

Fundingpoint Local Access Digest

Jan – Feb 2020



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The Fundingpoint Local Digest provides up-to-date funding information for nonprofits in the Meath County Council area. Funding sources reflect both local and national funding opportunities. All information is quoted directly from funder website / literature.

The bi-monthly Fundingpoint Local Digest is brought to you by Meath County Council and The Wheel.

www.wheel.ie

Table of Contents

The Arts Council - Touring and Dissemination Advance Planning	3
The Arts Council - Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme	8
National Geographic Society Grants	10
Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme	12
Meath County Council: Carranstown Community Grant Scheme	15
Charlemagne Youth Prize	17
Fondation Ensemble Small Grants (Threatened Animal Species)	18
Conrad N Hilton Fund for Sisters	20
DM Thomas Foundation for Young People Grants	22
Culture Ireland Grants	24
The Arts Council - Young Ensembles Scheme	27
Social Innovation Fund - Ability to Work Fund	31
Erasmus+ Programme: 2014 - 2020	34
Rural Regeneration and Development Fund	39
Christian Brothers Edmund Rice Trust Fund	41
Additional Resources	43

The Arts Council - Touring and Dissemination Advance Planning

The Arts Council is the national agency for funding, developing and promoting the arts in Ireland. The Council recognises that the arts have a central and distinctive contribution to make to society.

Applications are invited for proposals seeking funding in support of initiatives that are of high artistic quality and that generally have a strong audience focus. Applications will be accepted in artforms listed above for tours taking place in 2021. The scheme is open to applicants who are resident in the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland. Tours may travel to both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Eligibility

The Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme is open to applications from organisations and individuals. Applications which demonstrate collaboration / partnership between networks, consortia or other collective groupings of presenters are encouraged, particularly where these indicate a high degree of engagement with audiences and collaboration with the producing entity or artists.

Applicants in receipt of other Arts Council funding are eligible to apply, provided it is clear that the touring or dissemination activity for which funding is sought is additional to those activities for which Arts Council funding has already been offered.

Tours must begin between January 2020 and December 2021.

Objectives and priorities of the scheme – all artforms and arts practices

Within the general objectives of the scheme (as outlined in section 1.2), different priorities apply to the different artforms and arts practices, as outlined in this section.

Architecture

In Architecture, we will prioritise applications that:

Demonstrate ambition to show international or national exhibitions that would not otherwise be seen by Irish audiences

Are innovative and creative collaborations that demonstrate a clear curatorial concept; collaborators might include specialist architecture organisations, multidisciplinary venues or festivals, individual architects or architecture practices

Enable the sharing of curatorial skills and mediating expertise – these might include a programme of mentoring/shadowing between collaborators

Clearly show how the tour will be mediated to an audience.

Show evidence of technical expertise that ensures the highest standards of installation and presentation.

Arts Participation

The Arts Council understands Arts Participation to include a broad range of practices where individuals or groups collaborate with skilled artists to make or interpret art. The practice involves a mutually beneficial, two-way engagement that nurtures and values the different ideas, experiences and skills of all involved.

Organisations and individuals with a track record in, commitment to, or focus on, Arts Participation are encouraged to apply under this scheme. Such applicants should select both Arts Participation and their primary artform/arts practice in section 1.3 of the application form.

Assessment of applications with an Arts Participation focus will be based on the priorities relating to the primary artform/arts practice (as described in these guidelines) and the following priorities that are specific to Arts Participation. In relation to Arts Participation, we will only consider applications that:

- Propose artistically ambitious and challenging work developed by an artist or artists in collaboration with a group or community in any of the following six contexts: health, disability, cultural diversity, older people, communities of place, or communities of interest
- Propose clear strategies for reaching and engaging with specific audiences (from any of the six contexts listed above, as appropriate)
- Promote work that clearly demonstrates high-quality processes for engagement and artistic collaboration.

Circus

In Circus, we will prioritise applications that:

- Contain proposals that will engage and develop audiences for circus work in venues
- Extend the touring life of productions that have been successful with audiences when previously performed
- Demonstrate a partnership approach with festivals and/or venues.

Dance

In Dance, we will prioritise applications that:

- Have been successful with audiences with previously performed productions; productions that have not yet been presented to an audience will not be prioritised
- Are made by producers and/or production organisations aiming to disseminate dance works within the context of formal consortia or networks
- Demonstrate the need for forward planning related to large-scale initiatives: these applications must provide evidence of: (i) significant financial resources procured through partnerships and/or co-productions; and (ii) the coordination of activities that involve high-profile national and/or international organisations.

Film

In Film, we will prioritise applications that:

- Involve touring to venues or events that have film as a core element of their activity and which provide a high-quality cinema experience to established and developing audiences
- Are for the touring of curated film programmes that would not be available otherwise to audiences at the host venue or event
- Feature the contextualisation of film work through the involvement of film-makers, the hosting of post-screening discussions, etc.
- Please note that the touring award does not support North/South touring in film.

Literature

In Literature, we will prioritise applications that:

- Programme contemporary literature events in ambitious and imaginative ways

- Focus on developing readership for contemporary literature
- Demonstrate a strong understanding of their target audience, and present strategies for how they will build their audiences
- Exploit the opportunities presented by new media
- Work in partnership with established literary organisations, publishers, multidisciplinary venues, festivals and established networks.

