

MEATH CANVAS



SUMMER 2026 CALLOUT

 comhairle chontae na mí
meath county council

Callout for Artwork Submissions - Summer/Autumn 2026

Dublin Canvas is a public art project that transforms traffic signal boxes into vibrant works of art, helping to brighten up Dublin and make it a more beautiful place to live, work, and visit. Launched in Summer 2015, we began with our initial goal to 'Colour in the City'—turning the streets of Dublin into a walking gallery of public art. Following the success of that first phase, the project expanded in 2018 to encompass South Dublin, Fingal, and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Councils, extending our ambition to 'Colour in the County'.



'Jurassic Green' by Matthew Fitzsimons. St. Stephen's Green, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

Now, as we approach the completion of our thousandth piece, we are excited to take the next step. In partnership with Meath County Council, we are delighted to announce the launch of Meath Canvas, our next step in 'Colouring in the Country'. Historically, Meath held the status of the fifth ancient province of Ireland. This makes it the next logical step in our journey. Meath Canvas will see eleven traffic signal boxes painted by local artists throughout Summer and Autumn 2026—four in Ashbourne and seven in Navan. These once-neglected grey boxes will be transformed into vibrant works of art, turning traffic junctions into an open-air gallery of public art. Artists and community groups who wish to take part are asked to carefully read the guidelines below and submit their work to info@dublincanvas.com. Visit www.dublincanvas.com to view all artist profiles and learn more about the project. Please share this brief with family, friends, and colleagues who might be interested in public art and helping us continue to 'Colour in the Country'.

Support the artists and the platform by following Meath Canvas and Dublin Canvas on:

Instagram: www.instagram.com/meathcanvas/ and www.instagram.com/dublincanvas/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/meathcanvas and www.facebook.com/dublincanvas

Bluesky: bsky.app/profile/meathcanvas.bsky.social and bsky.app/profile/dublincanvas.bsky.social



'Swanderful' by Maureen Kelly Fox. Chapelizod, Dublin 20.



'Wollen Connection' by Ilaria Manen. Crumlin Village.

Selection Criteria and Guidelines

Meath Canvas stems from Dublin Canvas. Dublin Canvas is an inclusive public art platform. To date, we have had a variety of artists from all age groups – college students to retirees, all walks of life - barristers to baristas, a wide variety of nationalities with a full array of art disciplines. Graphic designers, illustrators, stencil artists, fine artists, portrait artists, tattoo artists, street artists and landscape artists to name but a few.

The main objective of Meath Canvas is to 'Colour in the County.' Artists have complete freedom on how to achieve this. Participants should draw upon their own creativity but will also pay attention to the distinctive characteristics of each area for inspiration, paying close attention to the surroundings of each box when designing their artwork.

As each of the box locations is quite distinct, it is suggested that artists visit each location to draw inspiration from the immediate environment. Selected artwork imagery will still be owned by the participants. However, you must agree to let Meath Canvas use artwork imagery in any way to promote the platform and Meath County Council. This will include use on websites, social media, and all related publications. All artworks are intended to remain in place for a minimum of one year. The average lifespan of each piece is now 4.5 years. However, Meath Canvas reserves the right to remove any artwork at any time without prior notice.

Artwork will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Creativity and innovation of design
- Relevance of the image to the chosen area
- Ability to work within the guidelines of the project

Designs would be ineligible if they contain the following:

