



Deontas Eagraíocht Ealaíon 2027 Arts Organisation Grant 2027

Déan iarratas faoin
Applications due

19.11.26



Artwork Roisín Doherty

Galway City Council Arts Organisation Grant Guidelines:

Timeline:

- Deadline for queries 17th November 2026, 12pm.
- Application deadline: 19th November 2026, 12 pm.
- Results of application process expected in early spring 2027.
- Grants disbursed under the Arts Organisation Grants scheme are for activity in 2027.
- For successful applicants; all financial information, reporting, images, proof of acknowledgment, report Form B and evaluation for 2027 fund must be submitted within a month of programme delivery or at latest by 30th September 2027 with the exception only for festivals programmed to take place thereafter.

Application Process:

- Apply online on [Submit](#)
- Galway City Arts Office encourages all applicants to read these guidelines thoroughly and refer to [Galway City Council's New Directions: Strategic Plan for the Arts 2021-2026](#)
- Applicants should save their username and password as soon as they start the application process.

- Access: If you require assistance with your application or have difficulty accessing our online services, please contact us via email at arts@galwaycity.ie

Galway City Council Arts Organisation Grant overview:

In accordance with the Arts Act 2003, Galway City Council invites applications for funding towards projects and programmes in the city which match the following objectives:

- Stimulating public interest in the arts,
- Promoting knowledge, appreciation and practice of the arts, or
- Improving standards in the arts within its functional area.

Galway City Council is committed to supporting a sustainable, healthy and diverse arts landscape in Galway City. Galway City Council Arts Organisation Grant is divided into two strands:

1) Professional Strand.

2) Community, Voluntary & Amateur Strand.

Arts Grants support activities that deliver your mission in line with Galway City

Council's ["New Directions: Strategic Plan for the Arts 2021-2026"](#).

Applicants for the Community, Voluntary and Amateur Strand need to comply

with [Code of Practice for Good Governance of Community, Voluntary and Charitable Organisations in Ireland](#).

Key priorities of Galway City Council Arts Organisation Grant:

- Supporting arts activity within the [Galway City Council Administrative Area](#).
- The delivery of excellent arts projects, events or activities.
- Programming that strengthens arts opportunities and participation.
- Excellent standards in governance, monitoring evaluation, and management in the arts.
- Diversity of Galway City reflected.
- Strengthen the use and visibility of Gaeilge.
- Supporting organisations aiming to both reduce carbon footprint and negative impacts.

Who is eligible for the Galway City Council Arts Organisation Grant?

- Not for profit Arts Organisations including companies limited by guarantee (CLG), designated activity companies (DAC) and partnerships.
- Arts Organisations with good governance practices.
- Arts Organisations based in Galway City.
- Arts Organisations that work across creative [art forms](#).
- Arts Organisations that engage with diverse audiences.
- Arts Organisations who show a commitment to dignity and respect in the arts workplace.
- Professional Arts Organisations will have at least one salaried employee.

How can funding be applied:

- High-quality ambitious programming and arts activity.
- Overheads/administrative costs appropriate and in proportion to the activities proposed, including planning and preparation costs.
- **Please note:** Arts Organisations in receipt of strategic funding from the Arts Council will not be eligible for core costs.
- **Personal Disability Access Costs:** Applicants may include costs that support the participation of artists, collaborators, production personnel or key administrative staff with disabilities in the development and delivery of their proposal. Eligible costs may include, but are not limited to, ISL interpretation, access support workers, additional rehearsal or studio time, accessible transport, or other reasonable accommodations required to remove barriers to participation.

Where Personal Disability Access Costs are requested, applicants must submit a separate document outlining the nature of the supports and the associated costs.

Ineligible application of funding:

- The work of arts organisations outside the [Galway City Council Administrative Area](#).
- Businesses and privately run for-profit organisations or companies.
- The Professional Strand does not support organisations whose primary function is outside of the arts. (These organisations may be eligible for other funding opportunities through Galway City Council.)
- Individual artists/creatives. (Individual artists may apply for the Galway City Council Creative Practitioner Bursary.)

- Organisations who have been previously funded and who have not acknowledged funding supports from Galway City Council, or who have not met the required standard of reporting, and submission of financial materials.
 - Applicants who fail to submit a complete application or do not include references to [New Directions Strategic Plan for the Arts 2021 -2026](#) in their application.
 - Capital expenditure e.g., acquiring, maintaining or improving physical assets such as land or property, the purchase or upgrade of equipment or computer hardware.
 - Core Costs already publicly funded, e.g. by the Arts Council or other agency/ service.
 - Core costs such as ongoing overhead or administrative costs where there is no relationship with the activities outlined in the application.
 - Alcohol - including when served as part of launches or events.
 - Activities for costs that do not fit the purpose of the award.
 - Proposals which do not have an artistic, cultural or creative objective.
 - Academic activities that do not form part of the development of a professional arts practice.
 - Prizes, third party grants, loans, debts, or charity fundraising events including raffles.
- Funding for activities that involve gambling cannot be applied for.

