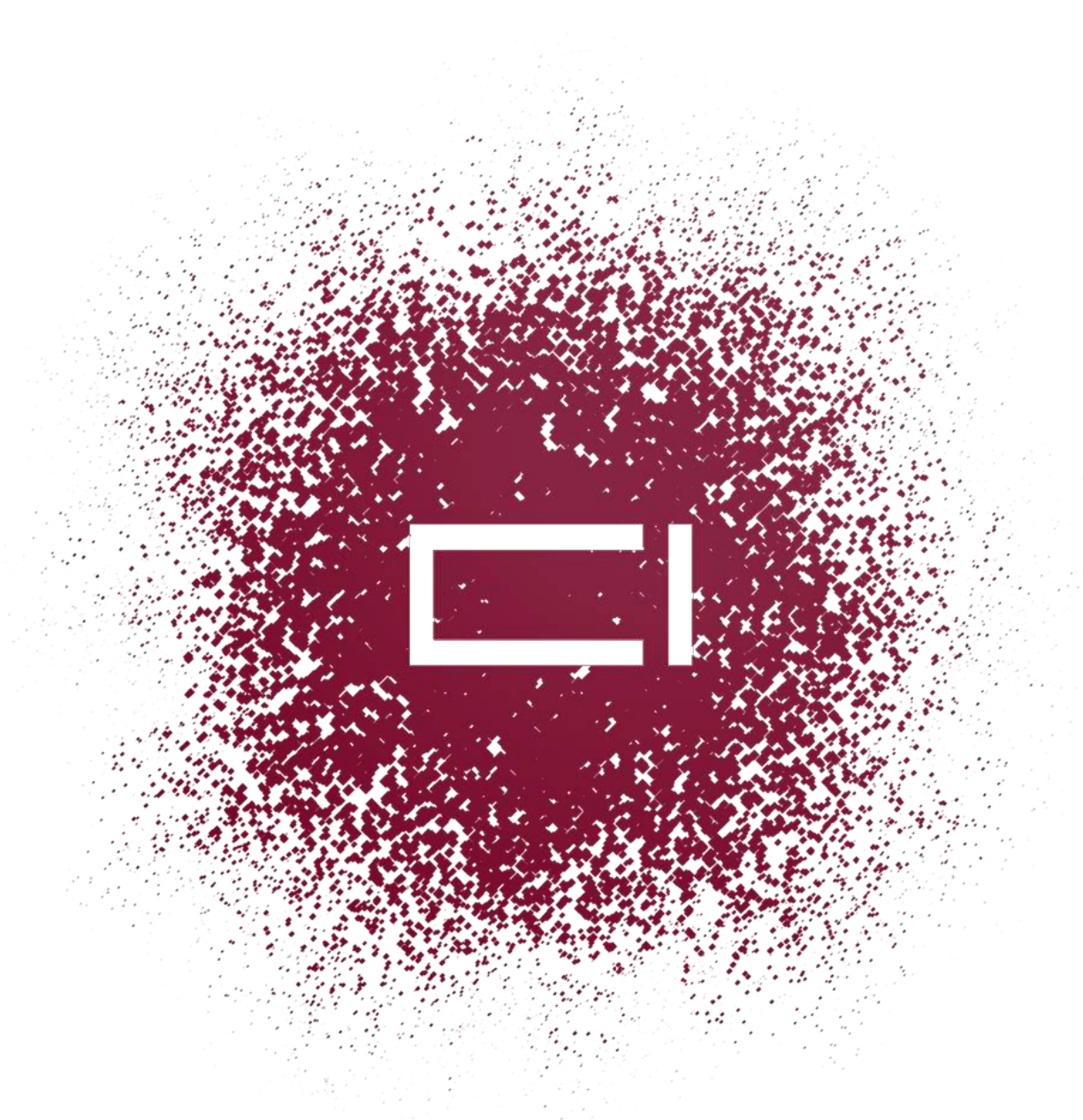




Clár Éire Ildánach


The Creative Ireland Programme

End of Year Report 2018



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Creativity is the act of bringing into being what doesn't yet exist, or of transforming what does exist into a better version of itself.

THE VISION

The vision of the Creative Ireland Programmes is of a country where creativity is at the heart of public policy; where everyone has the opportunity to realise their full creative potential; an Ireland where participation in cultural and creative opportunity promotes the wellbeing of the individual, the community and the nation at large.

Through the Creative Ireland Programme, Ireland is now among the first countries in the world to prioritise creativity as vital to our personal and collective wellbeing and success. The Programme promotes understanding and appreciation of the value of creativity in all of its forms; it engages and influences decision makers to embed creativity across public policy; and it supports and enables participation in creative activities.

In 2018, we worked with various Departments and agencies using our three guiding principles of creativity, collaboration and transformation. The Creative Ireland Programme made significant progress across a number of key areas which is documented in this report.

2018 was the second year of the Creative Ireland Programme and an increased budget of €6m was allocated to progress the objectives of the Programme. A full breakdown of this allocation is provided at [Appendix 1](#).



*Mr Everybody, Cruinniú na nÓg 2018, Cork City
(Photo credit: Clare Keogh)*

CREATIVITY CREATES POTENTIAL

Creative Youth: a Plan to Enable the Creative Potential of Every Young Person was launched on 7 December 2017 and significant progress on its objectives was achieved in 2018. The Plan set out a number of measures to deliver on one of the key goals of the Creative Ireland Programme, namely to ensure that every child in Ireland has practical access to creative activities by 2022. The Creative Ireland Programme secured investment of over €2m, through the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and the Department of Education and Skills to enable the creativity of our children and young people in 2018.

The plan is led by the Creative Ireland Programme in partnership with the Department of Education and Skills, the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and the Arts Council. As well as specific measures and strategies, the Plan proposes a broader long-term objective for the Creative Ireland Programme - to provide enhanced cultural and creative education for all our children and young people. Working collaboratively, the aim is to help promote a society in which knowledge and creativity are equal partners in the formation of our young people and where schools can support creativity and innovation in teaching and learning in an integrated way.

An Expert Advisory Group chaired by Dr Ciarán Benson was established in 2018 to assist the Programme in defining and achieving the primary objectives of the Creative Youth Plan. In addition, the actions are led and monitored by a Pillar 1 Working Group made up of all the partners, and who meet regularly, to ensure implementation of the Plan and that all initiatives are as effective as possible in delivering the overall aims. The full text of Creative Youth can be accessed [here](#). The Plan is designed to be flexible and responsive to changes and modifications, as the various initiatives evolve, to ensure maximum relevance and impact for the children and young people of Ireland.

Members of the Expert Advisory Group

Dr Ciaran Benson (Chair)

Dr Gary Granville (Retired Prof. of Education the National College of Arts and Design)

Aideen Howard (Director, The Ark)

Gary Ó'Donnchadha (D/ES Inspectorate – Deputy Chief Inspector)

Martin Drury (Arts Consultant)

Nigel Flegg (Head of Learning and Participation - NCH)

Dan Colley (Director of Collapsing Horse Theatre Company)

Nora Twomey (Creative Director, Cartoon Saloon)

Dr Anne Looney (DCU – Executive Dean, Faculty of Education)

Anne O'Donnell (Head of Citizen Participation, DCYA – Hub na nÓg Coordinator)

Dr Carmel O'Sullivan (Associate Prof. School of Education, TCD convenor of the AERG)



Achievements in 2018:

Voice of the child

The principle of children and young people's participation in decision making has been embedded throughout the implementation of Creative Youth during 2018. 'Voice of the Child' training was woven into the majority of actions in the Creative Youth Plan through Hub na nÓg in the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and will continue into 2019. This ensures that children and young people are actively involved in the policy development of Creative Youth.

Cruinniú na nÓg

Ireland is the first, and only, country in the world to have a day of free creative activities for children and young people. An initiative of the Creative Ireland Programme, in partnership with the Local Authorities and supported by RTE, the first national day of creativity for children Cruinniú na nÓg took place on Saturday 23 June 2018 with over 500 events across the country. The aim of the initiative was to encourage as many children and young people as possible to try new creative activities in their own community, unlocking their individual creative potential.

Creative Schools

A total of 150 schools across the country, covering both primary and post-primary and Youthreach, are now taking part in the Creative Schools initiative announced in June 2018. Developed in early 2018 and rolled out in September 2018, the first pilot group of Creative Schools will run through to end 2019. In addition, 50 Creative Associates have been appointed to work with the students, teachers and parents of each school to develop their individual Creativity Plan. At the launch of Creative Schools, Minister Madigan said:

This pilot we are launching today – the Creative Schools initiative – aims to put the arts and creativity at the heart of children and young people's lives. It recognises that schools are different and have different strengths and interests. This Initiative will provide schools with the opportunity to develop a programme which responds to their unique needs with children and young people having a central role in shaping their own plan. This is really important – your voices must be heard.

To read the full speech, click [here](#). A video of Creative Schools can be viewed [here](#). The full press release is available [here](#). Details of expenditure are included in Appendix 1. Creative Schools is a flagship initiative of the Creative Ireland Programme and is led by the Arts Council with funding support from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, and the Department of Education and Skills. The Creative Ireland Programme is partnering with RTÉ to develop a documentary on the Creative Schools initiative.

CREATIVE SCHOOLS



Children with Whale

(Photo credit: The Heritage Council)

The Creative Schools pilot project is one of the flagship projects of **Creative Youth**. This initiative aims to understand, develop and celebrate the arts and creativity as a core aspect of school life. It strives to foster children and young people's creativity, potential and participation in the arts as an integral part of their education. The initiative recognises that the arts and creativity are a powerful means through which children and young people can explore communication and collaboration, stimulate their imaginations to be inventive, and harness their boundless curiosity.

