

Age & Opportunity Artist's Residency in a Care Setting

Information for Care Settings



Image: Fairland Collective, artists in residence 2018, St Joseph's Shankill, Co. Dublin

Background

Age & Opportunity's ARTS programme has created an opportunity for *publicly funded or not for profit* care settings and older people living in or attending those settings to engage creatively with an artist over the course of a number of months. Age & Opportunity / Bealtaine also wishes to offer an opportunity for an artist to develop their specific skills in relation to working in arts and health settings. In 2019, **six** artist residencies of this kind will be offered. The application process is two-part: care settings will apply for this unique opportunity based on an open competition and once the care settings have been selected, artists will apply for a residency in a selected care setting. As such, artists will apply for this residency independently of care homes but with the specific knowledge of the particular setting.

This call is for **stage one** of this process; care settings are being invited to make an application to this scheme.

Age & Opportunity has a longstanding stake in the provision of creative activities in care settings through its Creative Exchanges programme and in relation to creating meaningful experiences for people with dementia in terms of its Azure programme. Building on a highly successful residency in 2017 and 2018,¹ Age & Opportunity, working with its Azure and Creative Exchanges programmes, in association with the Waterford Healing Arts Trust, Mercer's Institute for Successful Ageing, Dementia Services Information and Development Centre (and our funders below), this year will offer six artist residencies within five individual care settings. We have widened the criteria of care settings to include day services, hospice care and residential care. People in these three strands of care setting we feel would greatly benefit from an artist's sustained engagement and can be often underserved in relation to arts provision.

Residency aims

This residency aims to:

- Deepen the public engagement of older people in the arts (particularly those who are harder to reach).
- Value, support and widen the group of artists working in care setting contexts and,
- Deepen and promote the arts within care settings.

Residency format

The artist selected will work closely with the residents and/or day attenders over a medium length of time, (approximately 25 days over two months), with a view to opening up creative arts practice to the residents/day-attenders. Specifically, the residency will combine the artist's engagement of the resident older people in creative processes with his / her creative reflection on this.

Mentoring and support

Age & Opportunity will help broker the relationship between artist and the care setting and contract an experienced artist to offer 2 mentoring sessions to the selected artist. WHAT will also offer the selected artist support and advice. An induction day relating to working in a health care setting will take place in Mercer's Institute for Successful Ageing, St. James' Hospital, Dublin, in September, for the selected artists.

Evaluation Process

As part of Age & Opportunity's longstanding stake in the provision of creative activities in care settings, an independent evaluation of the six residencies will take place to gain valuable insight into the impact of such activities. Prospective care settings and artists must agree to engage fully with, and support the evaluation process.

¹ In 2017, artist Joanna Hopkins developed a project with Orchard Day Care, Blackrock and in 2018 the Fairland Collective worked with residents of St. Josephs, Shankill, both under the mentorship of Marie Brett.

Care Setting Requirements

- Strong commitment to the ethos of this residency;
- A dedicated liaison person for the artist to support them throughout the residency;
- A space for the artist to work and reflect on the residency process.
- An appropriate workshop / common area for the artist to hold meetings and activities with residents;
- Internet access.
- An agreement to participate fully in the evaluation process including providing a report at the end of the residency.
- Public liability insurance provided which indemnifies Age & Opportunity, as well as insurance for its own staff and residents. Artists will have their own insurance.

Age & Opportunity will:

- Provide curatorial and administrative support to the artist;
- Co-ordinate and select the mentoring aspect of the residency;
- Issue all payments of artist's fees and contracts;
- Liaise with Creative Exchanges on the initial set up of the residency on behalf of the artist.

Selection Criteria

- Workspace, meeting room, internet access available
- Demonstrated potential benefit to the care setting and its residents
- Demonstrated potential benefit to the artist as part of their development in arts and health
- Demonstrated previous experience of artist residencies or current artistic activities
- Demonstrated commitment to the ethos of the residency and evaluation process

Note

It is important for the care setting to note that the artist is not a 'teacher' and is not a staff member and she/he should be assisted in navigating any protocols within the care setting.

Application process and timeline:

Care Settings are required to submit an expression of interest (500 words) and completed application form by June 28th, 2019. Care settings will be notified in early July. The call for artists will then be issued. Shortlisted artists will be interviewed by Age & Opportunity and the care setting during the week commencing 26th August. It is envisaged that the residencies will take place October – November 2019, but must be concluded no later than December 10th, 2019.

This expression of interest and completed form should be emailed to Age & Opportunity, margaret.roe@ageandopportunity.ie

A care setting will be selected based on the above information being provided and according to the selection criteria (within a competitive context). **The deadline for expressions of interest is June 28th, 2019 by 5pm.**

For info contact:

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www.ageandopportunity.ie

More Information

Funding of residencies

These residencies are funded by the Creative Ireland National Creativity Fund, HSE CHO 4 & 7 National Lottery funding and the Arts Council of Ireland.

Age & Opportunity

Age & Opportunity is the national organisation that provides a range of opportunities for older people who want to get more involved in arts and culture, sport and physical activity, civic engagement and personal development. Our aim is to inspire people aged 50+ to live a dynamic life where they are more active, more visible, more creative and more connected. We work with local communities and organisations across the country to run a range of programmes and activities in three key areas:

- **Age and Opportunity Arts** provides opportunities for us to engage more in arts and cultural events and initiatives
- **Age and Opportunity Sport** is designed to get us more active and participate in recreational sport and physical activity
- **Age and Opportunity Engage** offers a range of workshops and learning initiatives for our own personal development as well as opportunities for us to play an active role in our community.

Age & Opportunity Arts is our dedicated arts and culture programme running throughout the year in local communities all over Ireland. We host a range of different creative initiatives including the annual Bealtaine Festival which takes place throughout the month of May, and is delivered in partnership with communities and organisations nationwide. Bealtaine is Ireland's national festival which uniquely celebrates the arts and creativity as we age.

Waterford Healing Arts Trust (WHAT)

Waterford Healing Arts Trust (WHAT) is Ireland's leading arts and health programme. Established in 1993, WHAT brings arts experiences to the bedsides of patients at University Hospital Waterford and other healthcare settings. We believe that the arts contribute to the wellbeing and vitality of society and that engaging with the arts stimulates our sense of identity and creativity. WHAT supports the development of arts and health in Ireland and manages www.artsandhealth.ie, a national website.

Dementia Services Information and Development Centre (DSIDC)

The Dementia Services Information and Development Centre (DSIDC) at St James' Hospital is a National Centre for excellence in dementia and is committed to best practice in all aspects of dementia care.

We offer three core professional services

- Education and Training
- Information and Consultancy
- Research

Mercer's Institute for Successful Ageing

At Mercer's Institute for Successful Ageing, the work we do rests on four pillars:

- Clinical Care – Ensures excellence in care and an integrated patient-centred pathway by locating clinical facilities in one area.
- Research & Development – Fosters a vibrant environment that produces high-quality research that is rapidly translated into effective clinical care, pioneering technologies, and age-friendly policies.
- Education & Training – Promotes professional training, care-giver support, and empowers older adults to advocate for their health and well-being.
- Creative Life Centre – Advances creativity and wellbeing, enabling adults to express themselves through art, music, literature and drama, while also providing intergenerational programmes that advance skills.

About the Creative Ireland Programme

The Creative Ireland Programme is an all-of-Government culture-based initiative designed to promote individual, community and national wellbeing. The core proposition is that participation in cultural activity drives personal and collective creativity, with significant implications for individual and societal wellbeing and achievement. The Programme's National Creativity Fund supports 30 pioneering and innovative projects which will help inform and implement the vision of the Creative Ireland Programme right across Government. Details of the Creative Ireland Programme and the projects selected as part of the National Creativity Fund are available at www.creativeireland.gov.ie

This initiative is supported by:

Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017–2022



This initiative is in partnership with:



www.ageandopportunity.ie

www.bealtaine.ie

www.waterfordhealingarts.com