Music

In Music, we will prioritise applications that:

- Demonstrate a clear intent and specific plans to maximise the audience reach, engagement and impact of all performances. As well as live audiences, this can include audience reach through broadcast, online and other audience channels.
- Enrich appropriately the repertoire and range of music available to local audiences, including historic Irish music and contemporary/new Irish music
- Best avail of the artistic, marketing and cost-efficiency benefits of touring by being tightly scheduled. In most cases, a tour spread of twenty-eight days should be regarded as an outer limit maximum, with a clear rationale and justification provided for any proposal that goes beyond this.
- Add to the quality/curation of music presentation and promotion by multidisciplinary venues and networks of venues and/or the use by local promoters of best-for-purpose venues
- Address the engagement of local communities of amateur and student performers, and any other potential to add value to local musical and community life
- Demonstrate a focused incentive and effort on the part of local partner promoters/venues etc. in ensuring maximum audience reach and engagement

Note: applicants for Music touring must supply sound files of previous work.

Street Arts and Spectacle

In Street Arts and Spectacle, we will prioritise applications that:

- Enable companies to work in partnership with promoters to raise the profile of these artforms through the presentation of high-quality performance pieces either on a stand-alone basis or within a wider range of programming.

Theatre*

In Theatre, we will prioritise applications that:

Propose to remount and tour productions that have already been successfully produced in terms of critical and audience response. In exceptional circumstances, companies or organisations with a significant track record may propose to tour productions not yet produced. Such organisations are requested to seek clarification with the head of theatre at the Arts Council.

Propose to tour high-quality productions of plays for a general audience that are also of relevance to a school audience. Such tours must meet both theatre priorities and the YPCE priorities below. For further information on the curriculum and prescribed texts in Irish schools, please visit www.education.ie

Initial production costs will not be considered for any Theatre touring.

How to Apply

All applications must be submitted through the Arts Council online system.

Visit the Arts Council website for full application details:

<http://www.artscouncil.ie/Funds/Touring-and-dissemination-of-work-scheme---advance-planning-2019>

Deadline: 9 Jan 2020

The Arts Council - Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme

The Arts Council is the national agency for funding, developing and promoting the arts in Ireland. The Council recognises that the arts have a central and distinctive contribution to make to society.

Applications are invited for proposals seeking funding in support of initiatives that are of high artistic quality and that generally have a strong audience focus. This scheme is designed to support the touring and dissemination of work in certain arts disciplines for tours starting between July 2020 and December 2020, and is open to applicants who are resident in the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland. Tours may travel to both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Objectives and priorities of the scheme – all artforms and art practices.

The Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme is designed to support touring and dissemination of work across a range of artforms and arts practices. In offering this scheme the Arts Council aims to support:

- Proposals that are of high artistic quality
- Tours that generally have a strong audience focus
- A geographical spread of tours
- A range of genres/practices in each artform
- Tours of various scales
- Applications that show that all those involved in the proposal (makers, producers, venues, and so on) agree their roles with regard to artistic and marketing issues and to risk-sharing.

Eligibility

Eligible Artforms / Practices: Architecture, Arts participation, Circus, Dance, Film, Literature, Music, Street Arts & Spectacle, Theatre, Traditional Arts, Visual Arts, Young People, Children and Education (YPCE).

The Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme is open to applications from organisations and individuals. Applications which demonstrate collaboration / partnership between networks, consortia or other collective groupings of presenters are encouraged, particularly where these

indicate a high degree of engagement with audiences and collaboration with the producing entity or artists.

Applicants in receipt of other Arts Council funding are eligible to apply, provided it is clear that the touring or dissemination activity for which funding is sought is additional to those activities for which Arts Council funding has already been offered.

Funding Levels

In applying for funding under the Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme, you are required to submit budget details relating to your project.

The maximum amount you may request is the difference between the proposed expenditure and the proposed income you indicate in the budget.

Proposed expenditure should include all fees, wages, technical costs, promotion and publicity costs, administrative costs, etc.

Proposed income should include what you expect to receive from other funders, box-office receipts, programme sales, etc. It is also important to reflect all in-kind support in both income and expenditure, so reflecting the full and true value of your proposal.

How to Apply

All applications must be submitted through the Arts Council online system.

Visit the Arts Council website for full application details:

<http://www.artscouncil.ie/funds/Touring-and-dissemination-of-work-scheme/>

Deadline: 9 Jan 2020

National Geographic Society Grants

All proposed projects should be bold, innovative, and potentially transformative and have a primary focus in conservation, education, research, storytelling, or technology. Projects should also align to one of our three focus areas.

We do not usually consider applications that support strictly laboratory or collections work. Grants are awarded on the basis of merit and exist independent of the Society's other divisions.

We encourage applications from around the world.

Please note that this is a highly competitive grant program; we receive many more applications than we are able to fund.

Project start dates should be a minimum of six months after the submission deadline to ensure any awarded funds are received in time.

Focus Areas:

WILDLIFE

Wildlife includes species-focused projects and the local evolutionary and ecological processes that sustain them. Although extinction is a natural part of evolution, the current accelerated loss of species means that we need novel approaches and solutions that support biological diversity and abundance. This area of focus supports projects that seek to discover and identify species and ecosystems and to mitigate threats to Earth's life forms. Projects will improve understanding of biological diversity, including behavior, life history, evolution, ecology, and habitat requirements.

HUMAN JOURNEY

Human Journey focuses on learning more about who we are and what our future will be on this planet. It supports projects in a range of fields that are helping us understand the origins and development of our species; how we modified and adapted to diverse landscapes across the globe; the evolution of cultures and societies; and the current status of and trends in our cultural, linguistic, and genetic diversity. Recognizing that human society is currently out of balance with the natural world, we also seek projects that propose solutions to mitigate this imbalance.

CHANGING PLANET

Changing Planet grants focus on our Earth's dynamic terrestrial, marine, and freshwater ecosystems. These are the foundations of life on the planet, yet are increasingly threatened by exploitation, mismanagement, and climate change. We seek projects that illuminate these issues to better inform decision making and to develop more effective models for conservation and protected area management at large scales. This area of focus seeks to reduce negative human impacts on ecosystems and Earth processes by increasing knowledge, inspiring action, and creating solutions with direct, quantifiable, and scalable methods for conserving landscapes or seascapes.

