



# Clinic - Arts Act Funding- Individual Artist Award & Artist and the Community Scheme

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Ó’Shea

# Look at today

- ▶ Arts Act Funding available from Wicklow County Council
- ▶ Individual Artist Award
- ▶ Artist and Community Collaboration
- ▶ Applying for award
- ▶ Making an application
- ▶ Some mistakes/pitfalls in applications
- ▶ 1:1 session preparation
- ▶ Tips for CVs, Biogs and letter of support

# Personal experience



Art Criticism  
and Editing



Curation



Teaching



Public Art



Project  
Management



Strategy  
Experience



Panel  
Experience



Inventories  
& Interviews

# Importance of local arts office

- ▶ Arts Office
  - multidisciplinary, and cross art-form
  - Range of contexts - Arts and health, Youth arts
  - County wide remit with some collaborative connection and inter-county networking
  - Importance of making connections locally and building practice and reputation in the immediate context.



# Arts Act Funding Clinic

Artist and Artist & Community  
Collaboration Award  
Schemes





## **Background**

The Arts Act Funding Scheme is integral to Wicklow County Council's broader efforts to encourage excellence in the arts and enhance community involvement in artistic endeavours across the county.

Applications can be made under the following three schemes:

- Artist Award
- Artist & Communities Collaboration Award
- Arts Festival Award

Applications are welcome from all art forms including film, music, visual arts, theatre, dance, literature, architecture, animation, performance, circus, traditional arts, music and drama.

**The Application Deadline is Friday 16th  
February 2024 at 4pm.**



**This scheme aims to enable artists to:**

- ↳ **Develop and/or present new work**
- ↳ **Consider new approaches to their work**
- ↳ **Reach out to vital collaborators, networks, peers, etc to develop a discourse on their practice**
- ↳ **Connect with international networks, organisations and practitioners, to develop future collaborations**
- ↳ **Work in collaboration with communities of place or interest in County Wicklow to develop and/ or present new work.**

**While the maximum award available is €5,000, awards are often made for lesser amounts.**

**Who is Eligible to apply?**

**This award is open to all professional practising artists across all art forms and genres. Applicants must be native to County Wicklow or residing in County Wicklow for the past three consecutive years.**



**Artist**  
Award Scheme 2024

## Who is not eligible to apply?

- ↳ Undergraduates
- ↳ Persons currently in full-time education
- ↳ Persons not native to County Wicklow or not residing in County Wicklow for the past three consecutive years

## Categories not eligible

- ↳ Full-time undergraduate education
- ↳ Any project which has already begun or is underway (unless what is proposed is a distinctive second phase or subsequent development)
- ↳ Initiatives which form part of a competitive, charitable or fundraising context
- ↳ Funds for capital purchases such as equipment
- ↳ Self-publishing within literature; CD production within music; materials within the visual arts (paint/canvas etc.); bridging finance; final editing; etc.



**Artist**  
Award Scheme 2024



**The Artist & Community Collaboration Award facilitates artist and community partnerships in any artistic discipline or genre. This Award is aimed at creating and delivering high-quality projects or programmes that nurture the creative growth of both the artist and the community.**

**This award funding is designed to cover one of the following areas, either partially or in full:**

- ↳ **A research and development phase of a planned initiative**
- ↳ **The production or realisation of a new arts project or programme in 2024.**

**It's essential to note that the maximum award available through this scheme is capped at €5,000.**



**Artist &  
Community  
Collaboration**  
Award Scheme 2024

## What is not eligible?

- ↳ For-profit or fundraising projects
- ↳ Deficits or start-up costs for new organisations
- ↳ Entertainment/hospitality expenses
- ↳ Projects where the majority of activity takes place outside County Wicklow
- ↳ Insurance costs where it is more than 10% of the awarded amount
- ↳ Capital improvements
- ↳ Proposals where the majority of costs relate to equipment hire/ administrative costs

Before submitting an application, artists and community groups are required to have already approached the respective artist or community group collaborator and must provide written confirmation of their commitment to the proposal.