It will establish a range of collaborative opportunities for schools and will develop and strengthen the relationships between schools and the broader cultural and community infrastructure within which they operate. The long term aim is for every school to be supported to fully embrace the arts and creativity, ensuring a positive experience and strong outcomes for children and young people. It is also hoped to have a positive impact on teaching practices and on the general wellbeing of students and teachers.

The Creative Schools pilot project was launched on 12 February 2018. Approximately 10% of all schools in the country applied for the pilot and 150 schools were chosen from 400 applications. Of the 150 schools participating, 110 are primary, 30 post primary, 7 special schools and 3 Youthreach centres. 41 DEIS schools were chosen for inclusion in the pilot across primary and post-primary levels.

150 Schools in Pilot | €2,000 grant | 50 Creative Associates

Each participating school has access to a *Creative Associate*, who is essential in embedding inspirational and sustainable creative practices in teaching and learning. *Creative Associates* are a mixture of practising artists and teachers with an understanding of creativity and its potential to transform the lives of children and young people.

Participating schools, working with their *Creative Associate*, are completing the development of a school development plan for arts and creativity and implementing these plans. The *Creative Associates* will explore new links for schools with artists and with arts, cultural and creative organisations, both locally and nationally, to help develop their plan. To assist this, each participating school was awarded €2,000 for implementation of their plan.



After-School Group,, discussing marine ecology, Malin Head, Donegal (Photo credit: Donegal Co. Co.)

Creative Clusters

73 schools (in 23 clusters) are taking part in the new Creative Clusters scheme which is funded by the Department of Education and Skills. Creative Clusters are groups of 2-5 schools, within an education centre, coming together to work on a creative project. A facilitator provided by the Education Centre will help them formulate the plan and €2,500 is provided to each cluster to put this plan into action. Projects include coding, drama, Green Forest and Wellbeing. Details of the schools involved in the scheme are available [here](#).

Coding and Computational Thinking

There are now new coding courses available in junior and senior cycle curricula. 40 schools are engaged in Phase 1 of Leaving Certificate Computer Science. This element is managed by the Department of Education and Skills.

CPD

Successful Continuing Professional Development (CPD) initiatives were rolled out in both primary (Teacher/Artist Partnership – T/AP) and post primary (Arts in Junior Cycle) schools. T/AP provides a summer course and a funded in-school Artist in Residency opportunities in which participating teachers and artists work together in collaboration in the school during the following academic year. During the summer of 2018, 159 teachers and 59 artists took part in TAP. Junior Cycle for Teachers (JCT) ran a number of CPD courses in English and Visual Art in 2018 and they were very successful. Details of expenditure are included in Appendix 1. This is co-funded between Creative Ireland Programme and Department of Education and Skills.

Music Generation

Phase 2 expansion of the Music Generation programme continued to progress in 2018 with the announcement of five additional Local Music Education Partnerships scheduled to roll out in 2019. Music Generation also began developing a quality assurance framework for Music Education Partnerships. Details of this phase are available [here](#).

Local Creative Youth Partnerships

Three new pilot Local Creative Youth Partnerships (led by Kerry, Laois/Offaly and Limerick/Clare Education and Training Boards) were announced on 13th December 2018, following a competitive process which opened on 27 July, 2018 and closed on 21 September 2018. The Partnerships aim to provide structure for the development and co-ordination of out-of-school creative activities for children and young people. These Partnerships will also aim to enhance creative and cultural activities in disadvantaged areas.

Speaking at the announcement, Minister McHugh said:

I am delighted to be able to announce the successful applicants for this pilot scheme. There was significant interest from the ETB sector in this initiative and we received a high number of applications. I would like to thank all those who submitted applications for this initiative...It is important that skills in creativity and flexibility are developed in our children and young people to equip them for the future.

To read full press release, please click [here](#). Funding support for the Local Creative Youth Partnerships is provided through the Department of Education and Skills.

ARTS IN EDUCATION CHARTER

Arts in Education Charter

A huge amount of important work has been carried out over the past number of years to embed the artistic processes in education, through the Arts in Education Charter and other initiatives. Now, through Creative Youth, we are building on this with greater collaboration at national level, local authority level and between the various groups and professionals operating around the country. This continued during 2018.

Arts in Education Portal

The Arts in Education Portal was one of the objectives of the Arts in Education Charter. The ethos for the portal is about building a community of practice within arts and education, and providing a space where both artists and teachers can be supported and inspired. It provides a platform through which good collaboration practice in arts-in-education and arts education is supported, developed and enhanced.

Arts in Education National Portal Day

On 21 April, the third Arts in Education Portal National Day took place NUI Maynooth in partnership with Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education. The portal national day is building momentum as a very significant event in the arts and education calendar in Ireland. One of the guest speakers for the day, Professor Gary Granville remarked, “Be assertive in making space for the arts in education”

NAPD Creative Engagement

The Creative Engagement programme is operated by the National Association of Principles and Deputies (NAPD) and is a programme which has been jointly funded by DCHG and Department of Education and Skills since 2005. Both Departments increased their funding allocations in 2018. The funding goes directly to provide arts services and materials to schools. Almost 90 schools were given funding for Creative Engagement in the 2017/2018 academic year and this funding provided a very enriching experience for all schools involved. Details of expenditure are included in Appendix 1.

See <http://www.creativeengagement.ie/> for further information

FIGHTING WORDS



*Minister Madigan at launch of Fighting Words-Creative Ireland Programme partnership, Behan Square, May 2018
(Photo credit: Mark Stedman)*

Fighting Words, founded by Roddy Doyle and Seán Love, has provided free tuition, mentoring and publishing in all forms of creative writing for more than 90,000 children and young people since opening in Dublin in 2009.

Motivated by the belief that creative writing is an essential part of every child's education, the mission of Fighting Words is to make its free service available to all children, young adults and adults who did not have this opportunity as children, to discover and harness the power of their own imaginations and creative writing skills. All are welcome on an equal basis, with priority access for those with additional needs.

The Fighting Words model has been shown to positively impact on personal, social and academic development of participants. To further research and develop this aspect, the Department of Education and Skills and Fighting Words entered into a partnership with Dublin City University Institute of Education to contribute to education programmes.

The Creative Ireland Programme partnered with Fighting Words through the National Creativity Fund to help support and deliver the main objective of Creative Youth and also support Pillar 2 of the Programme, enabling creativity in every community. The Creative Ireland Programme funded a regional officer and three new venues/ counties began working with Fighting Words in 2018, allowing them to reach many more children, young people and adults with additional needs.

*Minister Madigan and Roddy Doyle at Fighting Words – Creative Ireland Programme partnership launch, Behan Square, May 2018
(Photo credit: Mark Stedman)*



CREATIVITY CREATES COMMUNITY

The ambition of the Creative Ireland Programme is to support, facilitate and unlock the creative potential of our citizens and communities.

Throughout 2018, the Creative Ireland Programme continued to develop the important structures that were embedded through the local authority network in the first year of the Programme. Culture and Creativity teams, led by Creative Ireland Programme coordinators were established in 2017, in each of the 31 local authority areas. They continued to meet and engage with people, organisations, community groups and local stakeholders to ensure that local Creative Ireland Programmes are inclusive, relevant and locally informed.

The Creative Ireland Programme team met with the coordinators and culture and creativity teams four times collectively in 2018 to discuss the various challenges and opportunities within the Programme. These meetings with the local authority culture and creativity teams also provided opportunities to share the wider Programme objectives and various national initiatives with the local teams. For example, a joint meeting was held in November with the local authority teams and newly appointed Creative Associates working with the pilot Creative Schools and representatives from the Creative Ireland Programme's National Creativity Fund. The aim of these particular meetings is to encourage further collaboration and synergies between local and national programmes.

The Programme team also visited a number of projects and initiatives across the country to see first-hand how the programmes are working on the ground and to provide encouragement and support where required.

Culture and Creativity Strategies 2018-2022



Launch of the Culture and Creativity Strategies, September 2018 (Photo credit: Reg Gordon)

In September 2018, the Creative Ireland Programme published 31 five-year Culture and Creativity Strategies. Developed in consultation with local communities, these strategies outline priorities and areas of main focus for delivering the Creative Ireland Programme vision over a five-year period to the end of 2022.

CULTURE & CREATIVITY STRATEGIES

The **strategies** embody the spirit and practice of collaboration, central to the Creative Ireland Programme and aim to provide meaningful opportunities for citizens and local communities to build, nurture and sustain a creative society. All 31 strategies were launched on 12 September 2018 in the Irish Architectural Archive on Merrion Square, Dublin 2. The event was attended by An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, T.D., Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Josepha Madigan, T.D., Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, Eoghan Murphy, T.D., CEO's and representatives from 31 local authorities and the local Creative Ireland Programme coordinator from each local authority. Speaking at the launch of the strategies, An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, T.D., said:

Creative Ireland is all about improving access to culture and creativity in every county nationwide, to improve public wellbeing. The Culture Teams in each local authority have been absolutely essential to fulfilling this aim

These strategies highlight the critical role local authorities' play as providers and enablers of cultural and creative experiences in communities across Ireland, with all of the vitally important social and economic consequences that follow. All 31 strategies can be accessed [here](#).

Projects delivered in 2018

Funding of €2m was allocated to the local authorities under the Creative Ireland Programme in 2018 – double the funding provided in 2017. This was augmented by €1m from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government. Each local authority therefore received a minimum of €97k in core funding last year. Additional funding of €0.380m was subsequently provided for a number of special additional projects which local Culture and Creativity Teams had prioritised within their plans. A sum of €0.697m was provided to the local authorities to support Cruinniú na nÓg in 2018.

Collectively this funding supported over 1,300 community-led, cross-sectoral projects spanning heritage, the Irish language, arts, architecture, design, gastronomy, and technology, among many others, right across the country (for further information, see Appendix 3).



