



Open Call 2026 Guidelines

Introduction

Galway City Council invites applications for Cruinniú na nÓg 2026.

Cruinniú na nÓg is the national day of creativity for children and young people. It celebrates and encourages children and young people's participation in culture and creativity by providing free, accessible, activity-based creative action in their local areas. Galway City Council invites proposals from artists, creative practitioners and youth groups for creative projects aimed at children and young people aged 0-18 years. Funding ranges from €500 - €3,000. Please submit your online application by **Tuesday, 07 April 2026 4pm.**

Cruinniú na nÓg at Father Burke's Park

This year, Galway City Council will hold a festival style event in Father Burke Park.

We will provide a stage, sound system, gazebos, and catering. We will also be marketing and promoting the event locally, with events published on our media channels and with various outlets, as well as the Cruinniú na nÓg national website: cruinniu.gov.ie

Successful applications will clearly communicate what the nature of their presentation or workshop will be on Saturday 6 June 2026 at Father Burke Park. It may be a showcase of work, activities, a performance, exhibition, or workshop. We welcome your ideas. However, do be aware that we may recommend adjusting your proposal to ensure a good balance of inclusive and diverse events and activities.

Some elements, such as workshops or rehearsals, may take place in advance of the National Day, however, to receive funding your proposal should take place or conclude on **Saturday 6 June 2026**.

Cruinniú na nÓg is an initiative of the Creative Ireland Programme at the Department of Culture, Communications and Sport and is presented in partnership with RTÉ and Local Authorities.

Before starting your application:

- Read the guidelines thoroughly.
- Note that it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the necessary insurances, safeguarding policies and procedures, risk assessments and inclusion policies are in place. Current public health guidelines should be adhered to in the delivery of the project.

Who is eligible?

- Community groups, organisations, and creative practitioners, either based in Galway City, or with the proposed activity or series of activities taking place in Galway City, and being represented, exhibited, performed, or otherwise showcased in Father Burke Park in Galway City on 6 June 2026.
- Applications that request between €500 - €3,000 of funding.

What we can fund

- Project costs associated with creative activities and initiatives.
- Events and event costs such as artists' wages & fees, creative and technical crew, production technical costs for live performances: costume, set, sound, management costs, producer or conductor fees, technical equipment hire, venue costs, documenting of live events (film, photography, sound), marketing & promotion, evaluation, and other reasonable costs.
 - Please note: Galway City Council will have a photographer and videographer present on the day of Cruinniú, but you can include costs for a photographer or videographer for any aspect of your proposal in the lead up to 6 June.

What we cannot fund

- Top-up or substitute funding for existing events and initiatives, unless in respect of a new aspect or element
- Charity fundraisers
- For-profit projects and activities
- Purchase of equipment
- Activities taking place outside of Galway City

Budget and costs

In specifying how much funding you are applying for you will need to consider your expenditure and income in relation to your application.

- Expenditure relates to any costs you expect to have.
- Income relates to any source of funding that you have that is specifically earmarked for the project described in your application. For example, if another organisation is Track record and the quality of the proposed collaboration contributing towards your expenditure, you should include that as income in the application form. You should also include as income any contribution you are proposing to make from your own resources.

The work for which the funding is sought must be carried out on a not-for-profit basis and must reflect Galway City Council's commitment to supporting fair and equitable remuneration of artists and culture professionals in our funding programmes and schemes and in our partnerships and working relationships. This is in accordance with the Arts Council's '[Paying the Artist Policy](#)' best practice principles.

Assessment Criteria

Applications are assessed using the following criteria:

- A. Alignment with Galway City's Culture & Creativity Strategy Objective 2 — 'Creative Youth and Children' – 30%
- B. Quality and impact of the proposal – 30%
- C. Track record, merit of the collaboration and partnership – 20%
- D. Feasibility – Finance – 20%

How to apply

Apply online via the Submit platform: galwaycity.submit.com

If you have not previously registered for Submit, you will be prompted to do so. We recommend doing this as early as possible.

If you are having difficulties with the platform, reach out as early as possible to ensure that we can give assistance well in advance of the deadline.

Deadline for Applications

Please submit your online application by **Tuesday 07 April 2026 at 4 pm**

We aim to be in contact with the results of the applications by the end of April.

Applicants must be in a position to accept an offer around 1 May 2026.

Enquiries

Email: creativeireland@galwaycity.ie with subject line 'Cruinniú na nÓg'.

Please ensure you allow sufficient time for a response to your query (i.e., 2 business days).



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme