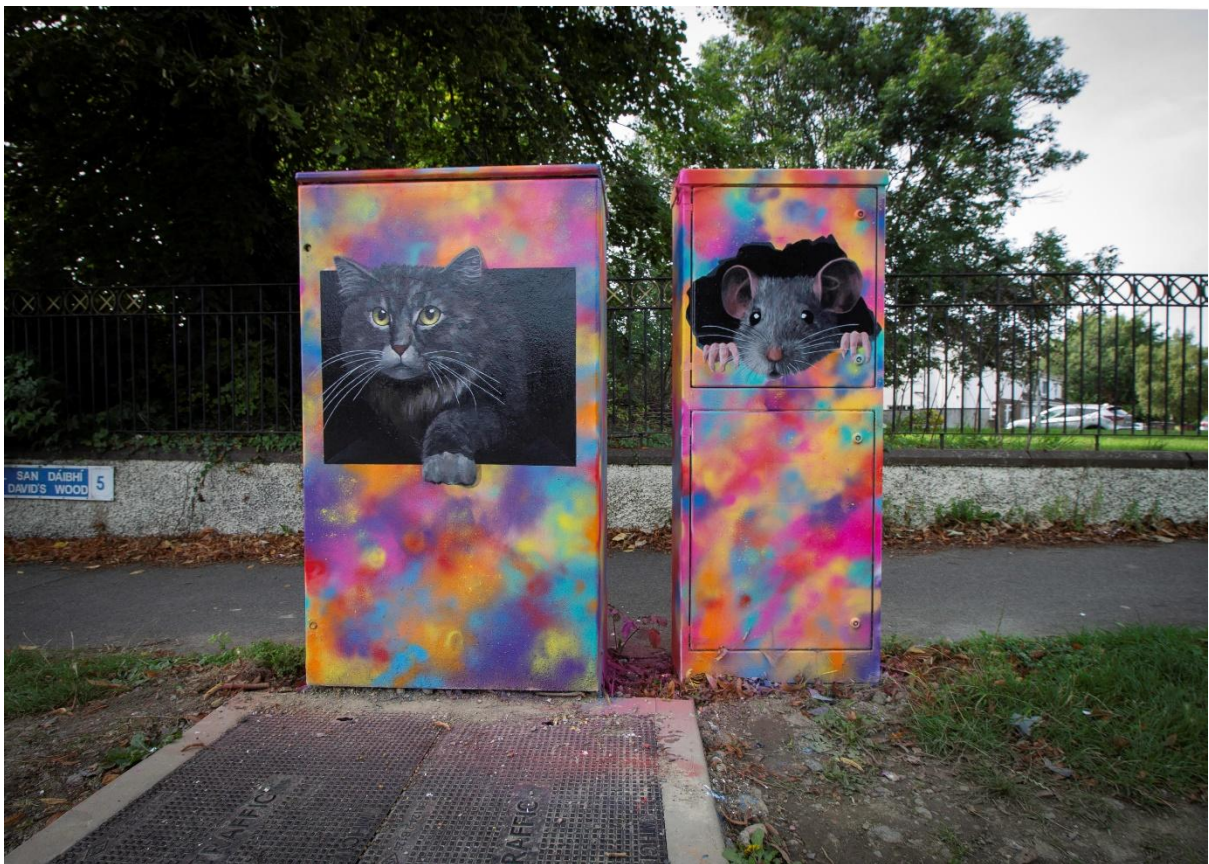
- Breach of intellectual property rights (stealing someone else's idea)
- Trademarks, advertisements, brand or business names, logos, or copyrighted images
- Images relating to drugs/alcohol and/or offensive/contentious images
- Artwork dominated by text, unless relevant to the design

Entrants should bear in mind the following points when conceptualizing designs:

- Maximise the use of the 3-dimensional aspects of the boxes
- A small logo, entrant's details and box reference number will appear on the side of each unit
- The finished artwork will be in the public domain and may be vandalised. Consequently, large areas of the design should not be left open to attack. For example, large areas of blue skies would give vandals the opportunity to deface your artwork.
- It is recommended that participants visit each site for inspiration and to ensure that their designs integrate with the surrounding area.
- Only prior agreed artwork can be painted on each traffic signal box
- Prior to painting, each of the allocated units will be painted a matt white by Meath Canvas
- Please view our extensive back catalogue at www.dublincanvas.com/artist-profiles-main for inspiration and an indication of what the council adjudication panel looks for in submissions.



'Grave Digger' by Anna & Isobel Mahon. Glasnevin Cemetery, Glasnevin. Dublin.



'Cat and Mouse' by Jenny Cleary. Malahide Road, Dublin 9.

Timeline

Callout Commences – Wednesday 17th June 2026

Submission Deadline - Wednesday 8th July 2026

Selection process - Thursday 9th July – Wednesday 15th July 2026

Artwork Completed – mid July to late September 2026 (artists unavailable to paint during this period should not apply)

Budget

Meath Canvas is asking members of the public who are interested in the project to volunteer their time and talent to help brighten up Meath. We believe it should not cost participants anything more than their time. All traffic signal boxes will be prepared by Meath Canvas with a fresh matt white undercoat before artists begin painting.

There are two options available to help cover costs:

Option 1: Meath Canvas will supply all materials (paints, brushes, PPE, etc.) in a portable pack, plus a payment of €300 to cover travel expenses, food and caffeine.