How to Apply

Full application and grant type details are available here:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/funding-opportunities/grants/what-we-fund/>

Deadline: 15 Jan 2020

Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme

This programme shall contribute to the further development of an area where equality and the rights of persons, as enshrined in the Treaty, the Charter and international human rights conventions, are promoted and protected.

This programme's nine specific objectives are to:

- Promote non-discrimination
- Combat racism, xenophobia, homophobia and other forms of intolerance
- Promote rights of persons with disabilities
- Promote equality between women and men and gender mainstreaming
- Prevent violence against children, young people, women and other groups at risk (Daphne)
- Promote the rights of the child
- Ensure the highest level of data protection
- Promote the rights deriving from Union citizenship
- Enforce consumer rights.

Eligibility

Which countries are eligible?

All Member States together with Iceland and Liechtenstein.

To be eligible, grant applications must comply with all of the following criteria:

(a) The applicants must be public entities or private organisations, duly established in one of the countries participating in the Programme, or international organisations. Organisations which are profit-oriented must submit applications in partnership with public entities or private non-profit organisations.

(b) The project can be either national or transnational, unless stated otherwise.

(c) The application must involve at least two organisations (applicant and partner), unless stated otherwise.

(d) The EU grant requested cannot be lower than €75 000.

Co-funding for REC projects is 80% unless stated otherwise.

Types of Projects

Training activities (staff exchanges, workshops, development of training modules)

Mutual learning, cooperation activities, exchange of good practices, peer reviews, development of ICT tool

Awareness-raising activities, dissemination, conferences

Support for main actors (key European NGOs and networks, Member States' authorities implementing Union law)

Analytical activities (studies, data collection, development of common methodologies, indicators, surveys, preparation of guide).

All actions funded by the programme must produce results whose benefits go beyond one single Member State. [Click here to find out more about EU Added Value.](#)

How to Apply

Current calls are as follows:

Supporting Initiatives in the Field of Drugs Policy

Scope:

The aim of this call is to contribute to the effective and coherent application of EU law and to support development of new approaches in the area of drugs. The priorities are:

To support activities in the area of epidemiology of use of new psychoactive substances, including potent synthetic opioids, as well as emerging drug problems and technological developments, including online trade of drugs;

To support the civil society organisations by reinforcing their (i) advocacy function, (ii) capacity to make a difference at the local level, (iii) best practice sharing methods;

To support key stakeholders by expanding their knowledge and skills in the context of implementing minimum quality standards in drug demand reduction, particularly in the area of social integration;

To promote practical application of drug-related research, and, in particular, addiction research with a view of addressing current challenges and new threats.

[Learn more here.](#)

Deadline: 29 Jan 2020

Meath County Council: Carranstown Community Grant Scheme

This grant is available to community groups for environmental improvement and recreational / community facility projects in the vicinity of the Carranstown waste management facility.

What is the grant for?

1. Amenity / Environmental Projects in public open spaces:

The scheme gives grants to community groups engaged in environmental activities in public open areas and may include:

- Tree / shrub planting
- Public area enhancement
- Hanging baskets / window boxes
- Installation of seats / picnic tables
- Name stones/welcome signs
- Purchase of gardening equipment etc.
- Creation of wildlife areas
- Heritage / restoration projects
- Environmental Protection

2. Community Grants

The scheme gives grants to community groups engaged in community and recreational activities and projects. There must be a community gain element to these projects.

They may include:

- Upgrading / general maintenance of community facilities that are owned or leased on a long term basis to the community
- Community games, events and festivals

- Local community owned newsletter / publications
- Social Inclusion Projects benefiting the community
- Sports Projects
- Community run Youth Projects
- Technical Assistance
- Equipment for community use excluding personal equipment.

Preparation of development and action plans for local groups, local research, feasibility studies and training.

Matching funds: Applications will be considered from groups who require matching funds (funds that are set to be paid in equal amount to funds available from other sources) to access national funding schemes such as the Sports Capital Programme.

The following groups can apply for the grant:

- Community Groups
- Residents Associations
- Community Youth Group
- Tidy Towns Committee
- Charities working with community groups
- Sporting Organisations
- Schools Parents Associations – Extra Curricular Community Activities only

How to Apply

Access application forms and additional guidelines here:

<https://www.meath.ie/council/council-services/community/community-grants-and-initiatives/carranstown-community-grant-scheme>

Deadline: 31 Jan 2020

Charlemagne Youth Prize

Aged 16-30 and working on a project with a European dimension? Apply for the 2020 Charlemagne Youth Prize and win funds to further develop your initiative.

The European Parliament and the International Charlemagne Prize Foundation of Aachen award the Charlemagne Youth Prize every year to projects run by young people with a strong EU dimension. Applications for 2020 open on 6 November 2019 and run until 31 January 2020.

The prize

The three winning projects will be chosen from 28 projects nominated by national juries in the individual EU member states. The first prize is €7,500, second prize €5,000 and third prize €2,500.

Representatives of all 28 national winning projects will be invited to the Charlemagne Youth Prize award ceremony in Aachen in May 2020.

The rules

Projects must meet the following criteria in order to qualify:

- Promote European and international understanding
- Foster the development of a shared sense of European identity and integration
- Serve as a role model for young people living in Europe
- Offer practical examples of Europeans living together as one community.

How to Apply

Visit the Prize website here for full guidelines:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/charlemagneyouthprize/en/2020.html>

Deadline: 31 Jan 2020

Fondation Ensemble Small Grants (Threatened Animal Species)

Fondation Ensemble is a private foundation created by Gérard Brémond and Jacqueline Délia-Brémond, who had long cherished the idea of being actively involved in public interest work. Their children, Delphine, Nathalie and Olivier, share their enthusiasm and support the initiative.

