



Fónamh don Phobal - Caomhnú don Oidhreacht
7th April, 2017

Serving People – Preserving Heritage

To: **An Cathaoirleach and Each Member of Kilkenny County Council.**

Re: ***Creative Ireland Programme 2017-2022***

A Chara,

Creative Ireland, an ambitious culture and citizenship initiative, is a culture-based programme 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. It was launched in December 2016 as a legacy project to the 1916 Centenary Programme.

Local authorities have a crucial role in the overall local delivery of the entire Creative Ireland programme and are exclusively mandated, through their Culture Teams, to deliver Pillar 2 of the programme – Enabling Creativity in Every Community. The Creative Ireland Programme builds on work already underway in Local Authorities, just as it builds on existing state initiatives and programmes. Creative Ireland provides a framework to support and strengthen all of this existing work.

In February 2017 Elected Members were advised of the details of the Programme, the establishment, by Kilkenny County Council, of a Cultural Services Team and the requirement to develop a 6 year County Kilkenny Culture and Creativity Plan 2017-2022.

Kilkenny County Council and the Creative Ireland national team will host an **open meeting on 27th April at 6.15pm in the Newpark Hotel, Kilkenny City** to share details about the Programme, to explore opportunities to increase engagement and collaboration in local arts, heritage, libraries and creative industries and to seek views and proposals for the 2017-2022 Plan with a view to completing the Plan by Q4 2017.

The Council has also been tasked to prepare a separate activation plan for 2017 to include Creative Ireland projects and initiatives that will be delivered before the end of 2017 the details of which must be submitted to the Department of Heritage/Arts by 21st April 2017. The proposed programme of projects/events for 2017 is attached for the information of Elected Members and is in keeping with the 2017 funding provision. From 2018 onwards the proposed annual programme of events will include an opportunity for applications/funding to local individuals, artists, community groups etc.

It is also noteworthy that, as part of the Creative Ireland programme, Kilkenny County Council is partnering with the Kilkenny Civic Trust, to host a free family event on the grounds of the new Medieval Mile Museum, for the annual Cruinniu na Casca (Easter Monday) event(s) for 2017. This event will include a re-created medieval village with period tents and costumed medieval folk informing of daily medieval life, demonstrating skills such as leatherwork, coin striking, weaving arrow making and fletching. Entry to the Medieval

Mile Museum will also be free for children on the day. For further details see <https://cruinniu.rte.ie/>.

Further updates will issue to Elected Members as matters progress.

Mise, le meas,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Simon Walton". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal dashed line.

Simon Walton
A/Director of Services

Expenditure for County Kilkenny Culture & Creativity Programme 2017 Total Allocation €64,000					
Project Name	Project Details	Location	Dates	Cost	
Co. Kilkenny Creative Ireland Strategy 2018 -2021	Strategy Development and integration with other Arts/Cultural Strategies	Consultation will take place in Municipal Districts, in partnership with PPN	April - Oct	€7,000	
Bookville	Inaugural county wide childrens & family festival focusing on reading, writing, storytelling, comedy, illustration and the visual arts	Library branch network (Callan, Castlecomer, Ferrybank, Johns Quay, Loughboy, Graiguenamanagh, Urlingford), Kilkenny Arts Office	October	€20,000	
Kilkenny Fieldnames Project	Supporting & training local communities to record and map fieldnames, building on success of 2016 fieldnames book launch	Working with communities throughout the county	June - Nov	€10,000	
Fairytales Festival	Family festival in partnership with BEAT FM	Shankill Castle, Paulstown	23rd July	€10,000	
Bealtaine	National festival celebrating arts & creativity as we age including art, song, music, dance, health & well being, local history, talks & demos	Library branch network (Callan, Castlecomer, Ferrybank, Johns Quay, Loughboy, Graiguenamanagh, Urlingford), Kilkenny Arts Office, Kilkenny Seniors Forum	1st - 31st May	€3,000	
Cruinnui na Casca (National Easter Monday Festival of Culture)	Medieval village & characters in costume in the grounds of the Medieval Mile Museum (free) and free entry to museum for children	Medieval Mile Museum	17th April	€1,000	
Mc Donagh Famine Experience	Interpretive signage and a community arts project to raise awareness of the human stories at Kilkenny Workhouse	McDonagh Junction Shopping Centre, Kilkenny	Oct 26th	€5,000	
Rhyme Rag	Developing a "Young Ensemble" of writers to strengthen the future of the online Poetry publication for young people	Working with young people throughout the county		€3,000	
Consuming Project	Community arts project exploring our relationship with fashion, what clothing means to us and revealing its true cost.	Kilkenny City venue tbc		€1,000	
Mayfair Memories	Open Day at the Mayfair Ballroom, with cultural/social reminiscences, guided tours of the Abbey and storytelling about brewing, as part of Abbey Quarter Open Day	Abbey Quarter, Kilkenny City	20th May	€4,000	
				€64,000	