



Levelling Access Artist Practice Bursary Award 2024

Guidelines

Closing date: 19 November 2024

Award: €5000. One award each in Clare, Galway City & Mayo.

Information

The Arts Services in Clare County Council, Galway City Council and Mayo County Council published the Levelling Access Report in 2023. The partners now invite applications from professional artists with a disability, working in any artform and at any career stage, for the Levelling Access Artists Practice Bursary, which is supported by The Arts Council.

The bursary aligns with the Arts Councils Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Implementation Plan, and delivered in partnership with local authorities, aims to provide specific support to an artist who has experienced barriers in their career development.

This Artist Practice Bursary Award will offer the successful recipient the opportunity to focus on the development of their professional practice, develop a specific artistic project, or both. The purpose of this award is to highlight the value and benefits of engaging with one's artistic practice and to provide an artist with a disability with the resources needed to support this process.

This bursary is intended to support professional artists under the following categories.

- A. Development of professional practice** (Such as mentorship, networking, or masterclasses)
- B. Creation of new work.** (e.g. materials assistance, exploration/research assistance/to allow time to concentrate on artistic practice and reflection)
- C. Develop a specific artistic project** (e.g. collaborative work, engagement project)

Access costs

In addition to the maximum amount permitted, each local authority will also consider access costs specifically relating to the making of work by artists with disabilities and/or non-capital public-access costs (e.g. audio description, interpretation) in cases where your proposal has a public outcome.

The local authorities take the definition of disability from the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which states: ‘Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which, in interaction with various barriers, may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.’

If you wish to apply for access costs, please include the following information with your application:

A document outlining your access costs and the associated costs. Access costs are in addition to the Bursary of €5000.

What is an access cost?

Access costs for artists or participants with disabilities cover any requirements you may have in order to remove barriers that might stop you from completing your proposal. This may include, for example, costs towards additional time needed to complete an element of your proposal or additional assistance required to deliver your proposed activity.

[Additional Supports for the Bursary Recipient](#)

The recipients of the Bursary will have access to additional supports including:

- A number of online meetups. These meetings will be facilitated and will provide an opportunity for networking and peer-to-peer learning. It is envisaged that there will be no more than three meet-ups, and each session will last approximately 45 minutes. (commitment to attending these sessions is a requirement of the bursary)
- Alongside this, there will be a suite of soft supports available to the recipient including information, advice, and signposting. This support, if required, can be availed of throughout the period covered by the bursary.

- The successful applicant must also engage in an evaluation process.

Eligibility

To apply for this bursary applicants must be:

- A professional artist, as demonstrated in their CV.

A professional artist is defined as an individual of any age and working in any artform, who has a demonstrable track record in professional arts practice, although they may not earn income continuously/exclusively from their arts practice. They identify, and are recognised by their peers, as professional artists.

- An artist with a disability

Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which, in interaction with various barriers, may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.'

- Over 18 years of age
- Living and working in one of the local authority areas – Clare, Galway City or Mayo

Applications will not be accepted from/for:

- Applicants in full-time education
- Applications from artists from outside the listed areas
- Groups and organisations
- To support commercial activity

How to Apply

Applicants must complete and submit the application form along with a C.V. and relevant supporting materials.

Application forms can be accepted in either MS Word or PDF format (Max 10MB) and can be submitted by post, email, or hand delivery.

Applications must be submitted on or before the deadline.

Deadline: Tuesday, 19 November 2024

Supporting Material

Supporting materials must be included with your application. The panel will use these to gain a better understanding of your work, your record, potential collaborators, and the feasibility of your proposal.

- Please compile all supporting material into a single MS Word or PDF document.
- Links to video or audio content should be submitted in MS Word or PDF formats.
- A clearly labelled contents list must be included with the supporting materials.

Assessment of Application

Applications will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- how the application aligns with the objective of the award,
- relevance of professional experience as presented in application,
- quality of supporting material,
- how the bursary will impact your practice, and the feasibility of the application, including the timeline and budget.

The assessment panel will consist of an independent arts & disability representative and local authority arts representatives.

Applications are assessed based on the information supplied in your application and within a competitive context.

All applicants will be advised of the panel's decision by email.

Terms and Conditions

- The awarded funding must only be used for the specific purpose for which it has been granted.
- Where a grant is allocated for a specific award, the three local authorities will not be responsible for the insurance of that project.
- The successful applicant must satisfy their local authorities Health and Safety requirements.
- Funding provided by the three local authorities must be acknowledged in all publicity material. The successful applicant will receive a copy of their local authority's logo and guidance on how to use the logo when acknowledging funding support.

- An evaluation report, and where relevant, images regarding the project must be submitted to the successful applicant's local authority arts Office by the deadline outlined in the letter of offer. A report form will be provided.
- This grant will be paid in two instalments, the first payment of 50% following receipt of letter of offer and the second payment 50% upon completion of the project and receipt of evaluation report.
- This project should be completed by the end of October 2025 and drawdown documentation submitted by the end of November 2025.

Further information and advice

Please prepare and submit your application well before the deadline.

If you need assistance submitting your application, please email or call the Arts Office team as early as possible.

Galway City Council Contact: Nicola Gilcreest, Arts Development Officer

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