Basic Criteria

- The Fondation Ensemble funds projects run by small organizations, in its areas of activity.
- Your project contributes to protecting one or more threatened animal species according to the IUCN classification ('vulnerable' or more).
- The duration of the grant requested is from one to two years.
- The funding requested does not exceed € 10 000.
- The funding requested does not exceed 50% of the total project budget.

Additional Criteria

- Your project is in line with national strategy in the country of intervention.
- The project is participatory and partnership-based: it is implemented in conjunction with recognized local and/or international partners and fosters capacity building.
- The project activities are concrete and sustainable, with measurable results.
- Your application contains a detailed overall budget (in euros), indicating the costs to be covered by Fondation Ensemble, including administrative costs (10% maximum) that incorporate head office support costs.
- Your application indicates the names of all donors and their confirmed or expected contributions.
- The proposal must be written in French or in English.
- Your organization must have been in existence for at least two full years.

For 'Threatened Animal Species' small grants projects, there are no country restrictions.

How to Apply

Learn more here:

<http://www.fondationensemble.org/en/submit-proposal/threatened-animal-species-fund/intro-calendar/>

Deadline: 1 Feb 2020

Conrad N Hilton Fund for Sisters

In 1986 the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation established the Conrad N. Hilton Fund for Sisters specifically to support the apostolic work of Roman Catholic sisters in accordance with his Last Will and Testament.

Despite great need, HFS is not able to fund all requests. Only projects where vowed women religious of the Roman Catholic Church minister are eligible to receive funding. The criteria for a Sister's level of involvement in a project are as follows:

A. The project is staffed full-time by at least one vowed member of a women's religious congregation that is officially recognized by the Roman Catholic Church. She must work a minimum of 30 hours per week and be willing to act as the designated Sister-in-Charge.

OR

B. There is significant involvement in the project by two or more vowed members of a women's religious congregation that is officially recognized by the Roman Catholic Church, contributing a total of a minimum of 30 hours per week.

OR

C. If A or B is not met, and the project is that of a ministry begun by a women's religious congregation that is officially recognized by the Roman Catholic Church, it may be considered. In her letter of support, the superior will need to attest to the congregation's continued governance and oversight of the project and describe the level of the congregation's current involvement in the organization/project.

The letter of support for the application process requires that the recommending superior furnish the bank account information for receipt of the funds. The funds must be disbursed to the congregation on behalf of the ministry (see Checklist of Required Documents Page).

International Projects (outside the US):

- women and children
- education/communications
- healthcare/HIV
- clean water/food and agriculture
- immigration/refugee services

- anti-trafficking.

How to Apply

Please visit the website for further detail:

<http://www.hiltonfundforsisters.org/grants/>

Deadline: 1 Feb 2020

DM Thomas Foundation for Young People Grants

Previously known as the Hilton in the Community Foundation, the DM Thomas Foundation for Young People (DMTFYP) is able to reach directly into communities and offer help where it is needed, as a funder to smaller charities and organisations that may be otherwise overlooked. We run a number of campaigns which seek to support young people.

Central Grants – structure and approval process

The Foundation has a rigorous grant process which aims to identify the most effective projects helping disadvantaged young people in the UK and Ireland.

Applications are received for quarterly deadlines from registered charities are first assessed by the Foundation office, with a shortlist of approximately 20 of the strongest and regionally representative applications put forward for consideration by our Grants Committee. The Grants Committee comprises independent members and members nominated by the Foundation's business partners and meets quarterly to discuss the applications. There is approximately £200,000 available to distribute each quarter.

Eligibility

Applications working in the areas of education or health with one of our three chosen focus groups are selected or considered:

- Children and young people with disabilities
- Children and young people who are sick in hospital
- Children and young people who are life limited (requiring palliative care)

If favoured, grant applications for up to £5,000 can be approved by the Director, up to £10,000 can be approved by the Grants Committee, and applications for more than £10,000 are recommended to the Trustees for final approval. The Foundation is a small charity and generally will not make awards of over £30,000 (per year). Funding can be requested for up to 2 years for any particular project.

Reapplications are welcome, however unsuccessful applicants are asked not to reapply for at least 12 months from the date of their rejection letter. Successful applicants are asked to wait three years before reapplying.

The Foundation receives thousands of telephone and email enquiries and hundreds of completed applications each year, making the grant award process highly competitive. To help us to help you, please read our application guidelines and restrictions carefully. Unfortunately, with a limited grant fund we are unable to respond favourably to all requests, however worthy. We provide specific feedback on grant rejections where guidance and improvements can be made however due to the volume we are unable to provide specific feedback to first round rejections given the competitive nature of the process.

Sample Grants Made to Irish Organisations

- Irish Autism Action - multiple grants
- Barretstown - £40,000.
- Debra Ireland - £10,000.

How to Apply

Visit the Foundation website now for application forms and full guidelines:

<https://dmthomasfoundation.org/what-we-do/grants/dmtf-central-grants/>

Deadline: 5 Feb 2020

Culture Ireland Grants

Culture Ireland promotes Irish arts worldwide. We create and support opportunities for Irish artists and companies to present and promote their work at strategic international festivals and venues.

Purpose of Awards

Culture Ireland offers support to Irish professional artists, arts organisations and international presenters to present work by Irish artists at significant international venues and festivals.

In supporting an event, Culture Ireland offers grant funding towards costs which relate directly to the international presentation of the event, i.e. travel and travel related costs such as transport, accommodation and subsistence.

Culture Ireland considers applications for all forms of the arts as defined in the Arts Act 2003: “arts means any creative or interpretative expression (whether traditional or contemporary) in whatever form, and includes, in particular, visual arts, theatre, literature, music, dance, opera, film, circus and architecture, and includes any medium when used for those purposes”.

