

# Age & Opportunity's Artist in Residence in a Care Setting

## Information for Artists



Image: Fairland Collective Residency at St. Joseph's Shankill, 2018.

### Background

Age & Opportunity 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 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 two** of this process; **artists** of all disciplines/art-forms 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,<sup>1</sup> 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 artists 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.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

# About the Care Settings

There are six care settings that have been chosen in six geographic areas around Ireland. Please read the overview of each setting carefully. Artists are also expected to undertake their own research of the care setting they are applying for and tailor their proposal accordingly. Artists are also asked to consider carefully the location of their chosen care setting, as any travel expenses **must be included in the fee**, which is fixed.

## Care Setting # 1 - St. John's Community Hospital Sligo – Connacht

**Art form requested: one of Visual arts / music / drama & theatre / traditional arts.**

### 1. Practicalities – who, where, what?

St John's Community Hospital is a centre run by the Health Service Executive (HSE) which caters for 95 residents whom require residential care and 37 patients who require acute care in the rehabilitation Benbulbin Unit. The residential aspect of the hospital is divided into four units, Curam unit, Hazelwood unit, Rosses and Cairde unit. The chosen unit for the residency is the Cairde unit; it caters for 20 residents both male and female under the age of 65 years who have varying dependencies and medical conditions which cannot be managed in their home environment.

### 2. The ethos of St. John's

For all residents in St John's Community Hospital we strive to provide a varied and person centered comprehensive plan of care that encompasses the residents' physical, spiritual, emotional and social requirements. Older persons services is an area undergoing huge growth with a focus primarily on person centred care, incorporating a shift in thinking which allows increased choice, facilitating personalised care, and instilling empowerment of the public and staff to improve health and wellbeing. Active involvement in social activities is encouraged throughout the hospital to maintain social connectedness, develop rapport with fellow residents and for therapeutic functions.

### 3. Wishes for the residency

Through partaking in a unique experience such as the artist residency, an atmosphere of excitement and positivity will undoubtedly envelop St John's Community Hospital. Residents in St John's Community Hospital will thoroughly benefit in participating in this exceptional programme as it will act as a focal point in residents' week, giving purpose to their time and greatly enhancing the quality of life of residents. Exploration of residents' creative sides will create an enormous sense of well-being, delving into avenues that may have remained dormant for many years or discovering the creative aspects to their being which residents' may not have known they possessed. In conjunction with the artist, the training needs or requirements necessitated from staff will be highlighted within the residential setting to foster the culture of creativity and maintain the progress achieved throughout the residency programme.

### 4. How will the artist be supported to develop their practice?

There are numerous HCA's who have completed training courses in relation to activities for residents who could be facilitated to assist the artist throughout the programme. At all times the assistant director of nursing will be available to assist and support the artist in whatever is necessitated.

### 5. Anything else for artists to consider when applying?

Sincere gratitude is expressed for offering your time in applying for the artist residency as the impact it will have on the quality of life of residents in St John's Community Hospital will be incredible.

## **Care Setting # 2 – Castleisland Day Care Centre – Cork/Kerry region**

### **Art form requested: visual arts or theatre/drama.**

#### 1. Practicalities - who, where, what?

Castleisland Day Care Centre is a purpose built Day Care Centre which provides Day Care services for the older people of Castleisland and surrounding areas of Brosna, Knocknagoshel, Scartaglen, Cordal, Farranfore, Currans and Currow. We are open from Monday through to Friday and closed weekends. Our centre is relatively new, purpose built in 2001 with spacious bright working area and ample space for all of our attendees needs. Castleisland Day Care Centre offers day care services to attendees aged 65 years and over with a different group of up to 25 people attending each day. The majority of our attendees are 80 years and over and most have some form of age related needs with dependency levels usually ranging from medium to high.

#### 2. Ethos of Castleisland Day Care

The mission statement of Castleisland Day Care is to present a positive image of ageing by supporting the independence and dignity of the older people of the area. Castleisland Day Care Centre's priority is the health and social gain of our attendees but we also pride ourselves on our planned programme of activities which promotes the arts. Castleisland Day Care Centre endeavours to provide a variety of activities to suit individual needs. Some of our regular activities are art classes, crafts, creative writing, knitting, music, song, film and dance with person-centred care always to the fore.

#### 3. Wishes for the residency

We are excited that the prospective artist will bring new ideas and encourage participation among our older adults. Prospective artists will need to display empathy towards people's individual special needs. With the support of the centre's core care staff, artists will work towards exploring each participants artistic potential.

#### 4. How will the artist be supported to develop their practice?

We have three staff members who have completed Age & Opportunity's Creative Exchanges programme and who have an interest in promoting the arts within our work setting. Castleisland Day Care will give an undertaking to have one of these staff members available to the artist to lend support. Staff members are very familiar with all of our attendees and are trained to deal with any care issues which may arise.

#### 5. Anything else for artists to consider when applying?

Castleisland Day Care welcomes the opportunity to host a resident artist and we are confident that the project will be very worthwhile both for the participants and for the artist.

## Care Setting # 3 – Clonskeagh Community Nursing Unit – Dublin

**Art form requested: one of visual arts / music / drama & theatre / traditional arts / literature / opera / dance / film**

### 6. Practicalities – who, where, what?

Clonskeagh Community Nursing Unit / CNU is a 90 bedded care home situated in South Dublin. There are 81 long term care beds and 9 beds for respite/shared care, spread over four units called houses. There is a mix of abilities on each house. If possible it would be best to meet the artist, see what his/her strengths are and how will they work with our group of residents. We can then select the residents with whom the artist will work and residents who are willing to participate in this opportunity.

We have residents with numerous illnesses and care needs but a vast majority (82%) have dementia. We are using the Dementia Care Matters programme, specifically the Butterfly Household Model of Care, which was initiated in 2018 to improve the way that 'people who live here' with dementia live fulfilled lives by improving how 'people who work here' see them as individuals with their own personal needs, choices and wishes. The houses have been decorated and furnished to be more homely and the people who work here do not wear uniforms or name badges to remove the barrier of 'them and us'. Great effort has been made to include sensory approaches to meet the needs of residents who are at a later stage of Dementia care. Residents enjoy regular outings and each year we have a garden party with residents and relatives invited. We have also benefitted from visits from external groups including arts & crafts, pottery classes, singers, dancers and music bands.

### 7. Ethos of Clonskeagh CNU

The values of the HSE are Care, Compassion, Trust and Learning. The HSE expects its employees to show these values in their work. We hope the artist will experience these values and share similar values while working with the people who live here and the people who work here in CCNU. The education programme ongoing in the Unit emphasizes that feelings matter most and ask of staff to share their life story with residents as they share their life story with us.

### 8. Wishes for the residency

We hope that the artist in residence will match with this home as we want to learn from him or her and that they will learn from our residents and staff. The addition of an artist's residency would enhance the lives of the people who live here by offering them more ways to express themselves through the arts, particularly those who are unable to express themselves verbally. An experienced artist would also be a role model for the people who work here demonstrating effective techniques that we can carry forward into the future ensuring that we continue to improve the quality of life of our residents. We do not have a defined direction for the artist. If the artist has a strength that will enhance the lives of the people who live here we are flexible to work with the artist.

### 9. How will the artist be supported to develop their practice?

The staff working in the Unit have a good education regarding working with people who live with a Dementia. They also have in-depth knowledge about the people who live here. They will share their knowledge with the artist to assist in group work or one to one meetings. There are two full time activities personnel who would provide support and assistance to the artist during their residency. They would also assist with navigating the protocols. The artist would benefit from working within the Butterfly model by

experiencing a different culture of care which is relatively new to Ireland and may give them a different perspective.

#### 10. Anything else for artists to consider when applying?

Our staffing is multinational and from many different cultures. Everyone brings something to the workplace. We are looking forward to having the artist.

### Care Setting # 4 – Naas Day Care Centre, Kildare – Leinster

**Art form requested: one of visual arts / music / drama & theatre / literature / opera / dance / film**

#### 1. Practicalities

Naas Day Care provides care and medical support for 18-24 people each day. We provide respite for family carers and support those living in isolation in the county by providing a place to come and connect with others. We give medical care and social supports to those living with chronic and degenerative illnesses. We have a kitchen to come together and eat. We have an outdoor space to see the woods from the trees. We have a private space for the private moments some of our members need. We have an office which I am usually too busy to be in! We have staff, dedicated men and women who roll with the punches and say yes even if they don't know what they are saying yes to. We have volunteers who want to do more-of what? More of everything. We have myself, who will support anyone coming to this place to create with all the people as I truly appreciate the need for art in all its forms. I have seen the impact of it and I want more of it. We have the itch to dance and sing-we do that a lot. We have the want and need for more art.

#### 2. Ethos of Naas Day Care

We provide sustenance, company and care to all. We work with a number of health care practitioners, volunteers (from care providers, meals on wheels, hairdressers to gardeners!), community groups and families to create a place of activity and inclusion for all our members. We work with everyone, those who can move, dance and be and those who can no longer move or be a freely as before.

#### 3. Wishes for the residency

We want our members to work with an artist and re learn that they are limitless. They spend enough time being told they are limited by many of their illnesses and ailments and their age so we hope this experience brings a sense of wonder to each of them – this will allow them to feel limitless once more. We want them to engage with an artist, like we have done before. We want them to take part in something as a collective, to collaborate together with an artist. To make something for themselves and each other. We want them to see what an artist has to say about where we are, who we are, what we do and how we do it. It will be a challenge for both staff and members but one they will rise to.

#### 4. How will the artist be supported to develop their practice?

The centre manager will be the direct contact and support person for the artist on site. For the past 5 years we have been working with the committee, the staff, volunteers and members to create an atmosphere of expectation for all. The centre manager will be the contact and help the artist to be part of this ethos. Third

party support from the Kildare County Arts Services, Health and Wellbeing Coordinator is also available for any unforeseen extra supports that might arise.

#### 5. Anything else for artists to consider when applying?

We are fully on board with the ethos of the residency. Having been through previous long term arts projects – an arts & weaving project, we have a good idea of the commitment and time it will require and how we need a strong level of collaboration and commitment from all staff.

### **Care Setting # 5 – Raheen Community Hospital, Clare – Munster**

**Art form requested: one of visual arts / music / drama & theatre / traditional arts / literature / opera / dance / film.**

#### 1. Practicalities - who, where, what?

The hospital is situated in an idyllic rural setting in Raheen Woods three miles from Scarriff which promotes a positive, creative environment. It includes a 25 bedded residential area providing 24 hour in-patient nursing care and a very active Day Care Centre. We offer a wide range of facilities that are used in a flexible manner reflecting the service needs of the local community providing extended care, palliative care, and respite care, assessment care, day centre and community physiotherapy services. Care is provided by a skilled dedicated team many of whom are artistic themselves and welcomes the opportunity to participate with the residents with all aspects of the artistic programme.

#### 2. Ethos of Raheen Community Hospital

Raheen Community Hospital is recognized within Clare and wider for its excellence in care and its leadership in the field of the provision of services within a community setting in keeping with the recognised value of near to the persons own home.

#### 3. Wishes for the residency

The Day Care Unit and the Residential Unit complement each other offering **shared** activities. It provides day services and can accommodate 25 – 30 people primarily aged 65 years and over per day Monday to Friday. To date this has been a very beneficial opportunity for resident and daycare attendees. We certainly hope to continue this work. We encourage participation in arts as in our experience creative art helps to build strong relationships and in turn lead to an enhanced quality of life and increased sense of well-being.

#### 4. How will the artist be supported to develop their practice?

Raheen Community Hospital (incorporating our residential resident's and day care) will offer support to the artist and accessible facilities. Their work would be targeted towards a self-selecting group. There have been a number of short time artists in residence involving local artists such as a puppeteer. With the Art room facilities and history of varied arts activities, we feel Raheen offers a very supportive environment for a future Artist Residency.

#### 5. Anything else for artists to consider when applying?

Raheen Hospital and Day Care Centre has had a long history beginning in 2001 of arts initiatives. There have been considerable efforts put into developing the creative opportunities for the residents and Day Care Centre over the years, which grew from early collaboration with the Irish Museum of Modern arts National

program. The Hospital Support Group and European funding has allowed for the current Art room/Studio exhibition space to be developed with film and arts facilities, which is now the Centre for all art activities in the hospital and Day Care Centre. On the strength of this success we have developed an ongoing Art Program for residents and day care attendees.

## Care Setting # 6 – Killybegs Community Hospital, Donegal – Ulster

**Art form requested: one of visual arts / literature / music / traditional arts / film.**

### 1. Practicalities- who, where, what?

Participants on this programme may be made up of residents, respite, convalescent, palliative, rehabilitation and/or day hospital attendees. On any given day at least five and possibly up to fifteen participants will be available to the artist. These will alter day to day due to the nature of the service. We will work with the artist to find the best way for as many people who would like to take part, to do so. The nature of our social and physical isolation of the North West of Ireland makes us a people of such connections that to exclude one group would be to isolate. The interconnections between the settings criss-cross with many people availing of each service as their life situations require. Many of the people we work with have never left our Donegal Hills let alone our shores. Many more are part of the migrated Irish who made their lives in faraway lands to find work and have returned- all with vibrant and interesting stories to tell about our social history. They are very special - hard working, sincere and skilled. Our age old traditional crafts are now in the hands of our ageing population and great risk of fading away in the next five years. Within our care setting we have an incredible range of crafts skills- knitting, crocheting, sprigging (embroidery), dress-making, farming, weaving and fishing - to mention but a few. They certainly represent the end of an era. A generation we will not see again that is for sure. This project will allow us to record and celebrate the life skills and heart of our older population.

### 2. The ethos of Killybegs Community Hospital

Our ethos is to embrace positive ageing and place the older person at the centre of all our decisions in relation to the provision of the service. We promote independence, health and well- being and aim to provide a safe therapeutic environment where privacy, dignity and confidentiality are respected. With empathy, kindness and a holistic approach, we address physical, emotional, social and spiritual needs of our residents. We aim to stimulate and engage our residents creatively to enrich their lives as we do so.

### 3. Wishes for the residency;

Free choice to take part in the programme or not. Every group needs a common interest to bond them as a group and give them a sense of belonging. The more active people would stimulate the less able. Overall the project would foster playfulness and fun. Their time would become engaged and boredom would be reduced. It would become a conversational stimuli during their visits with family and friends and enable relatives to become aware of their abilities and knowledge. On completion, each individual would have a sense of achievement and improved sense of well-being.

### 4. How will the artist be supported to develop their practice?

One day a week the artist will have the assistance of a Social/Creative facilitator who is familiar with the residents socially and creatively for the last six years. In addition to community employment staff will work



opposite each from Monday to Friday to assist with activity programmes. Finally a Home-maker is on duty in the main hospital most days and is very supportive of engagement and stimulation of the residents.

#### 5. Anything else for artists to consider when applying?

Our residents have a wealth of experience in cottage industries and craft skills. We are a community who are dominantly rural and isolated and because of this many had to be self-sufficient and providers of their own destiny. Many have been busy teaching us with skills over the last number of years when they attend our hospital case these skills where such core part of their lives. We have collaborated with local schools in exchanging knowledge and skills between the younger and the older generation. We see this project as an opportunity to extend the journey for our residents' continued growth and development. Recording and documenting of stories, folklore, songs, poetry and skills would be beneficial because of the fragility of all the above. I feel visual art, music, literature, voice recording and film would be interesting avenues to pursue. We look forward to welcoming you to our team and embracing your creative process.