John Deere, County Carlow (Photo credit: Karl Davis)

Specific guidelines were provided to local authorities in 2018 in relation to Creative Ireland Programme funding, namely to consider the areas below in the development of their programmes:

- *Proposals involving the arts, culture, creative industries, heritage and the Irish language*
- *Small grant schemes and strategic development initiatives*
- *Projects supporting the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018*
- *Projects supporting Bliain na Gaeilge 2018*

PILLAR II—CREATIVE COMMUNITIES

COLLABORATION

Embracing creativity in its widest sense, the projects supported last year are indicative of the range of different activities at local level that are important for local communities. These projects are only made possible by culture teams working collaboratively in local authorities

Category	Approx. no of Projects
Archaeology	12
Architecture/Architectural Heritage	25
Grants awarded under various local schemes	279
Biodiversity/Natural Heritage	34
Community/Social	77
Crafts/artisan/gastronomy	57
Creative/Cultural Development	29
Dance	30
Design, Science, Technology, Engineering or Maths	42
Film/Screen/Cartoon	39
Folklore/Archives	7
History	62
Literature and/or Poetry	78
Multidisciplinary	16
Music/Spoken Word	122
Operational/Administrative Costs	60
Promoting the Irish language	58
Storytelling/Oral heritage	44
Street Art, Spectacle and/or Circus	34
Tangible/Intangible Heritage	42
Theatre, Drama and/or Comedy	79
Visual Art (painting, photographs, sculpture, etc.)	117
Total	1343

This table gives an insight into the variety of projects supported in 2018
(with the caveat that many projects were multi-disciplinary)

One of the guiding principles of the Creative Ireland Programme is collaboration, bringing colleagues, groups and people together in new ways. Local events and initiatives showcasing the power of collaboration can be seen online [here](#) throughout the year.

CULTURE & CREATIVITY TEAMS



Culture Team meeting, National Concert Hall, September 2018 (Photo credit, Reg Gordan)

Integral to the delivery and success of the Creative Ireland Programme are the 31 Culture and Creativity teams established in each local authority. Established at the outset of the Programme, each team brings together Directors of Service, arts officers, heritage officers, librarians, archivists, local enterprise officers and other relevant officers or external personnel as decided by each Council. These teams are the primary instruments of community engagement and are responsible for local programme delivery.

Local Culture and Creativity Teams met four times, collectively, in 2018. These meetings presented an opportunity for the coordinators and culture teams to work together, network and meet other partners from the Creative Ireland Programme such as the National Creativity Fund and the Creative Associates who work in schools in their areas.

By facilitating and coordinating these meetings the Programme team are effecting a mechanism for collaborative working, which in turn empowers local teams to meet and work with colleagues in a more cross sectoral way. These meetings also provide an opportunity for coordinators and culture teams to meet with officials from various Departments, and to share best practice from pioneering projects and initiatives on national issues which have potential for local impact.

Communicating the key message and encouraging citizen engagement

The Creative Ireland Programmes 2018 communications plan continued to showcase and highlight the work being undertaken by the local authorities across the country, raising awareness of the overall Programme and encouraging citizen participation in the various programmes and initiatives.

The Creative Ireland Programmes used a range of social media platforms including Twitter, Facebook, YouTube and Instagram to promote events and initiatives taking place across the country. In 2018, over 171 specific individualised posts were generated to support local Creative Community initiatives.

In addition, a series of promotional videos (see page 20) were commissioned as a representative selection to highlight the work being undertaken around the country and to showcase the type of projects which people were involved in – either in a developmental or participation capacity.



The **23 June 2018** saw the first ever national day of culture and creativity for children and young people. A day of free participatory events for children and young people was delivered all over Ireland by the Creative Ireland coordinators and culture teams. Fulfilling a key commitment of the Creative Youth Plan and delivered by the Culture teams, Cruinnjú na nÓg encouraged children and young people all over Ireland to participate in cultural and creative activity through performances, coding, theatre, art and music workshops, readings, screenings and other special events.

The Creative Ireland Programme developed guidance for local authorities to assist them in curating their own local programmes of activity. The following were key elements of this guidance:

- *All events should be focussed on children and young people (up to 18) and should be based on what children want and need. The majority of events should be activity based i.e. children and young people ‘doing’, ‘making’, ‘creating’ but with a selection of suitable commissioned events also;*
- *Ground-up, community led approach mixed with commissioned pieces based on a clear and transparent, open-call process;*
- *‘Harder to reach’ children and young people must be included.*
- *Library facilities and where possible other publicly owned spaces to be used across local authorities to programme exciting and innovative workshops and events for children and young people. Co-ordinators were free to identify potential locations and programme as they wish.*

The Creative Ireland Programme, in partnership with Hub na nÓg, held consultations with children and young people to ask their views on the type of events that they would like to participate in on the day to ensure that the event was about them rather than for them. This enabled the voice of the child to be heard in the development of this initiative. The results of these consultations were shared with the local co-ordinators to assist them in the development of their Programmes.

In a [Press Release](#) issued on June 23, Minister Madigan provided context for the day:

Today’s inaugural Cruinnjú na nÓg embodies so much of what the Creative Ireland Programme is all about. Thousands of children and young people across the country will have the opportunity to participate in a whole range of creative activities, to express themselves and to share their ideas and inspiration with friends and peers, and it is all happening right on their doorstep, in the heart of their local communities.



Students from Larkin College, Dublin with All Out Design (Photo credit, bigO Media)

For Cruinniú na nÓg, the Creative Ireland Programme commissioned a series of videos to promote the event and encourage children and young people to participate in Cruinniú na nÓg:

[Preview](#) - including footage from children's consultation

[Cruinniú na nÓg](#) - encouraging children and young people to get involved

In addition, a dedicated [Cruinniú na nÓg website](#) was developed to provide a central information hub for all events, co-ordinated by the Creative Ireland Programme Team.

Over 500 free creative events took place across the country for children and young people on Cruinniú na nÓg. Thousands of children participated in events ranging from bicycle tyre painting in Leitrim to learning circus skills in Waterford to playing musical instruments made from waste materials in Dublin! To celebrate the day, and say thank you to those who participated and those who made it happen, the Creative Ireland Programme commissioned a final '[thank you](#)' video which captures a flavour of the day.



Cruinniú na nÓg, Dunamais Arts Centre, Portlaoise
(Photo credit: Laois Co. Co)

Cruinniú na nÓg funding

Each local authority was allocated €10,000, with Dublin City Council receiving €350,000 to develop and deliver a bespoke programme of events for the children and young people living in their local authority area. A small amount of additional funding was provided to various local authorities who requested additional funding for larger scale programmes.

One of the key aims of the day was to give children and young people a flavour of the type of creative activities that they could get involved in locally. Feedback from the event was overwhelmingly positive with Cruinniú na nÓg 2019 scheduled to take place on Saturday, 15 June 2019.



Cruinniú na nÓg, Carlow 2018
(Photo credit: Carlow Co. Co.)

Cruinniú na nÓg – citizen engagement programme

In partnership with the Irish Independent

- *Dedicated 16 page supplement published on 1 June 2018*
- *Double page insert was published on 2, 9, 16 & 23 June, 2018.*

The supplement and inserts included s and with young people who participate in creative activities. a selection of the 500 free events taking place, interviews with participating professional artists and with young people participating in activities.

Regional Radio Campaign

- *A series of geographically tailored informative advertisements ran over a 4 week period in the month preceding Cruinniú na nÓg.*

Cruinniú na nÓg - citizen engagement plan

As a new national event initiative of the Creative Ireland Programme, the development and delivery of a brand identity for Cruinniú na nÓg was undertaken in 2018. The Programme partnered with RTÉ to design and roll out an extensive national TV and radio campaign in addition to a regional radio marketing campaign and digital strategy to promote awareness of, and participation in, Cruinniú na nÓg.

In partnership with the Irish Independent, the Programme produced a comprehensive 16 page national supplement with an additional four double-page inserts to promote programme activities and partners taking part in Cruinniú na nÓg events across the country.

All costs associated with this initiative, including supplements and radio campaign are included in Appendix 1.

CREATIVITY CREATES WELLBEING

The ambition of the Creative Ireland Programme is to secure investment in our cultural and creative infrastructure as a vital component of a modern and progressive creative society.

As part of Project Ireland 2040, on 10 April 2018, Minister Madigan announced the Government's plan to invest €1.2 billion in our culture, heritage and language infrastructure. [Investing in Our Culture, Language and Heritage 2018-2027](#) is a ten year plan setting out the commitment for capital investment which was launched as part of a special forum in the National Gallery of Ireland. The development of this plan was facilitated by the Creative Ireland Programme vision. The plan has the following broad objectives:

- to enhance cultural participation;
- to promote and celebrate Ireland as a centre of cultural excellence;
- to promote Ireland as a source of rich natural and built heritage and the home of one of Europe's oldest languages

Minister Madigan, in her introduction, referenced the founding proposition of the Creative Ireland Programme as the articulation of the Government investment:

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 investment programme, as part of Project Ireland 2040 is closely aligned with the cultural infrastructure, creative communities and creative industries pillars of the Creative Ireland Programme. It includes investment of:

- €460 million in our National Cultural Institutions
- €265 million for cultural and creativity infrastructure nationwide
- €285 million in our natural and built heritage
- €178 million in the Gaeltacht, the Irish language and the Islands.

To highlight the work of the Department and the bodies and agencies under its aegis, the Creative Ireland Programme produced a [video](#) that showcased work being undertaken currently and that will be commenced throughout the country by the Department and to highlight the benefits that the investment will bring. A [press release](#) was also issued by the Department outlining details of the capital investment plan.

Work took place across many of the National Cultural Institutions in 2018 to prepare for the roll out of Project Ireland 2040, with the National Library of Ireland and National Archives both moving from the appraisal stage to detailed planning and design. Preliminary appraisals also commenced on a number of the other institutions.