Basic Eligibility Requirements:

- Application must be in respect of a Irish professional artist/s or arts organisation
- Application must be in respect of an art form defined under the Arts Act 2003
- Only international events are supported (i.e., outside the island of Ireland)
- The event must be accessible to an open public audience and fees must be payable to the artist/s or arts organisation
- Funding support is limited to travel and travel related costs
- Grants are only payable to the person/organisation named on the initial application

Applications deemed eligible are assessed in line with the following criteria:

- Artistic quality of work and track record of artist/s or arts organisation
- Financial and operational viability of the event (including fees and level of support from presenter/venue/other partners)
- Profile of international venue/festival

- Proven capacity of applicant, artist/s or arts organisation to present work internationally
- Wider promotional and media impact

What does Culture Ireland mean by artistic quality?

Artistic quality can be defined as work that is ambitious, excellent and original, connects to audiences and has been presented nationally to critical acclaim. It should be noted that the assessment of the artistic quality of the proposed work is made using knowledge, experience and specialist advice.

Examples of eligible applications include:

- Theatre, circus and dance performances by professional companies
- Film-makers presenting films at key international film festivals
- Performances by professional or professionally-led musicians and ensembles
- Visual artists/galleries exhibiting at internationally recognised art fairs/galleries
- Readings by writers/poets in English or Irish or otherwise at international literary festivals

Please note that because of the competitive nature and context of each grant round, limited funding and a large number of applicants, eligibility and compliance with criteria for assessment alone does not guarantee that you will receive grant funding.

Examples of ineligible applications include:

- Events which have already taken place
- Research, opportunities, study or professional training
- Production Costs
- Residencies
- Bursaries
- Workshops/Conferences
- Amateur events
- Work by non-professional artists

- Events of a competitive nature.

How to Apply

Application forms and further information can be accessed on the Culture Ireland website:

<http://www.cultureireland.ie/funding/schemes/regular>

Deadline: 13 Feb 2020

The Arts Council - Young Ensembles Scheme

The Arts Council is the national agency for funding, developing and promoting the arts in Ireland. The Council recognises that the arts have a central and distinctive contribution to make to society.

The primary purpose of the Young Ensembles Scheme is to support groups of young people between the ages of ten and twenty-four to create or critically engage with ambitious and original work together in any artform (e.g. circus, street art, spectacle, dance, digital media, film, music, theatre, literature, visual arts, architecture, or any combination of the above). Groups/ensembles must be made up of three or more members.

The Young Ensembles Scheme has two strands. The maximum award under Strand 1 is €10,000 and the maximum under Strand 2 is from €10,000 to no more than €25,000. You may only apply to one strand, and you should choose the strand that is most suitable for your ensemble and for your proposal.

Criteria & Eligibility

Priority will be given to applications that demonstrate the following:

- The capacity to deliver a high-quality artistic process that is ambitious and original, provides a challenging and rewarding experience for the participants, and enables them to develop their artistic skills.
- A process that ensures young people will have a strong sense of 'artistic ownership' of the project they undertake. This may mean they will have a role in devising, creating, composing or designing an original piece of work or artistic initiative, or that they will undergo a well-structured process of exploring, interpreting, or reimagining a given script/composition/artistic work or initiative.
- Youth-led initiatives, and/or initiatives that actively support and develop youth leadership, with the support or mentorship of professional artists or arts organisations.
- Evidence of the ensemble's artistic activities or work produced to date, and how funding will enable the participants to develop their experience further. (In the case of a new ensemble, evidence of other relevant projects in which the young people or artistic leaders have been involved should be demonstrated.)
- Evidence that young people have played a central role in developing the proposal, and will be involved in documenting, reflecting on and evaluating the project.

Who is eligible to apply?

The Young Ensembles Scheme is open to ensembles whose members are young people between the ages of twelve and twenty-four.

Eligible ensembles include groups such as the following:

- Youth theatres
- Youth film, animation or digital-media groups
- Youth dance groups
- Youth circus, spectacle, or street-theatre groups
- Youth orchestras
- Youth choirs
- Young bands
- Young traditional music groups.

The award is also open to groups that do not define themselves as ensembles but take a similar, collective approach to creating art; this includes:

- Groups of young visual artists who work collaboratively to create exhibitions of their work (or single, collaborative works of art such as mural or graffiti pieces)
- Groups of young poets or writers who publish or perform work together
- Groups of young people who combine a number of artforms to create shared performances/events.

What may you apply for?

The maximum award available under Strand 1 is €10,000. Applicants to Strand 2 may apply for an amount that is greater than €10,000 but no more than €25,000.

In addition to the normal limits stated above, the Arts Council will also consider costs specifically relating to the making of work by artists and young people with disabilities. If you wish to apply for additional funding on this basis, you should provide information with your application outlining what these additional costs are.

You may apply for funding relating to the costs of a specific artistic initiative that fits within the purpose and priorities of the award.

The following are some examples of projects that have been funded under the Young Ensembles Scheme:

- An established youth theatre applied to develop an ambitious new production devised by a cast of young people from a range of cultural backgrounds under the guidance of the youth-theatre's artistic director. The initiative built on an outreach programme targeting immigrant communities, and had the long-term aim of making the youth-theatre's membership more culturally diverse.
- Young people with and without disabilities, who had previously worked together on group projects in dance, animation and video, sought to establish themselves as an integrated youth arts group and further develop their artistic skills. The young people were involved in selecting artists/facilitators to work with them and in developing the artistic programme. The group's steering committee included representatives from local youth organisations, the Irish Wheelchair Association and the local arts office.
- A collective of young artists and music promoters, with a track record in organising events for their peers, successfully applied for funding to run an all-ages performance and exhibition space. The application was made by the collective with the support of an established arts venue.
- A collective of young critics applied to critically engage with a range of artistic works, and to develop and share their responses with each other and with a wider audience with the support of a local gallery.
- A youth dance group, which had developed a performance with a local professional dance artist/choreographer, applied to create a new, artistically ambitious piece of work together. The
- application was made by the young ensemble as a voluntary unincorporated group.
- Members of a youth café who played a variety of instruments and were interested in music technology formed an electro-acoustic youth orchestra and applied to create new arrangements and compositions and perform these in their youth café. A composer, who was a graduate of a music programme in a nearby college, supported the group to develop this work.

