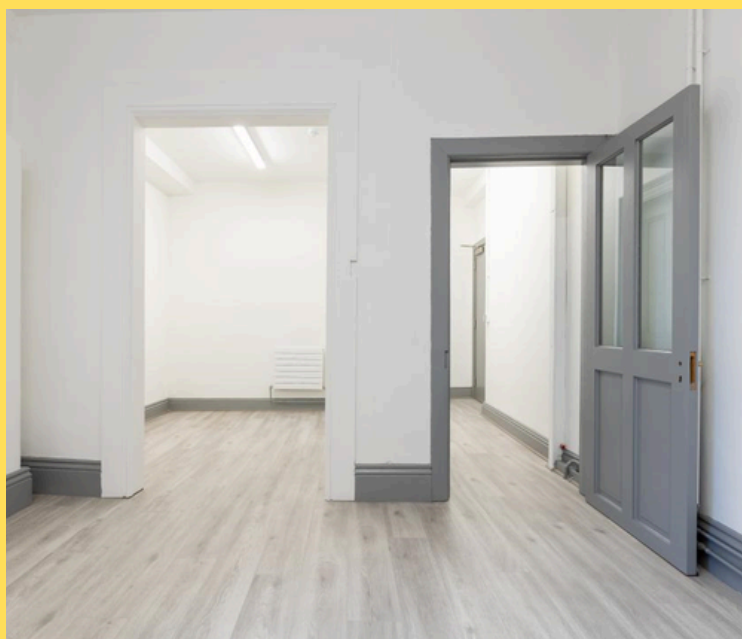
Local News & Opportunities

Margo McNulty awarded the Esker Arts Studio Residency 2025

Artist Margo McNulty has been awarded the inaugural Esker Arts Artist Studio Residency 2024-5. Margo will undertake a four-month residency in the venue, starting in January.

Margo McNulty is a Fine Art graduate and holds an MFA from NCAD in Dublin. Her work is influenced by traditions inherent in Irish culture and deals with hidden history, memory and place. The work concerns itself with episodes of chance, the intersection of personal and public histories and how these histories and meanings can be embedded in material objects. The work concerns itself with episodes of chance, the intersection of personal and public histories, and how these histories and meanings can be embedded in material objects.

This pilot is funded by the Arts Council of Ireland and Offaly County Council Arts Office.



**For more info visit
www.eskerarts.ie and
www.margomcnulty.com**

Film Offaly News

At the end of January we will be launching the FilmOffaly Short Film Award for 2025. As part of this we are holding a launch night at Esker Arts, Tullamore on 29th January. Since its inception in 2009 the award has fostered creative filmmaking and compelling cinematic storytelling-all shot entirely in Offaly.

During the evening there will be screenings of previous award winners, many of which have gone on to win accolades on the film festival circuit. There will also be an opportunity to hear more about the award, and a chance to network afterwards. We're especially keen on organising regular meetups for the Offaly filmmaking community and hope this will be the first of such events. This evening will be a great night out for those working in the industry, cinema enthusiasts and the curious alike.

Elsewhere, 2024's FilmOffaly award winner *For The Cure* completed principal photography in Banagher in early November and is currently in post-production. The film used local extras, production assistants, catering and props.

Upon wrapping Director Conor McCormick said 'Offaly's been a lovely place to shoot in. We found everyone really helpful, and such a kindness and openness with having our whole crew here. Getting to work with the local people has been a dream.'

We can't wait to see the final cut next year!!



FILMOFFALY LOCATIONS CALL-OUT

We are looking to expand FilmOffaly's database of potential film locations within the county.

We already have a diverse range of unique locations, but we are always on the lookout for buildings or spots that could be the next screen star, whether it's your home, workplace, or local bar.

If it's distinctive or has character, we'd love to hear from you. For more information please contact filmoffaly@offalycoco.ie

www.filmoffaly.ie



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Arna chomhchistiú ag
an Aontas Eorpach
Co-funded by the
European Union



Tionól Réigiúnach an
Oirthir agus Lár Tíre
Eastern and Midland
Regional Assembly



National News & Opportunities

Call for Applications: Music Network/centre Culturel Irlandais Music Performance Residency 2025-26

Applications are now invited for the Music Network/Centre Culturel Irlandais Music Performance Residency 2025-26

The residency is open to musicians working in any genre seeking to further their performance career. The one-month residency will take place at the Centre Culturel Irlandais in Paris between August 2025 and June 2026 and includes travel from and to Ireland, accommodation and a monthly stipend.

Applications can be made online from Thursday 14 November 2024 – Tuesday 14 January 2025 5pm GMT. You will need to demonstrate a clear indication of the focus of the residency and a record of professional achievement: details of performances, compositions, prizes, awards and related aspects of practice, as well as experience of other residencies.



Music Capital Scheme 2024 Piano Award

Applications are now open for the Music Capital Scheme 2024 Piano Award to support the purchase/refurbishment of concert standard grand pianos by arts venues and music presenters.

The Music Capital Scheme 2024 Piano Award is designed to support the purchase/refurbishment of concert standard grand pianos by a) arts venues, and b) music presenters programming in a dedicated performance space, promoting excellence in music performance.