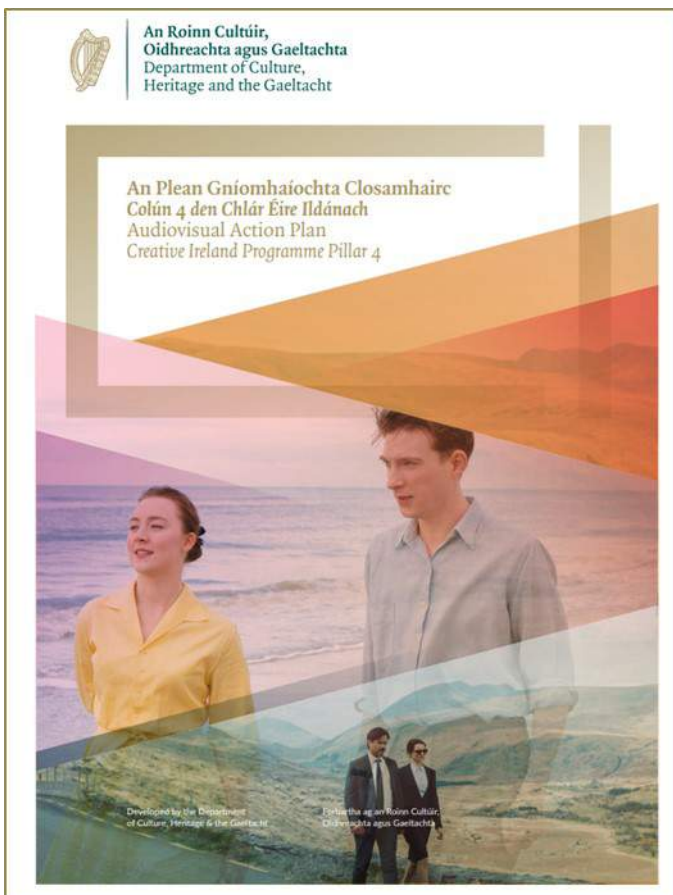
In 2018, the Department delivered on its Project Ireland 2040 commitment to support regional cultural infrastructure through its support for local cultural infrastructure under the Arts and Culture Capital Scheme. This scheme provides much needed funding for the refurbishment and enhancement of the existing stock of arts and culture facilities throughout the country, including arts centres, theatres, galleries, museums and creative spaces. Of the 134 projects allocated funding over the period 2017 to 2020, 47 completed their projects in 2018. Throughout 2018, upgrades of the trails network in the National Parks and Nature Reserves commenced, including the Diamond Trail at Connemara National Park, and the White Route in the Wicklow Mountains National Park

CREATIVITY CREATES OPPORTUNITY

The creative industries are a significant and vital contributor to Ireland’s growing creative economy. Our ambition is to harness opportunities and increase training and employment across this sector.

In 2018, the Creative Ireland Programme facilitated investment of €200m in the audio-visual sector over the next ten years, as part of Project Ireland 2040. The industry wide [Audio-visual Action Plan](#), published in June 2018, supports the Government’s ambition to enable Ireland to become a global hub for the production of film, TV drama and animation. The actions identified in the Audio-Visual Action Plan will be delivered across Government by relevant Departments and agencies.

The action plan is underpinned by [Economic Assessment of the Audio-Visual Industry in Ireland](#), a report which was carried out by international consultants Oldsberg SPI on behalf of the Departments of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht, Communications, Climate Action and Environment, and Business, Enterprise and Innovation. The action plan was also informed by the Media Production Workshop which was carried out by the Creative Ireland Programme in May of 2017.



[Audio-visual Action Plan](#)

CREATIVITY CREATES REPUTATION

Our ambition is for Ireland and Irish people to be recognised internationally as a cultural and creative nation

The Creative Ireland Programme ensured that Irish culture and creativity featured prominently in [Global Ireland 2025](#), the most ambitious expansion of Ireland’s international presence ever undertaken in terms of diplomacy, culture, business, trade and tourism.

In 2018, the Creative Ireland Programme continued to work in partnership with [Culture Ireland](#) by co-producing [GB18](#) video to promote the year-long programme of performances, tours, exhibitions and concerts brought to the UK throughout the year. The Creative Ireland Programme also produced a [video](#) celebrating architects, Shelly McNamara and Yvonne Farrell, curators of the 2018 Venice Biennale.



Venice Biennale 2018 whose theme was “Freespace” curated by Shelly McNamara and Yvonne Farrell (Photo credit: la biennale)

Fulbright Creative Ireland Museum Fellowships:

A new partnership between the Creative Ireland Programme and Fulbright was launched in 2017 to enable three Irish post-graduate students amazing opportunities to undertake short-term research at one of three world-class museums in the United States.

In July 2018, Irish postgraduate students Sally McHugh and David Stone were announced as the very first Fulbright-Creative Ireland Fellows. NUI Galway’s Sally McHugh will undertake her fellowship in The Exploratorium and UCD’s David Stone will join the team at The Smithsonian Institution. Further information can be found [here](#).

NATIONAL CREATIVITY FUND

These initiatives offer new opportunities for more integrated, local, community-focused interventions which bring together all aspects of creativity and wellbeing – from good health, community cohesion and resilience, to building strong social networks, culture, arts and local economies

In June 2018, the Creative Ireland Programme launched the National Creativity Fund 2018/2019. This new scheme aimed to identify, support and collaborate with a range of strategic partners on projects that are genuinely innovative. The aim was to significantly add value and/or scale to the implementation of the programme and to help inform policy and/or cross-sectoral development in the area of culture, creativity and wellbeing. Grants of **€10,000** to **€70,000** were available to individuals, organisations, community groups, colleges and cultural institutions, amongst others. Three themes were identified as areas of priority for the scheme:

Individual and collective wellbeing

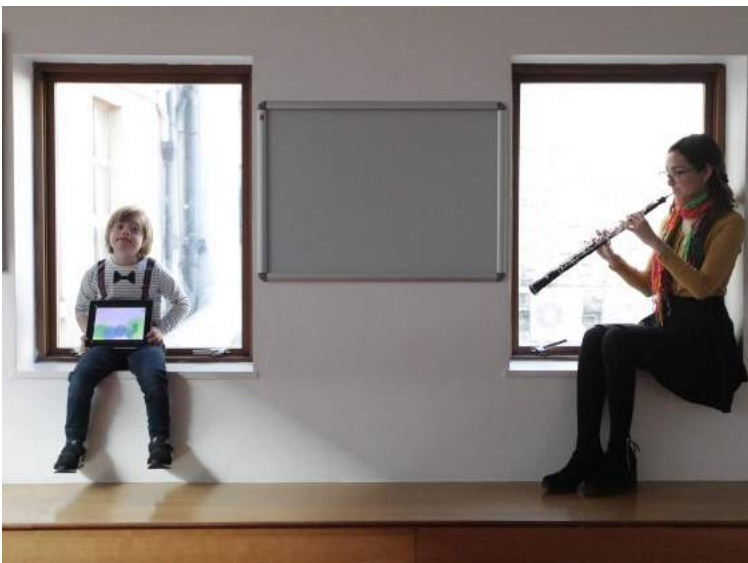
This included (but was not limited to) creativity-based projects and initiatives that support and advance policy development in the areas of (a) physical, psychological and mental health (b) social cohesion and (c) sustainable, inclusive and nurturing environments.

Innovation

This could include imaginative and innovative projects in areas such as (but not limited to) architecture, fashion, heritage, the Irish language, video, film, animation, photography, music, performing arts, creative writing, visual arts, publishing, software/coding, radio and television and craft and design, development of creative clusters.

Connecting communities

This could include projects and initiatives that address or explore how community challenges can be addressed through increasing participation to creativity, culture and the arts, particularly isolated, rural and disadvantaged communities and/or the diaspora.



Milo O'Brien (7) and RIAM student Maria Rojas at the launch of Le Chéile, Ireland's first national orchestra for disabled musicians (Photo credit: Mark Stedman)

A robust evaluation process was undertaken by an independent panel of experts to ascertain projects submitted and, in October 2018, 30 National Creativity Fund projects were announced with allocated funding of €1.2m over 2018/2019. Six pilot projects are also included in the scheme and which were initially developed to showcase the types of projects which could be funded as part of this new initiative. A full breakdown of the National Creativity Fund Partners is available in Appendix 2 in addition to the [Press Release](#) issued to mark the launch.

CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT

One of the fundamental intentions of the Programme is an Ireland where participation in cultural and creative opportunity promotes the wellbeing of the individual, the community and the nation at large; the effective use of both traditional and new media platforms insures that as diverse an audience as possible is reached to communicate this.

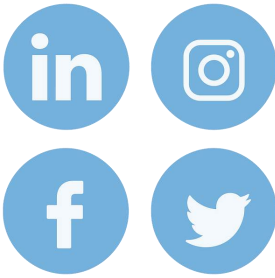
In 2018, the Creative Ireland Programme communications plan built on the impact achieved in 2017. Throughout the year the Programme developed and implemented a series of focused awareness raising campaigns, based specifically around the activities and initiatives of the Programme Pillars. The strategic objectives of the communications plan for 2018 included:

- Building awareness and understanding of the Programme's aims and objectives;
- Encouraging participation in the cultural and creative activities taking place in local authority areas;
- Defining the relationship between creativity and wellbeing, building understanding of their value within contexts such as creativity in education, creativity in our rural and urban communities, creativity in science and technology.