How to Apply

All applications for funding must be submitted via the Arts Council online services website.

Please visit the Arts Council website for full application details:

<http://www.artscouncil.ie/Funds/Young-ensembles-scheme/>

Deadline: 13 Feb 2020

Social Innovation Fund - Ability to Work Fund

This is a €1.5 million fund created by Social Innovation Fund Ireland (SIFI) in partnership with State Street and the Department of Rural and Community Development. The Department of Rural and Community Development provides match funding for all philanthropic funds raised by Social Innovation Fund Ireland, via the Dormant Accounts Fund.

The Ability to Work Fund will support not-for-profit organisations to empower more people with disabilities to gain employment. A disability might be a physical or intellectual disability, a learning disability, or a disability due to traumatic brain injury or a mental health condition. The funding will be available over three years, from 2020 to 2023.

What are the aims of the fund?

The fund has two main aims:

1. to empower 250 people to progress along the pathways to employment by investing in organisations that provide training, upskilling, education and other services to people with disabilities; and
2. to double the impact of successful applicant organisations by providing project funding and other supports such as:
 - a. strategic planning
 - b. communications strategy development
 - c. mentoring
 - d. leadership training
 - e. market research
 - f. financial modelling (forecasting your organisation's financial performance)

What does the fund offer?

- Cash grants of up to €90,000 each year for three years*
- A business supports package to help not-for-profit organisations expand their business expertise and expand and deepen their impact

- A place on SIFI's Accelerator Programme, a programme which provides training from experts from the private, public and not-for-profit sectors
- Project performance management, including managing its impact
- Access to SIFI's networks of charities, social enterprises, government and donors
- Access to training and mentoring from State Street employees

*Applicants can apply for any amount up to €90,000 for three years. SIFI will decide how much money to award, which may be less than the amount requested. The amount of the award will depend on how many organisations are selected, their past financial performance, and the budget they submit as part of their application.

Who can apply?

We are inviting applications from organisations that work with people with an intellectual, physical, mental health, learning or sensory disability who are aged 17 and older. The organisations must be engaged in creating ways to improve employment outcomes for people with disabilities through education, training and skill-building.

What kind of projects can apply?

Projects must meet the criteria set by both SIFI and the Ability to Work Fund. These are outlined below.

Please note: Projects seeking funding for capital assets (such as buildings, vans or equipment) are not eligible.

Social Innovation Fund Ireland criteria

- The project must address a critical social issue
- It must be innovative in an Irish context
- It must be possible and desirable to replicate the project or grow its impact in Ireland (or internationally, although this is not a requirement)
- The project or organisation must have a proven track record
- The project must be based on the island of Ireland and make its main impact in the Republic of Ireland

- The applicant must be a not-for-profit organisation such as a charity, trust, company limited by guarantee, and so on. It must not be a commercial company

Ability to Work Fund criteria

- The project must relate to education, training or preparation for the workforce
- The project must support people with disabilities aged 17 and over to achieve better employment outcomes
- The project must be able to show how it helps people in at least two of the following outcome areas:
 - Enable people with disabilities to progress into further education or training
 - Increase job placement
 - Increase job retention
 - Increase access to programmes with industry-recognised qualifications
 - Enable people to attain industry-recognised qualifications
 - Build basic job-readiness skills like teamwork and time management skills
 - Increase internship and work experience placement.
- Participants in the project must be living with a disability
- The project must be able to measure the outcomes for participants
- The project must consult its participants about its design, delivery and evaluation
- Applications from projects which provide individual pathways for participants are more likely to be successful.

How to Apply

<http://www.socialinnovation.ie/ability-to-work-fund/>

Deadline: 14 Feb 2020

Erasmus+ Programme: 2014 - 2020

Erasmus+ is the European Union programme for education, training, youth and sport for the years 2014 to 2020. It provides funding and support for organisations to operate projects consistent with its objectives and which encourage European exchange, co-operation and learning. Erasmus+ is funded by the European Union through the contributions of member states, including Ireland. Funding of almost €170 million has been allocated to Ireland for the duration of the programme.

Erasmus+ funding is available to all sectors (or fields) of formal, informal and non-formal education. Structurally, Erasmus+ is divided into three 'Key Actions' describing the kind of project activities possible.

Programme Objectives

Erasmus+ aims to modernise and improve the quality of teaching, training and youth work across Europe, and to support the development, transfer and implementation of innovative practices. These objectives are closely tied with the Europe 2020 strategy of achieving a smart, sustainable and inclusive economy by 2020 for all of Europe's citizens. Fundamental goals for Erasmus+ include improving key competences and skills, and fostering partnerships between education and employment. The programme also seeks to promote European values as stated in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union: respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights.

Eligibility

Erasmus+ is open to private or public organisations active in the fields of adult education, higher education, school education, sport, vocational education and training, and youth and community work, in any participating country. While the programme enables individuals to travel, work, volunteer and study abroad, project applications from individuals themselves are not accepted. However, individuals may apply to attend Transnational Cooperation Activities with the support of their organisations.

Some key actions / proposals are managed directly by the European Commission, while others are managed by the relevant national body (Leargas in the case of Ireland - note: Leargas managed items are in bold below).