**Artist &  
Community  
Collaboration**  
Award Scheme 2024

# Arts Act Funding - both awards

- ▶ 6-7 page guidance booklets to cover all aspects of the award. These are clear and well laid out and give you everything you need to make a good application
- ▶ One month from deadline today - Get started
- ▶ This is particularly important as letter confirming collaboration is needed for the Artist and Community Collaboration
- ▶ Both awards provide a valuable opportunity to research, develop, or build upon your art practice. The awards are quite open to allow for maximum opportunity for creativity
- ▶ It is helpful to put together a draft proposal before attending a 1:1 session

# MAKING AN APPLICATION

- Ensure you have read the guidelines and other information thoroughly
- Before sending your application check it over to ensure there are no mistakes. Ask someone else to look over it for you, preferably someone who is a good writer.
- Send what you are asked to only
- Ensure your application is professionally presented. This can be achieved in an online application also through making sure your proposal is clear, concise and well written

# Cvs and biogs

- ▶ Detail recent experience first
- ▶ Document your track record as an artist
- ▶ Include other work and experience if relevant to your practice
- ▶ Submit material that supports your application, do not detract by including too much
- ▶ Submit 5 high quality examples of past work rather than multiple examples that confuse or are of a lesser quality.

# Sample Artists Biog.1

**Niamh O'Malley**, Born Co Mayo, Ireland, Niamh O'Malley currently lives and works in Dublin, Ireland., Contact: [niamhomalley@hotmail.com](mailto:niamhomalley@hotmail.com), (Quote on artist's work to open piece)

O'Malley has made numerous solo exhibitions in recent years including Irish Pavilion, 59th Venice Art Biennale (2022), The Model, Sligo Ireland (2023), Temple Bar Gallery & Studios (2023), Golden Thread Gallery, Belfast (2023), mother's tankstation limited (2020), Royal Hibernian Academy (2019), Lismore Castle Arts (2019), Grazer Kunstverein (2018), Bluecoat Liverpool (2015), Douglas Hyde Gallery, Dublin (2017) & (2015) a five venue solo show called 'The Mayo Collaborative' Ireland (2013), 'Garden', Project Arts Centre, Dublin (2013) Ha Gamle Prestegard, Norway (2012), 'Model', Green on Red Gallery, Dublin, Ireland (2011).

A selection of group exhibitions include Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival, CAG, Vancouver, KARST, Plymouth, eva International, Biennale of Visual Art, Limerick, Eli & Edythe Broad Museum, Michigan, Kilkenny Arts Festival, Galleria Civica di Modena, White Box, New York, Irish Museum of Modern Art, Kunstverein Ludwigsburg, Germany, Maria Stenfors, London.

# Sample Artists Biog.2

**David O’Kane** studied from 2007 until 2012 under professor Neo Rauch at the HGB (Academy of Visual Arts) in Leipzig, Germany. He received a Diplom Degree with distinction in 2009 and a Meisterschüler Degree in 2012. His studies were funded by an extended DAAD Scholarship. He also holds a 1st Class Joint-Honours Degree in Fine Art & History of Art from NCAD in Dublin (2006).

O’Kane has won numerous awards, scholarships and residencies. In 2014 he won the Golden Fleece Award in Dublin. He was resident artist at the Stiftung Starke in Berlin from 2010 until 2013. He was awarded the Derek Hill Foundation Scholarship and Residency at the British School at Rome in 2009. Tom Morton awarded him joint first prize at the Claremorris Open Exhibition. In 2008 his short film ‘Babble’ was produced by eva and it won an eva open award from the curator, Hou Hanru. He also exhibited in eva in 2009. His proposal for the artistic projects tender at the Serralves em Festa 2008 in Oporto, Portugal was commissioned by the Regina Guimarães. In 2006 he won the R.C. Lewis-Crosby Award at the Royal Dublin Society.

His work is represented in collections such as Busan Museum of Art in South Korea; the Kuntshalle der Sparkasse in Leipzig, Germany; the Zabłudowicz Collection in London, UK; the CAP Foundation in Dublin, Ireland; the Trapaga-Fonalledas Collection in Puerto Rico, the Starke Foundation collection in Berlin, Germany and many international private collections. O’Kane maintains studios in Berlin, Germany and Donegal, Ireland.