In partnership with the Irish Independent, the Creative Ireland Programme produced:

- A 16 page news print supplement and four double-page inserts in June 2018 to promote Cruinniú na nÓg (see Cruinniú section for further details);
- A four page insert in the Irish independent on 28 September 2018 to mark the launch of the 31 Local Authority Culture and Creativity Strategies 2018-2022. Featured content included a range of creative community initiatives in Limerick, South Dublin, Laois and Mayo;
- As part of this package, a series of two follow-up double page inserts to promote the local authority Creative Communities initiatives appeared on 6 and 13 October 2018, with features on Tipperary, Donegal, Fingal, [Dun Laoghaire Rathdown](#), [Kildare](#) and [Sligo](#). A further 3 appeared on 10, 17 and 24 November. In addition to highlighting the work of the local authorities, the inserts reflected the diverse creative activities taking place across the country;
- A double page spread in the Ploughing edition of the Farming Independent focusing on creativity in rural communities on 18 September 2018.

Social Media



During 2018, the Creative Ireland Programme engaged with other Government Departments, Programme partners, stakeholders and members of the public to increase awareness of the Programme initiatives and events using social media platforms [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) in addition to more traditional print media. It was important, given the investment in social media platforms and commissioned content, that these were properly promoted online. This involved driving online traffic towards the websites, social media platforms using SEO to optimise engagement. In terms of the overall budget, optimising the Creative Ireland Programme's online presence is included in Digital Content Development as outlined in Appendix 1.

Videos

Over 2.3m people viewed 18 bespoke pieces of digital content featuring a range of Programme initiatives and partnerships shared and promoted across our social media channels in 2018.

Videos included a "Year in Review" showcasing progress achieved in 2017, the powerful theatre piece, "Aisling?", in partnership with Ealaín na Gaeltachta Teo celebrating Seachtain na Gaeilge, "Venice Biennale" featuring Grafton Architects, Shelly McNamara and Yvonne Farrell, curators of the Architecture Biennale 2018, "GB18" to celebrate Culture Ireland's programme of Irish artistic activity in Britain in 2018, "Heritage in schools" in partnership with the Heritage Council and a video showing communities preparing for St. Patrick's Day. Two videos were also produced to inform citizens of the work of the wider Department. Links to all these videos are below.

<u><i>A Year in Review</i></u>	<u><i>"Aisling?"</i></u>	<u><i>Venice Biennale</i></u>	<u><i>GB18</i></u>
<u><i>Heritage in Schools</i></u>	<u><i>St. Patrick's Festival</i></u>	<u><i>Investing in Creativity</i></u>	<u><i>Budget19</i></u>

To celebrate Creative Communities, a suite of six videos were produced to coincide with the launch of 31 local authorities Culture and Creativity Strategies. This included the poet, Stephen James Smith's piece "We Must Create" commissioned for the launch of the local strategies, see links below:

<u><i>The Welcoming Project</i></u>	<u><i>The Bold Step</i></u>	<u><i>Social Farming</i></u>
<u><i>The Sugar Factory Studios</i></u>	<u><i>Tools of the Trade</i></u>	<u><i>"We Must Create"</i></u>

For Pillar one: Creative Youth, four videos were produced in 2018, links below:

<u><i>Creative Schools</i></u>	<u><i>Cruinniú na nÓg - Preview</i></u>	<u><i>Cruinniú na nÓg</i></u>	<u><i>Thank you</i></u>
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www.creativeireland.gov.ie

The Creative Ireland Programme website was further developed during 2018 to include two new microsites and a new user interface portal for use by our local authority Culture and Creativity Teams. The two microsites included a dedicated, fully searchable events-based site developed for Cruinniú na nÓg, and the Creative Communities microsite that allows each local authority to promote their work and position it as part of the national Programme.

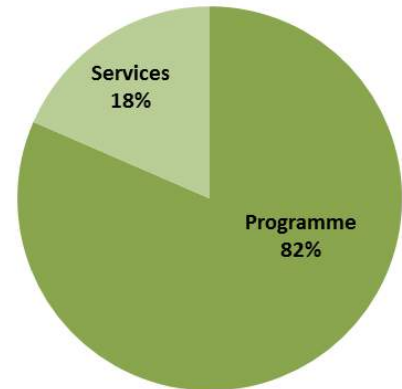
The user interface portal was developed for both local authority Culture and Creativity teams and the Creative Ireland Programme Office. The portal allows for comprehensive reporting, data collection and analysis. The portal is also linked to the microsites enabling the local authority Culture and Creativity teams to upload their events and initiatives which are, in turn, used to promote and increase awareness of their local programmes across all digital platforms. The portal also serves as a repository of images from the hundreds of events supported under Creative Ireland Programme locally, a sample of which are shown hereunder (Photo credit: various local authorities).



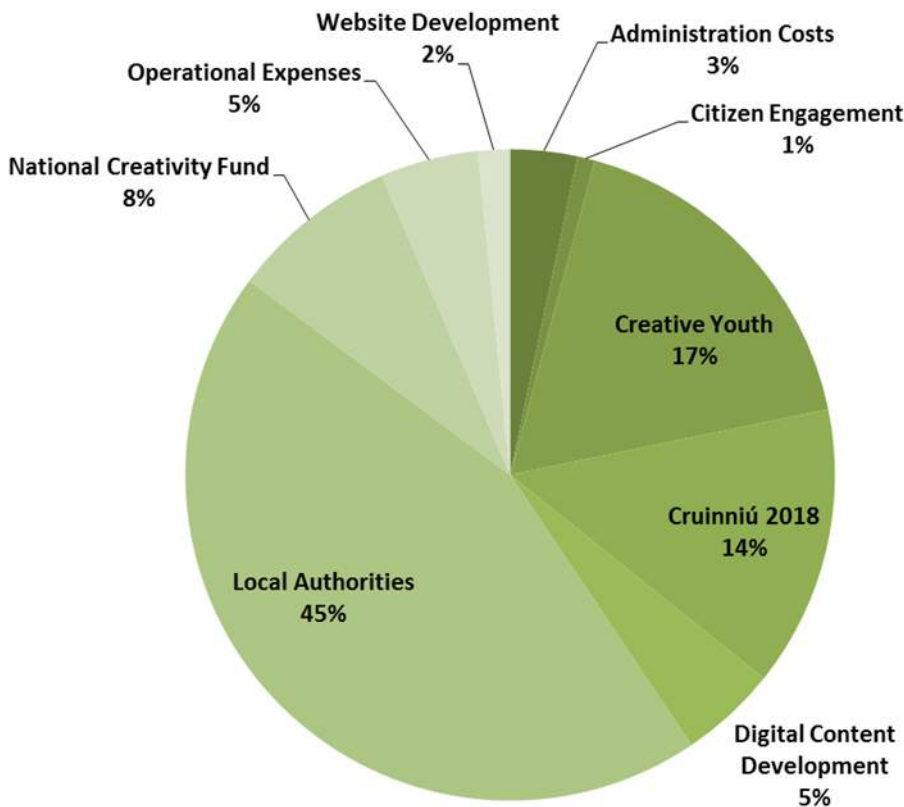
EXPENDITURE 2018

Overview of Programme Expenditure in 2018¹

Area of Expenditure	Total	%
Administration Costs	€178,012	3%
Citizen Engagement	€46,248	1%
Creative Youth	€937,250	18%
Cruinniú 2018	€745,602	14%
Digital Content Development	€257,544	5%
Local Authorities	€2,380,270	45%
National Creativity Fund	€446,116	8%
Operational Expenses	€260,430	5%
Website Development	€84,878	2%
Total	€5,336,349	100%



Overall in 2018, 82% of Creative Ireland Programme funding was allocated to programme development while 18% was spent on services



The single biggest recipient of funding in 2018 were the local authorities who received nearly 60% of overall funding (Strategic funding allocations and Cruinniú na nÓg funding).

¹ Please note that these figures are subject to final audit.

BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE 2018

Administration Costs	€178,012
Contracted Services	€147,914
External Panellists	€22,962
Creative Youth Consultation	€720
National Creativity Fund Evaluation Panel	€22,242
Programme Development	€7,136
Moderator fees	€7,136
Citizen Engagement	€46,248
Irish Independent	€19,188
Media Procurement Services	€27,060
Creative Youth	€937,250
Creative Youth Initiatives	€927,250
Creative Schools (RTÉ documentary)	€100,000
Fighting Words	€57,250
NAPD (Creative Engagement Programme)	€55,000
Post-Primary CPD (TAP, Monaghan EC)	€85,000
Primary Schools CPD (JCT, Tralee EC)	€230,000
Roll out of Creative Schools Initiative (Arts Council)	€400,000
Research/Development	€10,000
Research on Choral Initiative	€10,000
Cruinniú 2018	€745,602
Local Creative Programmes	€696,822
Carlow County Council	€10,850
Cavan County Council	€9,479
Clare County Council	€6,557
Cork City County Council	€17,981
Cork County Council	€7,379
Donegal County Council	€12,387
Dublin City Council	€350,000
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council	€6,299
Fingal County Council	€9,986
Galway City Council	€16,100
Galway County Council	€12,360
Kerry County Council	€11,627
Kildare County Council	€10,000
Kilkenny County Council	€9,865
Laois County Council	€12,333
Leitrim County Council	€13,019
Limerick City & County Council	€20,000
Longford County Council	€10,000
Louth County Council	€10,000
Mayo County Council	€20,000
Meath County Council	€10,096
Monaghan County Council	€13,348
Offaly County Council	€10,551
Roscommon County Council	€12,120
Sligo County Council	€16,649
South Dublin County Council	€9,174
Tipperary County Council	€6,026
Waterford County Council	€13,000
Westmeath County Council	€6,390
Wexford County Council	€12,983
Wicklow County Council	€10,262
Cruinniú regional awareness radio campaign	€48,780

BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE 2018

Digital Content Development	€257,544
Content Management*	€9,471
Local Authority Microsite	€9,471
Copywriting*	€27,128
Creative Ireland Website	€6,673
Cruinniú na nÓg Microsite	€7,196
Local Authority Microsite (over 1,000 entries)	€13,259
Online traffic driving (SEO)*	€15,000
Digital Content Promotion	€15,000
Photography	€1,050
Cruinniú na nÓg Microsite	€450
Local Authority Strategic Plans	€600
Social Media Content (Twitter, Facebook)*	€66,420
January-December 2018	€66,420
Technical fees	€6,175
Technical fees	€6,175
Translation into Irish	€14,375
Creative Ireland Website	€14,375
Video Production	€117,925
"We must Create"	€3,290
Budget 2018	€2,497
Creative Communities (5 videos)	€27,583
Creative Schools	€12,186
Cruinniú na nÓg (3 videos)	€24,815
GB18 (in partnership with Culture Ireland)	€7,903
Heritage-in-Schools (in partnership with the Heritage Council)	€8,364
Project 2040 (Investing in our Culture, Language & Heritage)	€16,113
St. Patrick's Day (in partnership with St. Patricks Day Festival)	€7,073
Venice Biennale 2018 (Grafton Architects)	€8,102

Content Management

- Creation and management of website content, content strategy, managing translations, image sourcing, image editing, research and uploading, scheduling and publishing.