Public Money:

Applicants are reminded that public money must be spent with clarity, governance, value for money, and fairness in mind, as set out by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform. [Further details can be found here](#). Where applicants receive grants from other publicly funded agencies/organisations, grantees are required to provide, as a condition of funding, a declaration that there will be no duplication of funding for the same activity/project. Financial records returned to Galway City Council must be rigorous and may be audited.

Health and Safety: All applications must adhere to relevant Health and Safety Regulations.

What supporting material is required to make an application?

- Evidence of any additional financial support you are in receipt of or expect to receive from other public sources.
- Evidence of Insurance e.g. Certificate of insurance demonstrating organisation activity for which this grant has been applied for as well as appropriate thresholds:
 - o Public Liability Insurance: €6.5m minimum.

- Employer's Liability Insurance: €13m minimum (if applicable).
- Galway City Council shall be indemnified on insurance and proof provided within time-frame of grant programme.
- Arts Organisations funded through Galway City Arts Office must be fully compliant with all laws applicable to their organisation including (but not limited to) the following:
 - Tax legislation – payment of taxes & compliance with tax laws
 - Organisation of Working Time Act 1997 – working hours and annual leave/break entitlements
 - Irish Pension Regulations – provision of access to PRSA
 - National Minimum Wage Act – payment of staff
 - Companies Act – filing of returns, holding of AGMs etc.
 - Follow Arts Council's 'Paying the Artist Policy'.
- Please note that if total payments reach the €10,000 threshold within a 12-month period, payments cannot be made until a Tax Clearance Certificate is forwarded to Galway City Council.
- If your proposal involves working with children and young people under the age of 18 you must submit your child protection policy and procedures. See www.tusla.ie for more information
- If your proposal involves working with vulnerable adults, you must confirm that you adhere to the "National Policy and Procedures on Safeguarding Vulnerable Persons" at risk of Abuse. Found [here](#).
- If your proposal involves working with animals, you must provide a copy of your Animal Welfare Protection Policies and Procedures.
- You are invited to share evidence of engagement with Safe to Create training if completed. Assessors can only review the materials in the URL links you provide. Check that any links you submit work and that they bring the viewer to the correct source. Make sure that you set the viewing permissions of your material to "Public". Supporting material set to "Private" will not be assessed as part of your application.

Additional guidelines:

- Canvassing of any kind will disqualify the applicant.
- Do not assume the assessment panel knows you or your organisation's work.

- Remember your application is assessed based on all information supplied within a competitive context.
- Provide a programme/ project timeline.
- Ensure that you enclose all requested documentation.
- All appropriate supporting material must be submitted with your application as late submissions or submissions left in draft format cannot be accepted.
- Funding is limited and the process is competitive, therefore not all applicants can be successful, and successful grantees may be awarded less than the requested amount. Funding will be awarded only where applications meet the criteria set down by Galway City Council. Please note that Galway City Council reserves its right to amend the value of an award subject to available budgets or conditions of offer.
- **When you submit your application, you will receive an automated acknowledgement email from the Submit platform. It is your responsibility to contact the Arts Office at arts@galwaycity.ie if you do not receive confirmation on submission.**
- It is recommended you upload your application at least 48 hours before the advertised deadline. That way, if you encounter a technical problem, you will have time to contact us for assistance in resolving the matter.
- The deadline for support/ queries is 17th November 2026. Requests received after that time, we cannot guarantee your technical issues will be resolved due to high volume of applicants using the online system.

Assessment of Galway City Council Arts Organisation Grants applications:

Your application for the Arts Organisation Grant 2027 must be submitted [online](#) no later than **12pm on Thursday 19th November 2026**. Late and/ or incomplete submissions will not be accepted.

Assessment and Evaluation:

- Applications that clearly fall outside of the eligibility criteria will be disqualified.
- All applications are reviewed by an evaluation panel.
- Recommendations will be adopted at an ordinary Galway City Council Meeting in early 2027.
- All Arts Organisation Grants are offered subject to the availability of funds.

Applications are assessed, scored and weighted using the following assessment criteria.

A	Artistic Quality and Organisational Capacity	40%
B	Alignment to “New Directions” and delivery on key priorities. Equality, Diversity, Inclusion.	30%
C	Engagement, Audiences & Promoting the Arts	30%

A. Artistic Quality and Organisational Capacity – 40%

- The ambition and strength of ideas.
- Your artistic impact.
- The degree of innovation and risk-taking including artist selection.
- Opportunities for artists and/or arts professionals to develop their practice and/or to create or to be engaged in high-quality work.
- The applicant’s efforts to build the professional capacity of the sector.
- The track record of the organisation.
- Evidence of continued artistic growth and development.
- Good governance practices and an excellent standard of management in the arts.
- Your approach to ensuring fair pay and conditions for artists.