## Call for Applications

Age & Opportunity invites applications from artists for a residency based in **one** of these care settings. The deadline for applications is 5pm, **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2019.**

Please note: candidates will be shortlisted and interviews will take place **at each care setting** during the week commencing 26<sup>th</sup> August and/or 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2019. It is envisaged that the residencies will take place October – November 2019, but must be concluded no later than December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019. An induction day will be held in MISA, St James' Hospital, Dublin, on 18<sup>th</sup> of September.

The focus of this residency will be the artist's engagement with the residents through participatory / collaborative arts experiences while also supporting the artist's professional development through mentoring and guidance from experienced practitioners.

The successful artist will receive a work space in the care setting for a one – two month period, a bursary and materials budget, along with support from Age & Opportunity (as above).

#### **The artist will:**

- Engage part of the resident/day population of the care setting in participatory and / or collaborative arts experiences;
- Meet the Age & Opportunity / Bealtaine curators and management team of the chosen care setting;
- If appropriate, produce an exhibition/performance or public event on completion of the residency;
- Creatively reflect and report on the residency once completed.
- Provide their own insurance for their activities and equipment.
- Comply with the Garda Vetting process.
- Agree to engage with and support the evaluation process.

#### **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 artists' fees and contracts;

- Liaise with Creative Exchanges on the initial set up of the residency on behalf of the artist.

**The care setting will provide:**

- An on-site space to work and reflect on the residency process.
- A dedicated liaison person for the artist to support them throughout the residency;
- Internet access;
- An appropriate workshop / common area for the artist to hold meetings and activities with residents.
- Insurance for staff and residents as well as public liability insurance.

**The artists will be selected according to the following criteria:**

- Quality of proposal
- Relevance to the care setting, benefit to the residents/day service attendees
- Demonstrated benefit to the artist
- Quality of supporting material
- Track record
- Feasibility

**Application Process:**

Those wishing to apply for the residency should complete the application form and separately submit online or digital supporting materials which document their practice: e.g. six to ten fully captioned images/ sound recordings / videography and/or publications including where available documentation of collaborative practice. Please also submit a current CV, (max 2 pages). The final application form and supporting materials must be emailed.

**Fees:**

The artist will be paid a fee of €250 per day for 25 days totaling a fee of €6250 **to include** travel, accommodation, etc. There is an additional materials budget of €1000.

Applications should be submitted to [bridget.deevy@ageandopportunity.ie](mailto:bridget.deevy@ageandopportunity.ie) at Age & Opportunity no later than 5pm, 9<sup>th</sup> August 2019. **E-mail applications should not exceed 12MB in size.**

## More Information

**Funding of residencies**

This initiative is made possible through funding provided by the Creative Ireland Programme's National Creativity Fund, *HSE CHO 4 & 7* National Lottery Fund, and the Arts Council.

**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.

## **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](http://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](http://www.creativeireland.gov.ie)

Clár Éire Ildánach  
Creative Ireland  
Programme  
2017–2022



[www.ageandopportunity.ie](http://www.ageandopportunity.ie)



## Appendix 1

### 10 THINGS TO CONSIDER when integrating arts experiences into healthcare settings

Note: not all of these points will apply to all arts and health programmes. Some relate to participatory and collaborative programmes and some relate to aspects of environmental enhancement such as curating in healthcare settings. Some apply to both.

#### 1. *Partnership*

Equal partnership between arts and health sectors, which is the foundation stone of arts and health is based on open, honest and trusting relationships. It can take time for all parties to get to know the other in an informal way and through a more formal project planning and debriefing processes whereby all involved clarify expectations, roles and responsibilities, co-design the project format / structure while allowing scope for change and development and reflect on what they considered worked and what did not. Each partner brings their ethos, values, experience, skills, needs and expectations to the table. However, the culture of the world of art differs in many ways to the world of healthcare and getting to understand the other demands an ability to listen carefully. Assumptions should be recognised for what they are and time may need to be invested in clarifying language and naming what is important to each partner.

