
Community Arts Grant Award 2025

Process

In 2024 a €250K additional allocation was given by Dublin City Council to Arts Grants on the basis that the Arts Office would increase local engagement and participation in the Arts throughout City. Through the SPC and the Arts and Cultural Sub Group a Pilot Scheme for €250K per year has been conducted with 50K allocated to each Administrative Area with a call for applications based on Arts practice and Community development criteria. Following the learning from these Pilots in 2024 and 2025, the €250K additional funding will be added to Arts Grants 2026.

This was the second year of a two-year pilot. Applicants were asked to identify which administrative area they were applying under (where a map of the boundaries was supplied). *Note: It was necessary to move some applicants into the correct area, but overall there was a better understanding of areas in the second year of the pilot*

The advertised criteria for assessment was as follows

1. **The Quality of the proposal and how it combines the elements of both Community Development and the Arts Development objectives.** (40%)
2. **The track record of the applicant(s) and their experience.** (30%)
3. **The feasibility of the proposal including its financial feasibility.** (30%)

Assessors

Applications were assigned to two external assessors overseen by an assistant Arts Officer. Particular attention was given to a review of applications understood by externs to be ineligible or assigned to the incorrect administrative area. Where necessary some applications were re-scored if eligibility was confirmed. 48 applications were received in total.

Areas

South Central Area received the highest number of applications (18) and overall was the most competitive administrative area. The full allocation of 50K has been recommended for award.

Central Area received the second highest number of applications (17) though the standard of application was very mixed. There was a clear differential in the scores of those shortlisted and those not. €39885 has been recommended from a budget of €50,000, leaving approx. **10K unallocated.**

North West Area received 4 applications, two of which were recommended for award. Both were close to the cap of award. €39920 has been allocated, leaving approx. **10k unallocated.**

North Central Area received 4 applications and all four are recommended for funding. 40k is allocated, leaving **10K unallocated.**

South East Area received 6 applications and only two have been recommended for funding. The others in the main did not include detail on the collaboration with professional artists or

had no specific community engagement. Only 24,420K has been recommended for funding – leaving **€25,580 unallocated**.

The City Arts Officer has proposed to a sub group of Cllrs under the Chair of the SPC Cllr Moriarty the following approach to dealing with any unallocated funding towards developmental projects/initiatives in each area. All proposals to be implemented in conjunction with the relevant Area Office.

In North Central the €10K unallocated to be used in support of the programmes being developed by the Arts Office in Clongriffin following ongoing community consultation.

In North West the €10K unallocated to be used to support a new Finglas Community Arts Network proposed by the Area Office.

In the South East Area the €25,800 unallocated to be the subject of consideration by the Arts Office and Area Office and further proposals to be brought to the Arts and Cultural Sub Group in September.

In the Central Area a developmental and governance support programme to be initiated with Phizzfest as this Festival continues to grow and faces developmental and funding challenges in the coming years.

This approach above and the Grants awarded below to be approved by Dublin City Council at its July Meeting.

South Central	Awardee	Recommendation
Ballyfermot	Na Píobairí Uileann Working with Ballyfermot Travellers Action Project to re-connect to Traveller musical heritage through a programme of workshops, talks and performances.	8,700
Liberties	The Performance Corporation Pretty Vacant is a site-specific theatre project that explores the social impact of dereliction and vacant spaces on community; working in collaboration with The Liberties Festival and Liberties Community Project.	16,000
D8	Hen's Teeth An 8 week programme between Fountain Resource Group, Aoife O'Neill and Hen's Teeth, engaging young people in creative expression	8,000

Liberties	Dublin Youth Theatre DYT will work with young people aged 12 -16 from The Voices of Oliver Bond House project and Robert Emmett CDP	12,300
The Coombe	The Coombe Women and Infants Hospital Collaborative initiative with Specialist Perinatal Mental Health Service (Coombe Hospital and community arts practitioner Laoise Fitzgerald (10 week singing programme aiming to reduce symptoms of post-natal depression)	5000
Central Area	Awardee	Recommendation
Cabra/Phibsborough	Taking Flight Collaboration between Holy Child School for the Deaf and Taking Flight, where young people can explore , create and perform aerial dance theatre.	18,450
Stoneybatter	Black Church Print Studios Collaboration between Stanhope Street Primary school, Black Church Print Studios, Fighting Words and Cabra Library where children will create their own illustrated book inspired by the Zoo and local community.	12,000
NEIC	Lourdes Youth & Community Services Building on existing relationships and preparatory 'theatre of the oppressed' work, this proposal continues work with an identified group from NEIC, working with a wider team of artists and leading to a performance in Sean O'Casey Theatre.	9485

North West Area	Awardee	Recommendation
Ballymun & Finglas	<p>Music Network</p> <p>Multi-disciplinary arts programme with schools in Ballymun and Finglas, Community groups and NW Partnership, DCU and Botanic Gardens - leading to music response to biodiversity themes.</p>	20,000
Ballymun	<p>Axis Ballymun</p> <p>Artist in residence programme with singer Triona Ní Dhuibhir working with local schools - first phase of longer collaborative song writing programme.</p>	19920
North Central	Awardee	Recommendation
Marino	<p>Creative Minds Art & Culture Programme</p> <p>Arts programme with 5 schools, Marino Residents association and Easy Trees in a project co-funded by the Arts Council</p>	7820
Priorswood	<p>Creative Places Darndale</p> <p>Good Man Yourself - socially engaged community arts programme with Priorswood Mens Shed over 16 weeks, culminating in public performance, exploring masculinity</p>	15,000
Kilbarrack/Raheny	<p>St Michael's House Children's Disability Network Team</p> <p>An inclusive aerial and circus arts programme designed specifically for children and young people from SMH Kilbarrack and Raheny schools with physical disabilities, intellectual disabilities, Autism, and complex additional needs.</p>	7000

Fairview	Photo Museum Ireland Artist led workshops with skatepark community in Fairview Park, leading to exhibition (original proposal also included site in south Central)	10,180
South East Area	Awardee	Recommendation
	BlueDrum Blue Drum working in collaboration with Charlemont Community Resource Centre - phase 2 of a culture garden	18,420
	RADE RADE client members in recovery will work with RHA to facilitate a process leading to exhibition in the RHA Gallery	6,000

Resolution:

Dublin City Council notes the contents of Report No.156/2025 and hereby approves the Community Arts Grant Awards 2025 as set out therein.

Eileen Quinlivan

Deputy Chief Executive

Culture, Community, Leisure & Area Services

23rd June 2025