B. “New Directions” – 30%

How well your application connects with the values, aims and objectives outlined in “New Directions Strategic Plan for the Arts 2021 -2026” which can be found [here](#). This includes how your proposal aligns with key priorities such as:

- Delivery of excellent artwork, events and services to who may experience additional barriers to participating in the arts.
- Programming that strengthens arts opportunities and participation.
- Equality, Diversity and inclusion - How your work aspires to be inclusive of people and communities affected by marginalisation. Arts Council Ireland: Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy, and Procedures: [ArtsCouncil.ie/Arts-in-Ireland/Equality,-Diversity-and-Inclusion](https://www.artscouncil.ie/Arts-in-Ireland/Equality,-Diversity-and-Inclusion)
- Irish Language - The promotion of Irish language arts, strengthening the use of the Irish language, commissioning and presentation of existing and new work in the Irish language, visibility of the Irish Language as a spoken language across artforms.
- Environmental Awareness – How as arts organisations you support efforts to reduce carbon footprint and environmental impacts.

C. Engagement, Audiences & Promoting the Arts – 30%

In the context of assessing applications for funding, the term ‘Engagement’ to mean the quality of interaction that your organisation has with the individuals and communities it works with. Your application will be evaluated based on:

- Your track record in engagement.
- Your planned actions and measurable outcomes to deliver engagement.
- How you share work with marginalised communities, neighbourhoods and districts across the city.
- Your proposed marketing plan.
- How you engage with residents and visitors to Galway City.
- Your impact on audiences.

Checklist application material

1	Fully completed application form with specific reference to “New Directions Strategic Plan for the Arts 21-26”	
2	Supporting documentation including photos and video links where relevant. Letters of support are required where partnerships, communities or other supports etc. are listed.	
3	Insurance Certificate	
4	Relevant safeguarding policies where working with participants e.g.: Child Protection, Vulnerable Adults, Animal Welfare	
5	Financial Information	
6	Copy of valid Tax Clearance certificate where relevant	

Conditions for successful applicants

- The funding offered must only be used for the purposes specified in your application
- The funding under this grant is for activities taking place in 2027.
- Funding is split: 50% on signing the grant agreement (issued alongside a letter of offer) and 50% after submitting the final project report.
- If the event or project is altered, postponed or cancelled, Galway City Arts Office must be contacted immediately.
- All financial information, reporting, images, proof of acknowledgment, report Form B and evaluation for your 2027 fund must be submitted within a month of programme delivery or at latest by 30th September 2027 with the exception only for festivals programmed to take place thereafter.
- Late or incomplete submissions may not be accommodated, and remaining funding may be withheld. The recipients must follow the procedure, as confirmed in writing to them, regarding drawing down the grant. A grant may be withheld if the above is not adhered to.

- Galway City Council Arts Office must be acknowledged on all publicity, press and marketing material produced in connection with the undertaking or event in line with our acknowledgement guidelines available on our website.
- You must provide clear and rigorous financial information, and the organisation must operate with clarity, governance, value for money and fairness at the core of its financial practices. Galway City Council may request to carry out an audit of expenditure or conduct inspections if required to verify compliance with grant awarded. Applicants must be prepared to furnish further particulars or information to Galway City Council if requested.
- Where applicants are in receipt of grants from other publicly funded agencies/organisations, grantees are required to provide, as a condition of funding, a declaration that there will be no duplication of funding for the same activity/project.
- You must ensure that all necessary statutory permissions or consents have been obtained before any marketing activity commences. This includes ensuring consents relating to GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) and IP (Intellectual Property) permissions have been sought and checked in relation to use of images for marketing and reporting purposes.

Freedom of Information:

You are welcome to ask for feedback if your application does not qualify for funding. Information provided to Galway City Council may be disclosed in response to a request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2014. Applicants are requested to consider if any of the information supplied should not be disclosed because of its sensitivity. If this is the case, candidates should, when providing the information, identify same and specify the reasons for its sensitivity. If such information is not identified as sensitive and Galway City Council upon consideration does not deem it sensitive, then such information is liable to be released in response to a Freedom of Information request without further consultation with the applicants. Galway City Council will consult with any candidates about sensitive information before deciding on any Freedom of Information Act request received.

Details of successful applicants will be published on our website and social media channels. To familiarise yourself with the provisions of the Act, see www.foi.gov.ie

Data Protection:

All personal information received will be held in line with our Data Protection Policy. You can find our privacy notice [here](#).

Enquiries

Email: arts@galwaycity.ie with subject line “Arts Organisation Grants 2027 Enquiry”. The cut-off date for receipt of queries is **12pm, Tuesday 17th November, 2026**.

Submit your application by the deadline of 12pm, 19th November, 2026