Applications are sought from arts venues and music presenters, please also note that applications may be submitted in partnership with a Local Authority where the venue or presenter is the lead partner. Individuals are not eligible to apply for this award.

The deadline for applications is 2pm, Wednesday 19 February 2025 and there is an online information session for applicants at 6pm, Wednesday 22 January 2025. More details **[HERE](#)**

FSAS 2025 Awards Open Call **Fire Station Artists' Studios** **Deadline: 31 January 2025**

Fire Station Artists' Studios is delighted to welcome applications for their 2025 residency opportunities:

- 6 x FSAS 2025 Residential Awards – May-September 2025
- 2 x FSAS 2025 Day Studios – June 2025



More details **[HERE](#)**

National News & Opportunities

Open Call | 'Faigh Amach (Discover)' International Exhibition Opportunity from Temple Bar Gallery + Studios



Temple Bar Gallery + Studios in partnership with Culture Ireland and Southwark Park Galleries, London, invites applications to Faigh Amach (Discover), an international exhibition opportunity in 2025/2026.

Faigh Amach (Discover) is a new initiative by Temple Bar Gallery + Studios (TBG+S), Dublin, in partnership with Culture Ireland and Southwark Park Galleries, London, to support an artist in presenting their first international solo exhibition.

This opportunity is for visual artists living in the 32 counties in Ireland or Irish artists living abroad who have not yet had a solo international exhibition or major exhibition outside of Ireland. More details [HERE](#)

NAVIGATOR Residencies 2025 **Expression of Interest Call-Out**



IMC are now accepting expressions of interest from Irish-based jazz and improvising musicians for 6 residencies, which will run from April to November 2025.

IMC's NAVIGATOR Jazz Residency offers jazz and improvising musicians professionally remunerated time and space to develop their practice, while building creative and professional relationships in new locations through local engagement and performance opportunities.

The deadline for applying to Navigator 2025 is midnight on the 31st January 2025. For more details and to apply click [HERE](#)

National News & Opportunities

Webinar to share results of the 2024 Arts Insight survey

The Arts Council will be hosting a webinar on Tuesday 4 February at 11am to share key findings and trends from the 2024 Arts Insight survey. Arts Insight is the national arts engagement survey. This annual, nationally-representative public survey has tracked arts attendance, participation and public attitudes towards the arts since 2018. The session will highlight how 2024 findings compare with the 2023 results, as well as previous versions of the survey.

You can register for the webinar **[HERE](#)**



Jobs, Funding & Opportunities

THE FOLLOWING LINKS WILL BRING YOU TO AN OVERVIEW ON VARIOUS AVAILABLE FUNDING

WWW.VISUALARTISTS.IE
WWW.CULTUREIRELAND.IE
WWW.CREATE-IRELAND.IE

THE FOLLOWING SITES CONTAIN A BROAD RANGE OF ROLES & OPPORTUNITIES CURRENTLY ADVERTISED IN THE ARTS.

WWW.VISUALARTISTS.IE/ADVERTS
WWW.PERFORMINGARTSFORUM.IE/JOBS
WWW.ARTSMANAGEMENT.IE/JOBS
WWW.CREATE-IRELAND.IE/CATEGORY/OPPORTUNITIES
WWW.ARTCONNECT.COM/OPPORTUNITIES
WWW.IRISHWRITERSCENTRE.IE/JOB-OPPORTUNITIES
WWW.POETRYIRELAND.IE/WRITERS/OPPORTUNITIES

ARTS COUNCIL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



**SEE WWW.ARTSCOUNCIL.IE/FUNDING FOR AVAILABLE AWARDS
WITH VARIOUS STRANDS AND CLOSING DATES**

Opening in January

FUNDING PROGRAMME	OPENING	CLOSING
Bursary Award, Round 1	07 January	13 February
Dance Artist Residency Scheme	21 January	20 February
Deis Recording and Publication Award	21 January	20 February
Music and Festivals Commissions Award	21 January	20 February
Young Ensembles Scheme	28 January	27 February
Arts Grant Funding 2026	28 January	13 March

Opening in February

FUNDING PROGRAMME	OPENING	CLOSING
Culture Night Late	04 February	06 March
Joan Denise Moriarty Award - Dance	11 February	13 March
Opera Projects and Production Award 2026 / Opera Commissions Award	18 February	20 March
Creative Places Award	25 February	27 March
Creative Schools 2025-2026	25 February	08 May

Artists Wellbeing

Screen-Ireland Professional Development

Certificate in Continuing Professional Development in Neurodiversity
(Screen Industry)

This is a Level 6, fully online, university-accredited, part-time course and a continuing professional development certificate. This course is fully funded by Screen Ireland. This course is the first university of its kind globally. Once registered, you will receive the fully confirmed timetable and all the course details.

Click on the link for details:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ace-ccpdns>



Minding Creative Minds is an organisation established to offer a free 24/7 wellbeing & support programme for the Irish Creative Sector.

For further information on workshops and events visit www.mindingcreativeminds.ie



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