Copywriting

- editing and proofing of text before publishing online.

Search Engine Optimisation (SEO)

- the process of optimising the online visibility of a website when you search online using a browser. In general, the higher ranked on a search, and more frequently a website appears in a search result, the more visitors it will receive.

Social Media Content

- Research, copywriting, image sourcing and scheduling of social posts

BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE 2018

Local Authorities*	€2,380,270
Carlow County Council	€64,516
Cavan County Council	€84,516
Clare County Council	€94,516
Cork City Council	€99,516
Cork County Council	€64,516
Donegal County Council	€64,500
Dublin City Council	€69,516
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council	€68,470
Fingal County Council	€64,516
Galway City Council	€83,016
Galway County Council	€79,516
Kerry County Council	€102,000
Kildare County Council	€64,516
Kilkenny County Council	€64,516
Laois County Council	€64,516
Leitrim County Council	€79,516
Limerick County Council	€90,516
Longford County Council	€74,216
Louth County Council	€64,516
Mayo County Council	€89,516
Meath County Council	€77,516
Monaghan County Council	€94,516
Offaly County Council	€99,516
Roscommon County Council	€64,000
Sligo County Council	€79,516
South Dublin County Council	€102,516
Tipperary County Council	€64,516
Waterford County Council	€64,516
Westmeath County Council	€64,700
Wexford County Council	€71,016
Wicklow County Council	€67,000

*This excludes the €1m allocated to the local authorities by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government

BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE 2018

National Creativity Fund	€446,116
National Creativity Fund Projects	€380,158
100 Archive	€17,911
Age & Opportunity	€10,600
Business to Arts	€4,250
Civic Theatre	€7,000
Design & Crafts Council of Ireland	€9,050
Draocht	€22,000
EVA International	€17,500
First Fortnight Limited	€14,500
Groundswell Arts and Galway Childcare Committee	€6,310
Helium Arts	€17,760
Irish Architecture Foundation	€13,385
Irish Chamber Orchestra	€17,000
Mary Immaculate College	€36,828
Narrative 4 Ireland	€9,550
National Print Museum	€3,250
Royal Irish Academy of Music	€52,000
TCD Dept of Film Studies	€51,469
The Ark	€28,000
The Discovery Programme	€11,500
The Dock/Leitrim Arts Development	€16,000
Youth Theatre Ireland	€14,295
Pilot National Creativity Fund Projects	€65,958
HeadSpace Symposium	€10,000
Kilkenny Animated Festival	€15,000
NCH Creative Work by Female Musicians	€10,958
NLI Diversity & Inclusion Programme	€10,000
NMI Irish Community Archive Network	€20,000

BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE 2018

Operational Expenses	€260,430
Catering	€16,180
Design and print costs	€177,860
Audiovisual Plan	€14,071
Creative Ireland Forum 2017	€3,813
Creative Youth Plan	€1,287
Cruinniú na nÓg	€15,673
31 Individual bilingual Local Authority Strategic Plans	€118,973
Miscellaneous	€1,230
Project 2040 (Investing in our Culture, Language & Heritage)	€22,814
Performance Fees	€6,519
Photography	€2,111
Production/Technical Fees	€45,554
Translation into Irish	€12,205
Website Development	€84,878
Creative Ireland Programme main website	€24,045
Cruinniú na nÓg microsite	€35,257
Hosting	€1,285
Local Authority microsite	€12,498
Local Authority portal	€11,793
Total	€5,336,349

National Creativity Fund

Organisation & links	County	Overview	Funding Awarded
Royal Irish Academy of Music	National	Le Chéile: A project to develop music ensembles for young disabled musicians in every province in Ireland culminating in the founding of the Open Youth Orchestra of Ireland (OYOI), the EU's first national youth orchestra for disabled musicians	€70,000
Helium Arts	National	Helium, children's arts and health organisation are piloting a new model for situating their works with children facing life-long medical conditions and disabilities in key urban centres in Ireland. By developing partnerships in hospital and community settings in a model called Creative Health Hubs, Helium will position the work in line with the National Model of Care for Paediatric Healthcare Services, among other key arts and healthcare policies and frameworks.	€70,000
The Glucksman - University College Cork	Cork & Waterford	The Classroom Museum is a new initiative from the Glucksman that enables schoolchildren in rural Ireland to participate in an imaginative programme of creative learning based around contemporary artworks from the UCC art collection through the short-term loan of artworks to schools and collaborative activities with children and their teachers will	€15,000
Galway University Hospitals Arts Trust Limited	Galway	The first phase in a comprehensive programme of exhibitions, events, and public engagement for and with the hospital community, to be rolled out across Ireland's largest geographical Hospital Group and used to develop Ireland's first Group-wide Arts and Health Policy and Strategy, with national significance.	€30,000
Chester Beatty Library	Dublin	A research and development project to design and pilot a model for an Intercultural Schools Programme, the first of its kind in Ireland.	€10,000
Irish Chamber Orchestra	Limerick	The Irish Chamber Orchestra will develop a Limerick City Youth Orchestra (LCYO), for 12-18 yr. olds, which would meet weekly for two hours in a city centre venue. This orchestra would be augmented by three intensive Camps throughout the year. The aim is to encourage more young people to engage with music.	€39,522
Design & Crafts Council of Ireland	Kilkenny	The 'DESIGN Skills' programme aims to develop design thinking capacity in post-primary schools in Ireland. The programme links professional designers and makers with teachers to develop a six hour mini project that explores the design process. It focuses on the 'front end' of this process and emphasises ideation, problem solving, divergent thinking, risk taking and experimentation.	€21,580

National Creativity Fund

Organisation & links	County	Overview	Funding Awarded
The Discovery Programme	Dublin	Work on establishing a Cultural Heritage Data Programme for Ireland led by The Heritage Council and The Discovery Programme to draw attention to the wealth and potential of Ireland's archaeological archives and begin a dialogue between institutions holding archives on a long-term digital strategy	€23,606
Irish Architecture Foundation	Dublin	The Irish Architecture Foundation's <i>Reimagine...</i> is a programme designed to better connect communities with their local neighbourhoods and environment and each other using creative and collaborative design strategies.	€70,000
Youth Theatre Ireland	Dublin	A partnership with Youth Theatre Ireland to expand the National Youth Theatre programme across two calendar years allowing for a more in-depth and rewarding experience for participants, commissioning a playwright to work alongside participants to write a new play on the theme of 'Faith' and research and create a five-year development plan for achieving a National Youth Theatre that boasts excellent contemporary theatre by & for young people.	€26,075
EVA International	Limerick	The production of a children's dictionary of new Contemporary Art terms, developed by school children in Limerick City and County through a series of guided workshops and artistic encounters at leading artists' studios, museums and galleries across Ireland.	€42,850
School of Creative Arts, Trinity College Dublin	Dublin	This project surveys a representative sample of high-profile workers in two fields, Film/Screen production and Theatre/Performance, to establish what part the subsidised cultural sector played in their career development.	€64,615
The Dock, Leitrim	Leitrim	To deliver new and increased participation in creativity by bringing six arts centres in the Northwest/Midlands region together to develop and activate a broader understanding of a new network of Arts Centres and to align their considerable strengths and potentials and those of their respective communities of interest.	€46,500
The Cork Film Festival CLG	Cork	To develop and deliver 'Intinn', a new youth programme of film screenings, workshops and resources for Transition Year students, exploring themes of mental health and wellbeing.	€35,000
Civic Theatre	Dublin	Support a period of research culminating in a forum exploring professional theatre provision for young adult audiences at all levels including engagement, participation and performance. The cumulated data and final report will inform the implementation of the Civic Theatre's strategic plan "IMPACT-TENDERFOOT Going Forward"	€17,500