# Sample Biog. 3 - Group

## **THE BODY OF KNOWLEDGE PROJECT**

Undertaken by UK based dance artists Sally Doughty, Rachel Krische and Lisa Kendall, Body of Knowledge is a research project that examines how the dancer's body can be considered as a living archive by collecting, articulating and disseminating experiences – dance related and other – that reside in the body. Treating the body as a living archive challenges more traditional archives that contain tangible artefacts and documents, and emphasises the knowledge that resides in, and with, the dancer.

The project was initiated after Sally, Rachel and Lisa gave presentations at the *Thinking Dance: Questioning the Contemporary* conference at Leeds Beckett University, UK, on 6 October 2015. We each offered a particular perspective on our engagement with performative archives and post-conference, Body of Knowledge as a research project was born.

<https://www.bodyofknowledge.co.uk/#new-page>



# Sample headings for CV

- ▶ Name and contact details
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Solo exhibitions/performances
- ▶ Group exhibitions/performances
- ▶ Collaborations
- ▶ Awards
- ▶ Residencies
- ▶ Bibliography
- ▶ Collections
- ▶ *Also possible to add* - Relevant experience, e.g. teaching/workshops in your discipline, volunteering, work with children

# Letter of support

- ▶ This is relevant to the Artist and the Community Collaboration Scheme. It is written by the chairperson or director of the community group
- ▶ It should outline briefly the plan for collaboration, its development and management as well as broad dates/timeline for the project
- ▶ It should detail the shared interests and objectives of the community group and artist
- ▶ It should discuss artistic benefit of the proposal to the artist and the community group

# Sample letter

Re: Letter of Commitment/Support

Dear

I write to express my strong support for this proposal by *ARTIST* submitted to The Artist and Community Collaboration Scheme, titled “(insert proposal title)”. I understand that (insert *ARTIST* name) will pursue (insert a few words describing project and its dates/timeline). This collaboration is important to us because (insert details)

As (Chairperson/Director), I can assure you that the (community group) will provide the resources necessary to facilitate this project. Specifically, we have committed (insert general resource statements) in order to accomplish the objectives of this project.

I am highly supportive of the efforts as outlined in this proposal, and (insert statement how this project will artistically benefit the community group and aligns with their vision/efforts).

Yours sincerely

Name of Chairperson/Director of Community Group



## How to Apply



**Read all documentation carefully.**

**Applications can only be submitted online.**

**Under the 'Apply Online' section on [www.wicklow.ie](http://www.wicklow.ie), click on the 'Apply Here' link, choose the 'Submit' button next to the Award and complete the following:**

↳ **Enter all relevant details on the online application form**

↳ **Upload the completed budget template for 2024 available on our website.**

↳ **Upload supporting documentation including:**

- **An up-to-date Artist CV (max 2 pages)**
- **5 examples of your work or items that demonstrate your track record. This can include images, reviews, letters of support, treatments, draft scores, and audio or video recordings (link to YouTube, Vimeo, Soundcloud, MP4 etc.)**

# Sample Budget

| INCOME  | *2023 (Actual)   | 2024 (Projected) |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Wicklow County Arts Office Arts Grant <i>(amount requested in your application)</i>   | €3,000.00        | €3,000.00        |
| Arts Council Grant  |                  | €1,000.00        |
| Other Wicklow County Council Department   |                  |                  |
| Other Grant Income <i>(such as Creative Ireland, Creative Europe, etc)</i>  |                  | €1,000.00        |
|   |                  |                  |
| EARNED INCOME   | *2023 (Actual)   | 2024 (Projected) |
| Sponsorship/ Donations  |                  |                  |
| Box office  |                  |                  |
| Sales   | €100.00          |                  |
| Other earned Income <i>(give details)</i>   |                  |                  |
|   |                  |                  |
|   |                  |                  |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>   | <b>€3,100.00</b> | <b>€5,000.00</b> |
| EXPENDITURE   | *2023 (Actual)   | 2024 (Projected) |
| Lead Artists Fees   | €1,500.00        | €1,500.00        |
| Other Fees <i>(such as collaborating artists, producer, creative practioner, sound engineer, photographer, videographer, etc)</i> |                  | €1,000.00        |
| Training  | €500.00          |                  |
| Administration Costs  |                  |                  |
| Marketing & PR  | €100.00          | €500.00          |
| Materials   | €600.00          | €800.00          |
| Equipment Hire  | €200.00          | €100.00          |
| Rent/Venue Hire   | €100.00          | €500.00          |
| Insurance   |                  |                  |
| Printing/ Postage/ Stationery   |                  | €100.00          |
| Telephone   |                  |                  |
| Bank Charges  |                  |                  |
| Travel/ Accommodation   | €100.00          | €500.00          |
| Other Costs <i>(such as production related costs, accountancy or legal fees relating to your application)</i>                     |                  |                  |
|   |                  |                  |
|   |                  |                  |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>  | <b>€3,100.00</b> | <b>€5,000.00</b> |