Learning mobility of individuals (Key Activity 1)

This Key Action supports:

Mobility of learners and staff: opportunities for students, trainees, young people and volunteers, as well as for professors, teachers, trainers, youth workers, staff of education institutions and civil society organisations to undertake a learning and/or professional experience in another country;

Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees: high-level integrated international study programmes delivered by consortia of higher education institutions that award full degree scholarships to the best master students worldwide;

Erasmus+ Master Loans: higher education students from Programme Countries can apply for a loan backed up by the Programme to go abroad for a full Master Degree. Students should address themselves to national banks or student loan agencies participating in the scheme.

Cooperation for innovation and exchange of good practices (Key Activity 2)

This Key Action supports:

Transnational Strategic Partnerships aimed to develop initiatives addressing one or more fields of education training and youth and promote innovation, exchange of experience and know-how between different types of organisations involved in education, training and youth or in other relevant fields. Certain mobility activities are supported in so far as they contribute to the objectives of the project;

Knowledge Alliances between higher education institutions and enterprises which aim to foster innovation, entrepreneurship, creativity, employability, knowledge exchange and/or multidisciplinary teaching and learning;

Sector Skills Alliances supporting the design and delivery of joint vocational training curricula, programmes and teaching and training methodologies, drawing on evidence of trends in a specific economic sector and skills needed in order to perform in one or more professional fields;

Capacity-building projects supporting cooperation with Partner Countries in the fields of higher education and youth. Capacity-building projects aim to support organisations/institutions and systems in their modernisation and internationalisation process. Certain types of capacity-building projects support mobility activities in so far as they contribute to the objectives of the project;

IT support platforms, such as eTwinning, the School Education Gateway, the European Platform for Adult Learning (EPALE) and the European Youth Portal, offering virtual collaboration spaces,

databases of opportunities, communities of practice and other online services for teachers, trainers and practitioners in the field of school and adult education as well as for young people, volunteers and youth workers across Europe and beyond.

Support for policy reform (Key Activity 3)

This Key Action supports:

Knowledge in the fields of education, training and youth for evidence-based policy making and monitoring, in particular:

country-specific and thematic analysis, including through cooperation with academic networks;

peer learning and peer reviews through the Open Methods of Coordination in education, training and youth.

Initiatives for policy innovation to stimulate innovative policy development among stakeholders and to enable public authorities to test the effectiveness of innovative policies through field trials based on sound evaluation methodologies;

Support to European policy tools to facilitate transparency and recognition of skills and qualifications, as well as the transfer of credits, to foster quality assurance, support validation of non-formal and informal learning, skills management and guidance. This Action also includes the support to networks that facilitate cross-European exchanges, the learning and working mobility of citizens as well as the development of flexible learning pathways between different fields of education, training and youth;

Cooperation with international organisations with highly recognised expertise and analytical capacity (such as the OECD and the Council of Europe), to strengthen the impact and added value of policies in the fields of education, training and youth;

Stakeholder dialogue, policy and Programme promotion involving public authorities, providers and stakeholders in the fields of education, training and youth for raising awareness about the European policy agendas, in particular Europe 2020, Education and Training 2020, the European Youth Strategy, as well as the external dimension of European education, training and youth policies. These activities are essential to develop the capacity of stakeholders to actively support the implementation of policies by stimulating the exploitation of the Programme results and generating tangible impact.

Jean Monnet

Jean Monnet activities will support:

Academic Modules, Chairs, Centres of Excellence in order to deepen teaching in European integration studies embodied in an official curriculum of a higher education institution, as well as to conduct, monitor and supervise research on EU content, also for other educational levels such as teacher training and compulsory education. These Actions are also intended to provide in-depth teaching on European integration matters for future professionals in fields which are in increasing demand on the labour market, and at the same time aim at encouraging, advising and mentoring the young generation of teachers and researchers in European integration subject areas;

Policy debate with academic world, supported through: a) Networks to enhance cooperation between different universities throughout Europe and around the world, foster cooperation and create a high knowledge exchange platform with public actors and the Commission services on highly relevant EU subjects; b) Projects for innovation and cross-fertilisation and spread of EU content aimed to promote discussion, reflection on EU issues and to enhance knowledge about the EU and its processes;

Support to associations, to organise and carry out statutory activities of associations dealing with EU studies and EU issues, and to publicize EU facts among a wider public enhancing active European citizenship.

The Jean Monnet Activities also provide operating grants to designated institutions which pursue an aim of European interest and organises Studies and conferences with the purpose of providing policy-makers with new insights and concrete suggestions.

Sport

Actions in the field of sport will support:

Collaborative Partnerships, aimed at promoting the integrity of Sport (anti-doping, fight against match fixing, protection of minors), supporting innovative approaches to implement EU principles on good governance in sport, EU strategies in the area of social inclusion and equal opportunities, encouraging participation in sport and physical activity (supporting the implementation of EU Physical Activity Guidelines, volunteering, employment in sport as well as education and training in sport), and supporting the implementation of the EU guidelines on dual careers of athletes. These partnerships include also Small Collaborative Partnerships, aimed at encouraging social inclusion and equal opportunities in sport, promoting European traditional sports and games, supporting the mobility of volunteers, coaches, managers and

staff of non-profit sport organisations and protecting athletes, especially the youngest, from health and safety hazards by improving training and competition conditions.

Not-for-profit European sport events, granting individual organisations in charge of the preparation, organisation and follow-up to a given event. The activities involved will include the organisation of training activities for athletes and volunteers in the run-up to the event, opening and closing ceremonies, competitions, side-activities to the sporting event (conferences, seminars), as well as the implementation of legacy activities, such as evaluations or follow-up activities;

Strengthening of the evidence base for policy making through studies; data gathering, surveys; networks; conferences and seminars which spread good practices from Programme Countries and sport organisations and reinforce networks at EU level so that national members of those networks benefit from synergies and exchanges with their partners;

Dialogue with relevant European stakeholders, being mainly the annual EU Sport Forum and support to Sport Presidency events organised by the EU Member States holding the Presidency of the EU. Other ad hoc meetings and seminars relevant to ensure optimal dialogue with the sport stakeholders may also be organised as appropriate.