National Creativity Fund

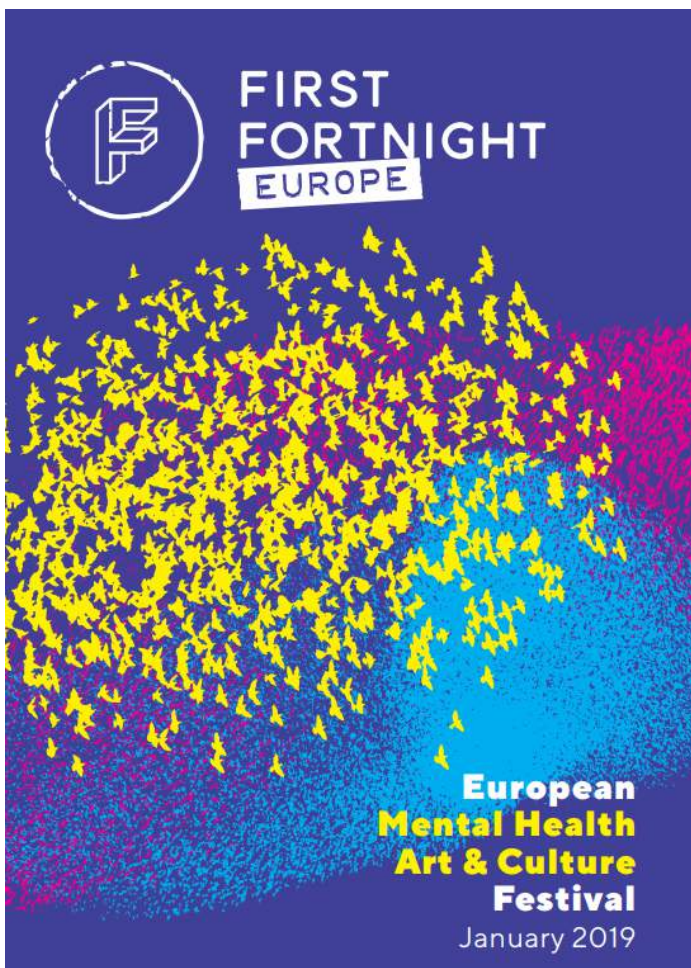
Organisation & links	County	Overview	Funding Awarded
Narrative 4 Ireland	Limerick	Training through continued CPD to teachers to run Narrative 4 programmes in schools. Narrative 4 works to equip young people to use their stories to build empathy, shatter stereotypes and break down barriers. Funding will train 50 secondary school teachers/ youth workers within schools/ organisations in the mid-west to facilitate story exchanges.	€25,000
Age & Opportunity	National	Developing a programme of six diverse and nationwide artists' residencies in care settings, consisting of residencies in each province to make the arts and creativity intrinsic to life-in-care settings for older people who live outside major urban areas in Ireland (care settings) so that they can realise their full creative potential in a nurturing and inclusive environment.	€56,000
Mary Immaculate College	Limerick	This group singing research project will enhance and contribute critical understandings of musical participation as spaces for 'becoming' and 'belonging' within asylum seeker accommodation. Across six direct provision (DP) centres, the project involves intergenerational group singing workshops, shared 'Sing In' days with local choirs, a new choral commission, a large-scale 'Big Sing' event and a final conference.	€64,627
The Ark	Dublin	The Festival of Children, which will be led by The Ark - Ireland's only dedicated cultural centre for children, who will partner with Dublin City Council through Dublin's Culture Connects and a diverse range of other organisations involved in the arts, culture and children's rights to deliver an inclusive, innovative and extraordinary programme emphasising the voice of the child.	€70,000
Draóicht	Dublin	OUR PLACE, OUR STORIES places 6 leading artists in 6 communities in Dublin 15 working through theatre, dance and spoken word. Each group will have 15 – 20 participants and will focus on a different community of place or interest. Each group will explore what stories they need to tell and what performance tools and strategies will be employed to ensure those stories achieve their full potential when they meet their audiences in their communities .	€60,000
Groundswell Arts and Galway Childcare Committee	Galway	Galway Childcare Committee will partner with Groundswell Arts to pilot their successful Lullaby Project which partners professional musicians with parents, carers, and early years practitioners to compose bespoke personalised songs for young children. The projects supports mental health in children and adults, aids child development and strengthens bonds between not just parent/carers and children but between childcare settings and families.	€16,960

National Creativity Fund

Organisation & links	County	Overview	Funding Awarded
Ealaín na Gaeltachta Teo	Donegal	The “Garraí an Ghiorria” project will give opportunities to professional artists and to local drama groups to focus on Irish language drama. An expert/consultant (a nationally/internationally qualified drama expert will be appointed to ensure that a three year strategy is developed for Irish language drama.	€30,340
Music Network	Dublin	Ireland’s National Musical Instrument Resource (NMIR) will ensure that no one, regardless of age or socio-economic background, is prevented from fulfilling their creative potential for lack of access to an appropriate musical instrument. The NMIR will create an information hub where music capital knowledge, skills, funding and resources are pooled and made available, assist in the development of local music infrastructure, identifying and addressing gaps in provision and work with a range of partners to maximise resources and advocate for the importance of music participation and activity.	€30,833
National Print Museum	Dublin	The Museum will invest in a project preserving the skills of traditional printing entitled "Making our Impression". The project facilitates the transfer of skills from one generation to another, who then in turn will pass these on to the widest audience possible through a specifically designed education programme allowing every person in Ireland the opportunity to realise their creative potential through the medium of print.	€11,900
Irish Youth Foundation & A Lust for Life	National	The Irish Youth Foundation (IYF) and A lust For Life (ALFL) are partnering to develop a new creative mental health programme for children called the 'Sound Schools Toolkit'.	€70,000
John Conway & the National Forensic Mental Health Service	Dublin	This project will pilot a series of artist residencies in the Ushers Island Clinic, a community day centre resource of the National Forensic Mental Health Service. Three artists will be invited to undertake three separate four month residencies over a 15 month period in the Ushers Island site.	€24,500
DCU Institute of Education	Dublin	The purpose of this study is to explore the processes of creative and inclusive music making within a wide geographical spread of primary and post primary schools that have created showcase performances of their musical endeavours.	€66,055
Business to Arts	Dublin	The Business to Arts Artist-in-Residence (AR) Programme is a unique cross-sectoral matched funding programme for artists to work on creativity-based education initiatives which are supported by businesses and the Creative Ireland Programme.	€52,500

National Creativity Fund

Organisation & links	County	Overview	Funding Awarded
First Fortnight	Dublin	First Fortnight hosted Europe's Mental Health Festival in communities across Ireland in January 2019. The festival involved participation from other European countries with over two weeks of events taking place across a variety of art forms including music, theatre, dance, film, spoken word, visual arts, workshops, comedy and discussions.	€35,000
100 Archive	Dublin	'Mapping Irish Design' is a research and communication project by the 100 Archive to paint a picture of contemporary visual communication in Ireland and the designers, studios and clients .	€38,534



First Fortnight Mental Health Art & Culture Festival

January 2019

(Photo credit: First Fortnight)

National Creativity Fund –Pilots

Organisation	County	Overview	Funding Awarded
<u>Fighting Words</u>	National	With Creative Ireland Programme support, Fighting Words opened three new venues during 2018 and significantly expanded their outreach programme to work with many more children's and adult additional needs groups (e.g. Central Remedial Clinic, Laura Lynn Foundation, Oberstown Campus); and several new creative collaborations with arts organisations (Gate Theatre/adults in direct provision, young adult playwriting in the Everyman Theatre, Cork).	€80,000
<u>National Library of Ireland</u>	National	In conjunction with the publication of their Diversity and Inclusion Policy, the NLI partnered with the Creative Ireland Programme to actively focus on new collection areas that highlight diversity and inclusivity in Ireland. A forum took place February 2019 which included representatives from advocacy/representative organisations and individual advocates from underrepresented communities. The event will help the NLI develop practicable next steps for its policy initiatives.	€15,000
<u>Headspace 2018/ Creative Ageing International</u>	Dublin	Headspace 2018 took place April 2018 in Trinity College. This was a new initiative, curated and presented by an experienced and highly-regarded specialist in the field of creativity and older age. It presented a unique opportunity for the Creative Ireland Programme to make meaningful connections into the health and wellbeing sector, to engage with international best practice in this area and to creating a strong research and policy base from which to promote and generate partnerships for creativity and wellbeing initiatives.	€10,000
<u>Kilkenny Animated</u>	Kilkenny	Kilkenny Animated was a new festival of visual storytelling, incorporating cartoons, animation and illustration, which took place in February 2018, hosted by animation studio, Cartoon Saloon. The aim of the festival was to create programming that demonstrated how accessible and creative animation, cartoons and illustration are and how they can be incorporated into other forms of performance and art. The Creative Ireland Programme supported the participation-based elements of this new festival.	€15,000
<u>National Museum of Ireland</u>	National	The National Museum of Ireland is growing and expanding the Irish Community Archive Network to reach new and wider audiences to create online digital archives that record and reflect each communities unique history, heritage and culture. The Museum is working with the Creative Ireland Programme to expand the reach of this project to encourage increased engagement with members of the public.	€90,000
<u>National Concert Hall – Female Commissioning</u>	National/ Dublin	Creative Ireland Programme funded a partnership with the National Concert Hall and Sounding the Feminists, to support the creative potential of female musicians and composers and to help to promote their work to a wider audience.	€20,000

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS 2018

These are some of the many hundred of projects supported under the local Creative Ireland Programmes in 2018 that made a particular impact in their communities (selected by local Culture Teams)



Other Voices in Ballina, County Mayo supported under the Creative Ireland Programme for Mayo, brought 40,000 visitors into the town and boosted the local economy by €1m. This one weekend changed the public perception of Ballina and showed it as a bustling energetic town brimming with culture and creativity. The exposure it received (and continues to receive) in national and international media has, in one single leap, changed how the town sees itself.



3D Photogrammetry, Donegal, an exciting project undertaking 3D photogrammetry of the turas stations for the cross-border Audit of Columban Cultural Heritage initiated by Donegal County Council, Derry City & Strabane District Council, Foras na Gaeilge and The Heritage Council. The work embraced new technology in recording and promotion of archaeological heritage. The recording by means of 3D imagery of these heritage sites will be made available on-line in the future. The collection of 3D models will also be suitable for integration with augmented and virtual reality experiences in the future. The turas will be an important focus for the commemoration of the 1,500th anniversary of the birth of St. Colmcille in 2021.



Wainfest Arts and Book Festival for Children, Co. Donegal. A hugely successful festival, in 2018, it ran from October 6 -14 and was the biggest to date with 11,300 children and families attending 150 events countywide. The 2018 theme was *Wild and Wondrous*. The festival was shortlisted for the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Award in the Best Library Service Category for the second year running. Wainfest is unique to Donegal, as the term *wain* is a local affectionate word used when talking about a small child (wee one).