Option 2: A payment of €375 and participants supply their own materials. For the second option, the materials used must be pre-approved by Meath Canvas. This will ensure all painted boxes will remain vibrant for the duration of the project. Average lifespan of each piece within Dublin Canvas is now 4–5 years.

Please indicate on your submission which option you prefer.



Portable artist pack provided. The pack contains all the paints, brushes, equipment and PPE that artists need to complete their artwork



'Blossoming Relationships' by Darya Shkudeleba. Glenageary Road Upper, Dublin.

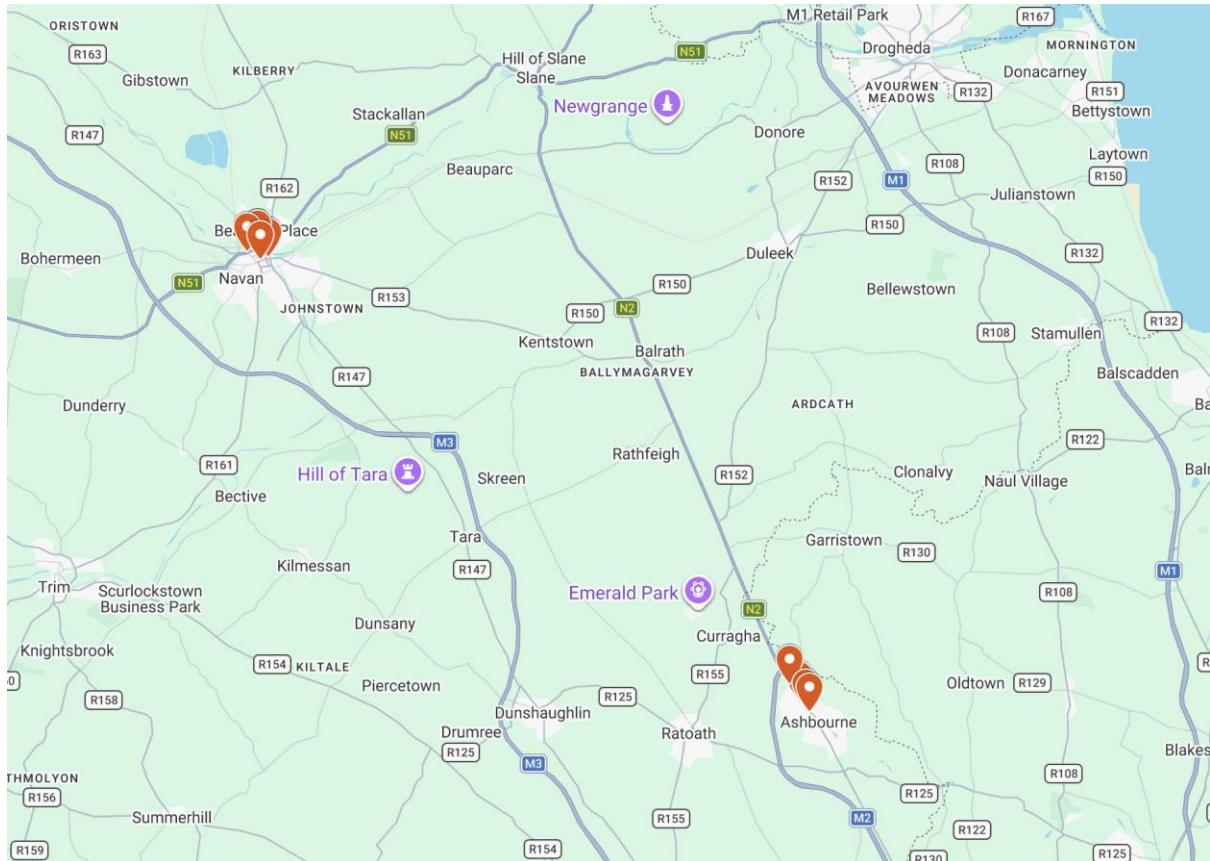


'Pandemonium' by Johnman. Mount Merrion, Dublin.

Available Locations

Meath Canvas will use traffic light control boxes to exhibit high quality, creative artwork to the public. Traffic light control boxes make perfect canvases to showcase community art as they are always located in high footfall, high traffic areas. Pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists can enjoy the artwork as they wait for the traffic light to turn green.

They also have the added benefit of being uniform in size and are all owned and maintained by each local authority. Other utility boxes are not suitable for this project.