How to Apply

Leargas serves as the Ireland contact for the Erasmus programme. Learn more here:

<http://www.leargas.ie/programmes/erasmusplus/>

Visit the main Erasmus programme website here:

https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus-plus_en

Deadlines:

Sector Skills Alliances 2020: 26 Feb 2020

Knowledge Alliances 2020: 26 Feb 2020

European Universities: 26 Feb 2020

Social Inclusion and Common Values: 25 Feb 2020

Jean Monnet (Activities 2020): 20 Feb 2020

Centres of Vocational Excellence: 20 Feb 2020

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund

The fund is supporting coordinated and integrated projects between government departments, State agencies, local authorities, other public bodies, communities and, where appropriate, philanthropic funders and/or the private sector, which will have an impact on sustainable economic and social development in rural areas.

Funding is being awarded through a competitive bid process.

Eligibility

Proposals are being invited from Local Authorities, and other locally/regionally based organisations, such as Local Development Companies, as well as Government Departments and State Agencies. For the purpose of accountability and oversight, the lead partner of all projects must be a State funded body, but collaboration with the private sector is encouraged.

Proposals may be made in respect of towns with populations of 10,000 or fewer and their outlying areas. A limited number of specified towns with a population of 10,000 or fewer will be eligible for support under the Urban Regeneration Fund which is being operated by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government; however, funding will only be provided under one fund for any particular project.

The Rural Regeneration and Development Fund is a commitment of €1 billion by government to be invested in rural Ireland over the period 2019 to 2027.

The Rural Regeneration and Development Fund can fund projects including (but not limited to):

- infrastructure that may be needed to support town centre housing and/or commercial development
- measures to address building vacancy including building refurbishment, redevelopment and/or demolition
- the development of community or public facilities infrastructure including improvements to roads, bridges and car parking facilities
- infrastructure that improves telecommunications connectivity
- projects that support job creation, entrepreneurship and innovation in rural areas (for example: development of Digital Hubs, Enterprise Hubs, Creative Hubs, or training facilities)

- enhancement of heritage and/or other community assets including the provision/enhancement of recreational or leisure facilities.

How to Apply

The Second Call for applications for funding under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund for Category 2 (project development) is now open. The closing date for applications for Category 2 proposals is 28th February 2020 at 12pm.

Full details available here:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/policy-information/c77144-rural-regeneration-and-development-fund/>

Deadline: 28 Feb 2020

Christian Brothers Edmund Rice Trust Fund

The fund is managed by a Board of Trustees in accordance with the terms of the Deed of Trust. The Trust is a registered charity.

The annual income from the fund is available to promote the objectives of the Trust. These objectives include helping individuals and groups in the pursuit of projects which are in accordance with the objectives of the Trust and which are deemed worthy by the Trustees.

Among the projects it may assist are:

- The alleviation of poverty
- The training of teachers, parents, youth leaders or others engaged in the provision of education, leadership or development
- Research into educational disadvantage, school effectiveness, youth leadership and religious development of young people
- Educational facilities
- Rules Governing Funding

Projects must be deemed by the Trustees to conform fully to the objectives of the Trust.

The decision of the Trustees, regarding funding for any project, shall be final.

Funding from the Trust will be made available in the form of a donation which does not have to be repaid. However, if for any reason, after receipt of funding from the Trust, the implementation of the project becomes impossible, the Trustees shall be made aware of this immediately and they may require the return of whatever portion of the donation to the project that remains unexpended.

Any change in the details of the project, as submitted to the Trustees, must be made known to them immediately.

The Trustees must be informed immediately if funds, other than those already specified in the original application, later become available to finance the complete project or any section of it. This may have implications for ongoing funding.

The exact amount of funding received from the Trust must be acknowledged immediately to the Trustees. Where foreign exchange is involved, the acknowledgement must state (1) the exact amount received, in the currency in which it is received and (2) the equivalent in the local currency.

A payment schedule will be decided by the Trustees.

The Trustees require annual reports in June each year. Failure to submit year end reports will impact the consideration of future funding applications.

The financial section of the year-end report should detail the financial aspects of the project, including all income and expenditure. All project-related records and documents, including receipts for expenditure, invoices, vouchers and bank statements, must be retained for a minimum period of seven years, in accordance with standard accounting practices.

The Trustees have the right, at their discretion, to nominate a representative to visit the project in order to check progress and/or substantiate financial reports and records.

If you do not object, the Trustees may use information relating to the project in any statements by them concerning the operation of the Trust.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Funds received are to be applied to a specific project in the period September to June.

Exceptions may be approved when circumstances are deemed deserving.

REPORTS

An Annual Report in June is required, on the forms supplied, for the information of the Trustees

As part of these Reports, a detailed breakdown of how the funding was used should include the different items of expenditure, together with invoices and receipts, the total expenditure, and the balance in hand.

How to Apply

Applicants are requested to give serious consideration to the enclosed Rules Governing Funding, giving special attention to Rules 8, 9 and 10.

[Download application form here.](#)

Deadline: 28 Feb 2020

Additional Resources

Nonprofits seeking fundraising advice and guidance can avail of two additional resources:

1. Fundraising Guidance Library

- [Fundraising Essentials](#)
- [Applying to Grant Makers](#)
- [Fundraising From The Public](#)
- [European Funding](#)

2. Fundraising Helpdesk

Can't find an answer to your fundraising question in the above articles? Then get in touch with The Wheel's Fundraising Helpdesk now. Email as much detail as possible to: paul@wheel.ie and we'll get back to you shortly. www.wheel.ie.