Memoir Writing Workshops, Clare displaying the creative spirit of Clare were held all around the county and gave Clare people a chance to try out their creative writing skills. Groups were formed in Scariff library, Ennistymon Library, Shannon Library, Kilrush Library and DeValera Library in Ennis. The participants bonded over experiences recounted during shared readings of their work. Group members grew in confidence week-by-week and learned to trust their creative instincts and that everyone has a unique story to share.

CLARE CULTURAL COMPANIONS
An Age & Opportunity Initiative

CULTURAL COMPANIONS is an Age & Opportunity initiative designed to link older people interested in arts and culture through a network so they can attend events together as a group

EVENTS INCLUDE

- CONCERTS
- FILMS
- THEATRE/PLAYS
- MUSICALS
- HISTORICAL TALKS
- ART EXHIBITIONS

"What I wanted to get from Cultural Companions was to meet new people and get out more. It's that simple for me."
Cultural Companions Member

Cultural Companions, Clare. This inclusive initiative allows individuals to attend cultural events with like-minded individuals or help open up the arts as a volunteer. People who would like to attend a play, film, show or concert but who have no-one to go with could now access a network of people to attend events with. This combats isolation, loneliness and brings more quality and enjoyment to life. It has improved the lives of Clare's older citizens and added to the cultural audience of the county.

Further information on projects supported by the local authorities can be found at [creative-communities](#) including local Culture and Creativity Strategies and Coordinator and Team Contact information.

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS 2018

These are some of the many hundred of projects supported under the local Creative Ireland Programmes in 2018 that made a particular impact in their communities (selected by local Culture Teams)



Our Friends from the North? Irish and Norse in the Viking Age, Dublin City, was an innovative, co-operative symposium between NUI, Dublin City Council, the Norwegian Embassy, the University of Bergen and the Dublin Festival of History, delving into stories of Ireland and Norway's shared Viking heritage. The symposium offered discussions with experts on archaeology, folklore and history, sharing research through an exchange of papers to raise awareness and knowledge of our Norse connections.



Kilfinane Community Council Arts, Crafts and Traditional Skills Group in Limerick was an excellent example of how craft and heritage mixed with a contemporary artistic twist can bring together communities in a rural setting and build greater appreciation for the natural environment. Working with artist, Hanna Van Aelst, on an initiative named "Our Traditions, Our Links with Nature", this was a wonderful opportunity to learn about all aspects of weaving. The project concluded with an exhibition celebrating the outcomes of the workshops.



Rebuilding and bringing back to Limerick AK Ilen. This project involved communities and volunteers through a long-term collective effort to achieve a common goal, to bring back the last surviving Irish wooden ocean-going ship to Limerick. The process brought together professionals, enthusiasts, shipbuilders, local fishermen, artists, cultural organisations, school children and the public to celebrate and share existing knowledge about the river and the ocean. The ship will serve as an inspiration and a resource for creative educational programmes related to nautical and water heritage.



Community Writer-in-Residence, Dublin City The Irish Writers Centre, members of the Dublin Adult Learning Centre (DALC) and the Bealtaine Writers Group collaborated on a creative writing project facilitated by Nessa O'Mahony. This was a valuable experience for writers and readers. For some participants it was a starting point in creative writing, for others a new experience in sharing their work with a wider audience, both at the showcase event and in the resulting film 'Wherever The Road Might Take You,' which took its themes from the memories and experiences of place, home and travel by both the learners of DALC and members of the Bealtaine Group.



Plough Lines, Wexford was a visual arts project with artist David Begley and students in Clongeen NS. The project raised awareness of the unique cultural of rural life in the Clongeen area by looking at ploughing and tillage farming and highlighting the importance of local heritage past, present and future with local school children.



Drumsna Annaduff Golden Age Group in Leitrim worked with sean-nós dancer Edwina Guckian to learn and experiment with various forms of dance and genres of music. The workshops explored the emotions and responses to music and dance and the challenges encountered in public dancing. The workshops culminated in a performance at Dromod Train Station on 8 December 2018, to coincide with the traditional pre-Christmas shopping day from the west of Ireland to Dublin. The group performed along the station platform in groups of twos and threes as the train to Dublin pulled up. While the project was great fun, it also had to do with empowerment and bravery and how people of all ages can harness creativity to express themselves with openness and confidence.

COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS 2018

These are some of the many hundred of projects supported under the local Creative Ireland Programmes in 2018 that made a particular impact in their communities (selected by local Culture Teams)



Mount Sion Choir, Waterford, is an ongoing success story. In March 2018 the choir was awarded the Silver in their category in the Young Bohemia International Choral Festival in Prague. In May, Limerick born singer/songwriter Don Mescall asked the choir to be his support act. In September, the choir was flown to London to record the single with Don. The videos from London were viewed over 20,000 times on both Facebook and Twitter.



'Ode on a Castle and a Tower', Tipperary was a communal drawing project that was done as part of the community engagement on a project of heritage led regeneration works on the streetscape in Carrick on Suir. Artist Maurice Caplice made sculptures of Carrick on Suir's two iconic buildings Ormond Castle and the West Gate from upcycled material and over the course of a weekend invited members of the public to engage with the sculptures and 'make their mark'. The results are two unique and colourful sculptures by the people of Carrick on Suir illustrating their huge affection for their town.



'Where does the River Go?', Tipperary, an early years theatre residency in the Nenagh Arts Centre in with Joanna Williams from Little Big Top Circus and early years musician. The residency which lasted for a month facilitated Joanna and Julie, taking their inspiration from the Nenagh River and Lough Derg, to work together to create and develop an early years theatre piece about where the river goes. And then present it to an audience of pre-school children with their parents and get feedback



Architecture Kerry was a stand-out project as part of Creative Kerry. Celebrating the built environment, this event offered the general public opportunities to engage with extraordinary buildings through tours, workshops, talks and seminars. It facilitated easy access to cultural heritage, explored standards in local design, explored history and highlighted tourism experiences. It was delivered through the Creative Ireland Kerry Cultural Team in association with other public sector, private and commercial providers and landowners.



Crushin Traveller Women's Group, Wexford saw an artist work with the Crushin Traveller Women's Group in creating a publication called 'Moving Words'. The pleasure of reading and writing was key to this project and overall there was a strong sense of identity and pride coming through the collection. This creative writing project was a new experience for most of the participants and gave them the opportunity to 'find their voice'.



Ar Cúl an Tí, South Dublin. "It was a unique and engaging experience of site-specific theatre in Irish, opening new horizons and accessible also for those not fluent in the language." The performance started in a graveyard and climbed up the tower of St. Maelruains Church and then moved to a house in the village, now the new Irish language cultural centre in Tallaght Village. Along the way it evoked the poetry of Seán Ó Riordáin. The performance was devised by Ciaran Taylor in collaboration with Gaelphobal Thamhlachta.

COMMUNITY INSIGHTS 2018

Projects and initiatives funded at local authority level

Local Authority	No of projects
Carlow County Council*	56
Cavan County Council	54
Clare County Council*	59
Cork City Council	25
Cork County Council	52
Donegal County Council*	51
Dublin City Council	65
Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council*	19
Fingal County Council	19
Galway City Council	36
Galway County Council*	29
Kerry County Council*	40
Kildare County Council	28
Kilkenny County Council	22
Laois County Council	24
Leitrim County Council	64
Limerick City and County Council*	56
Longford County Council	51
Louth County Council	27
Mayo County Council*	39
Meath County Council*	53
Monaghan County Council	22
Offaly County Council*	42
Roscommon County Council*	56
Sligo County Council	48
South Dublin County Council	27
Tipperary County Council*	93
Waterford City & County Council	75
Westmeath County Council	71
Wexford County Council	24
Wicklow County Council*	16
Total	1343

*Total includes various projects funded under grants schemes in certain counties

Types of Projects

Type of Project	Number
Arts Project	79
Award/Grants Scheme Project	279
Commemorative projects	20
Commissions	23
Concerts	22
Conferences	15
Conservation	16
Cultural Projects	23
Data Collection & Recording	19
Digitisation/Archival	17
Exhibitions	43
Festivals	94
Film Production & Screening	25
Other projects	64
Outreach Projects	53
Performances/Shows	87
Programme of events	106
Publications	34
Research	11
Strategic/Policy Development	11
Talks/storytelling	34
Touring	4
Training & Skills	17
Workshops	247
Grand Total	1343

Please note this is indicative only as many projects and grant schemes were multidisciplinary

COMMUNITY INSIGHTS 2018

Local Authority	Amount
Carlow County Council	€107,624
Cavan County Council	€126,253
Clare County Council	€133,331
Cork City Council	€149,755
Cork County Council	€104,153
Donegal County Council	€109,137
Dublin City Council	€451,774
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council	€107,027
Fingal County Council	€106,760
Galway City Council	€131,374
Galway County Council	€124,134
Kerry County Council	€145,877
Kildare County Council	€106,774
Kilkenny County Council	€106,639
Laois County Council	€109,107
Leitrim County Council	€124,793
Limerick City & County Council	€142,774
Longford County Council	€116,474
Louth County Council	€106,774
Mayo County Council	€141,774
Meath County Council	€119,870
Monaghan County Council	€140,122
Offaly County Council	€142,325
Roscommon County Council	€108,120
Sligo County Council	€128,423
South Dublin County Council	€143,948
Tipperary County Council	€102,800
Waterford County Council	€109,774
Westmeath County Council	€103,348
Wexford County Council	€116,257
Wicklow County Council	€109,520
Total	€4,076,817

Total funding allocated to the Local Authorities in 2018

This includes €2.380m to support local activity programmes, €0.697m to support Cruinniú na nÓg funding and funding of €1m from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.