# Online Application Form



The form will ask you to cover the following aspects of your proposal:

- ↳ **Summary:** up to three short points giving an overview of your proposal
- ↳ **Concept:** What do you want to do and why? What is your anticipated outcome?
- ↳ **Approach:** How you are going to do it? Who is involved?
- ↳ **Project plan:** What is the proposed timeline? How are you going to work with your partners, collaborators?
- ↳ **Track record:** How will your knowledge, skills and expertise support/ensure the project's success?
- ↳ **Feasibility:** Are there potential complications, risks? Is the budget feasible?
- ↳ **Impact:** How this work will enhance your work? Who will benefit?
- ↳ **Engagement:** How will you reach and engage your audience?



# Application Tips



**Read the guidelines and other information thoroughly.**

**Make sure to regularly refer to the guidelines throughout the application process.**

**Focus on the Who, What, Where, When, Why and How of your proposal.**

**Provide clear and concise answers to the questions.**

**Use the Budget Template provided and complete all cells relevant to your proposal.**

**Combine your supporting documentation (texts, visuals, links to websites, recordings) and title all documents with name, title, short description, materials, dimensions, year etc.**

# Pitfalls of proposals

- Incomplete submission - refer to checklist or include cover letter to detail contents
  - Proposal is unconvincing, has not been properly thought out
  - Concept is undeveloped, lacks details
  - Concept does not connect with proposed context
  - Submission of more than one idea - is each concept clear?
  - Incomplete budget or missing budget, budget template not used, as required.
  - Concept lacks originality, similar to previous work. Concept is commercial as opposed to artistic
  - Missing supporting documentation or no letter of support/commitment

Your CV and biog should be third person, not exaggerated, clear and concise.





# Application Support



For the first time, Wicklow County Arts Office is offering a new application support service from Wednesday 10th January to Friday 9th February 2024.

This service offers artists, communities, and festivals the opportunity to engage in a 30-minute consultation, which will enable participants to pose questions and seek advice from a member of the Arts Office team

To avail of this opportunity, please email [wao@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:wao@wicklowcoco.ie) to schedule a suitable date and time.

**The Application Deadline is Friday 16th  
February 2024 at 4pm.**

# 1:1 sessions with Arts Office

- ▶ Ensure that you prepare well for your session. It will also give you a focus and head start for completing your application
- ▶ Read the guidelines for the award thoroughly and draft any questions that you have
- ▶ Make sure you have made at least a draft proposal for your application to discuss (i.e. do not attend simply to make contact and network)
- ▶ Draft an initial budget that can be used for discussion purposes
- ▶ Ensure you have all items ready for your application toolkit - artist's CV, artist's Biog, 5 high quality visuals, artist's statement

# Build confidence over time

- ▶ Do not apply for too many opportunities
- ▶ Take a targeted approach and go for things that suit you and your practice
- ▶ Do not be discouraged when unsuccessful
- ▶ Build on success
- ▶ Ensure that you are happy with all your applications and proposals so you gain confidence
- ▶ Speak to your peers about their experiences and maybe find collaborators to apply with
- ▶ Take advantage of opportunities to workshop applications