#### 2. *Boundaries*

In all fields of work, effective practitioners understand the nature and scope of what they do and are able to articulate this. This clarity helps build good partnerships. It is important that artists working in healthcare settings perform no function that is outside the boundaries of his/her artistic activities. Specifically, in the case of arts and health practice, the artist is not an arts therapist and this should clearly be communicated to partners and participants at briefing sessions and planning stages and in the course of a programme.

#### 3. *Parameters*

Arts and health practitioners can experience a number of challenges and obstacles in attempting to present integrated artworks and arts experiences into healthcare settings which relate to health and safety, infection control, security and ethics. Rather than reducing arts and health to the lowest common denominator of artistic experience, good arts and health practice has evolved to respond to the conditions of healthcare settings and the specific needs of health service users.

#### 4. *An involuntary site for art*

A healthcare setting can be an involuntary site for arts experiences. That is people do not, for the most part, expect to engage with art when they enter a healthcare setting. In some cases, art, in an unmediated form, may be an unwarranted intrusion and / or result in a defensive response from those who experience it. Furthermore, a health service user's physical condition and anxiety about his / her illness can reduce his / her willingness and even ability to engage with art and therefore at the very least, service users should be given the opportunity to opt out of an arts experience.

#### 5. *Art about vs art for*

A lot of powerful and moving artwork has been inspired by the experience of ill health. Often implicit in this are thoughts and feelings about death. However, health service users may not wish to be faced with issues of mortality and ill health at times when they are most vulnerable. In short, not all artwork borne of a healthcare context should be presented in that context.

#### 6. *The creative invitation*

Engagement of health service users in participatory / collaborative programmes can involve an artist making a creative invitation that responds to the setting and the needs of its occupants, does not go beyond the boundaries of the artist's practice and is person-centred. Health service users in healthcare settings may have a lot of time on their hands. Yet healthcare staff are more often than not severely short of time. An arts and health programme will have a better chance for success if it enhances the role of the healthcare provider instead of conflicting with it and can merge seamlessly with the rhythm - routine, layout, transition of service users through the space etc. - of the setting.

#### 7. *Process vs product*

Some participatory or collaborative programmes will result in an artistic outcome such as an exhibition or a performance which in turn becomes the basis for a collective celebration. However, in other cases, the expectation to produce an artwork can result in adverse pressure on all involved. Given this, the process of engagement and collaboration can in itself be viewed as an outcome.

#### 8. *Consultation*

Placing art in healthcare settings can be a careful balancing act between presenting art which engages and stimulates the audience and avoids provocation at a time when members of that audience may be emotionally vulnerable. Arts and health practitioners may find themselves anticipating the service users experience based on the given context and applying this to the selection and placement of artwork. Consultation with service users is not always easy. Service users are not a homogeneous grouping. For example, in acute hospitals, service users transition at different speeds through the space and therefore healthcare staff often act as their spokespeople. Arts and health practitioners should consider ways to build consultation into the programme design.

#### 9. *Navigating the institution*

Healthcare settings can be complex organisms. It can take time for an artist working in healthcare to navigate the setting, to find out the local policies / codes of practice that will impact on his / her work, to get to know how decisions get made, to test the feasibility of his / her ideas, to consult and illicit feedback etc. In the absence of a dedicated arts and health practitioner, he / she will need support from healthcare staff. This could be provided by a healthcare practitioner performing the role of liaison person and / or a steering committee to support the project.

#### 10. *Documentation and evaluation*

Arts and health is an evolving field of work. It is important to document and evaluate it and to share learning with peers for the benefit of the sector. This is not without its challenges. Confidentiality of patients is central to the culture of healthcare whereas public celebration is central to arts practice, and so documentation can become one of those points of tension between the world of art and the world of health.