A functioning map of all available locations can be found at: www.dublincanvas.com/paint

Entrants must be 18 years of age or over. Each box will be awarded based on the quality and creativity of the design. The judging panel will consist of local authority representatives. We will not be able to provide feedback on individual applications. This callout is not suitable for artists based outside of Meath.

The website contains an FAQ section. For any enquiries not covered, please email info@dublincanvas.com Make sure to follow #MeathCanvas on social media to keep up to date.

There are 11 available traffic signal boxes to be painted by local artists throughout Meath in Summer/Autumn 2026. Four within Ashbourne and seven within Navan.

Ashbourne

Johns Wood Court, Ashbourne, Meath.

Rath Cross, Ballybin Road, Ashbourne, Meath.

Castle Street, Frederick Street, Ashbourne, Meath.

St Declan's Credit Union, Frederick Street, Ashbourne, Co Meath.

Navan

Junction Kennedy Road, Navan, Meath.

Junction Trimgate, Kennedy Road (AIB), Meath.

Junction Timmons Hill Junction, Navan, Meath.

Opposite Fire Station, Abbey Road, Abbeyland South, Navan, Meath Unit 1.

Opposite Fire Station, Abbey Road, Abbeyland South, Navan, Meath Unit 2.

Junction Balmoral Junction, Navan, Meath.

Preston Place, Navan, Meath.

Submission Checklist

Please send these two things with your submission:

1. Your Artwork File

Send your design as a **JPEG or PDF**

Label your file like this: Artist Name - Artwork Title

Example: Matthew Fitzsimons - Jurassic Green

2. Your Information

Copy and paste the details below into the body of your email:

Artist:

Artwork Title:

Preferred Artwork Location/Area: view available locations at www.dublincanvas.com/paint

Artwork Description: (40 words or less, if possible, not essential)

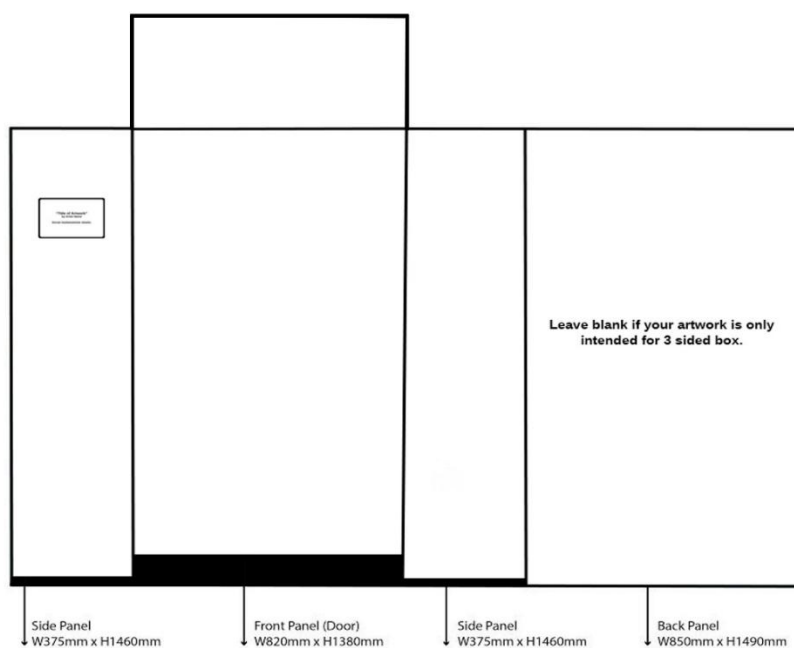
Biography: (40 words or less, if possible, not essential)

Contact: Website – Instagram – Bluesky – X – Facebook (if available)

Materials: Dublin Canvas or own (see Budget section for details)

Address: your general area or address

Artists may submit multiple entries. Please email your correctly prepared submission(s) to: info@dublincanvas.com



Download templates @ www.dublincanvas.com/paint

Perfect Submission Layout example

Artist: Matthew Fitzsimons

Artwork title: 'Jurassic Green'

Artwork Location: St Stephens Green, Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Artwork description: A satirical look at the seagulls of St. Stephen's Green who are like modern day dinosaurs prowling the park.

Biography: Matt Fitzsimons is a Dublin based architecture graduate with an interest in graphic design, sport and cinema.

Contact artist by: IG: [TORC_Art](#)

Supply Materials: Dublin Canvas

Address: 4321 Made Up Street, Barrytown, Dublin 25.



Artwork Labelled: Matthew Fitzsimons - Jurassic Green