



## **Clare County Council Per Cent for Art Programme**

### **Recruitment of Public Art Co-Ordinator**

**May 2016**

#### **Context**

Clare County Council is preparing to commission a variety of countywide Public Art projects that will result in the creation of new artwork and artistic projects in the County across a variety of artistic disciplines. These projects are funded under the Governments Per Cent for Art Scheme.

The budget currently available for the programme is €200,000 which may be added to as new construction projects come on stream in the coming years.

#### **Background to the Residency**

##### **Brief History of the Per Cent for Art Scheme**

In 1986, the Department of the Environment introduced the Artistic Embellishment Scheme under which a local authority could dedicate 1% of capital funding within specified guidelines to an arts project. In 1997 following the publication of the 'Public Art Research Project' the scheme was renamed as the Per Cent for Art Scheme and recommendations were made that the previous ceiling of €25,400 be increased to €63,500, and that the pooling of funds, be permitted. It also identified the need for the diversification of the nature of public arts projects funded through the scheme. The Scheme was extended to all government departments and public bodies.

In 2004 the Department of Art, Sports and Tourism produced national guidelines for the commissioning of Public Art to provide a common national approach to implementation of the Per Cent for Art Scheme for public bodies delivering capital construction projects; to provide consistency in procedures; to allow for openness and flexibility in planning; selection and review processes and to further develop commissioning practices.

## **Clare County Council Public Art Programme**

The Arts Office of Clare County Council is responsible for the delivery of the Public Art Programme of Clare County Council, in line with the Public Art Strategy as laid out in the 2010 – 2014 Clare Arts Development Plan. The Arts Office administers the programme, in line with the National Guidelines on the Commissioning of Public Art. As per the national guidelines on the Per Cent for Art Scheme, Clare County Council has been pooling the funds allocated to Clare County Council so as to enable a more strategic approach to the commissioning of art works.

Funding allocated to the council via social housing schemes is not pooled, independent projects are managed by the Council in these instances.

On occasion, the local authority works with other state agencies to undertake commissions. In 2014 the Arts Office worked with the OPW to purchase artworks for the Office of the Revenue Commissioners in Ennis.

The Arts Office also offers advice to other groups who are commissioning under the Per Cent for Art Scheme as part of our advice and advocacy service to the community such as primary and secondary schools.

In October 2013, a programme of commissions commenced. The aim of the programme was to instigate a large scale public art commission in each area of Clare - north, south, east and west along the then electoral divisions of the county. A further commission for the Ennis area and a county wide commission were also included.

### **1 County Wide Commission - The Clare Concerto**

The Clare Memory Orchestra (rebranded as the Irish Memory Orchestra) is a uniquely Irish orchestra founded by composer Dave Flynn. It has combined some of Ireland's leading traditional and classical musicians, based in Ireland and abroad, to create a distinctive new sound. The orchestra gets its name from the fact that the musicians play from memory, without the barrier of sheet-music on stage and that the orchestra is based in Clare County, with rehearsals taking place in Glór and all performances to date taking place in Clare.

The Arts Office commissioned 'the Clare Concerto', a piece of new music celebrating the County and its' association with music as well as an outreach and education programme and performances in Feakle and Ennis. The premiere performance of the *Clare Concerto* took place at Glór in November 2013.

### **East Clare Commission - Mná Brian Ború**

The first area to be awarded a commission will be the East Clare electoral area. To tie in with the Brian Ború celebrations in 2014 we commissioned the Clare Memory Orchestra to compose a piece of music celebrating Brian Boru's links with Kincora / East Clare area. This was performed in Killaloe in late 2014.

Since 2013, the following stand alone projects have also been undertaken

### **KILKEE**

Completion of the Public Art Commission in Cultúrlann Sweeney (library and theatre development) and associated community workshops. Orla Kaminska was commissioned through an open selection process to create a mosaic starfish and to engage in mosaic workshops with local children.

### **KILMALEY**

Brief design, tender process, selection process, project management and installation of piece for Kilmaley Voluntary Housing Association. Commission awarded to Michael McTigue.

### **CUAN AN CHLÁIR**

Brief design, tender process, selection process, project management and installation of piece for Cuan an Chláir Voluntary Housing Association. Commission awarded to Lewis Goodman

**Details of all commissions are available at**

**[www.clarelibrary.ie/eolas/cominfo/arts/public\\_art\\_commissions.htm](http://www.clarelibrary.ie/eolas/cominfo/arts/public_art_commissions.htm)**

## **Programme Details**

The Public Art Co-ordinator will be responsible for

1. Undertaking a series of commissions per the following electoral areas in 2016 / 2017 - Shannon, North Clare, West Clare and Ennis
2. Support schools and community groups with public art projects
3. Devise a new public art programme for Clare County Council for upcoming commissions.

## **Skills Required**

- Understanding of the Per Cent for Scheme and how it is administered.
- Understanding of the role of the County Arts Office and local authorities involvement in the arts.
- Proven track record in commissioning artworks across a range of arts disciplines.
- Ability to engage communities in the commissioning process.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Excellent organisation and administration skills including use of social media.

- Experience of managing a wide range of activities and the ability to prioritise and meet deadlines
- Ability to work under pressure, and work flexibly and co-operatively as part of a team
- Ability to work on own initiative
- Availability to work flexible hours including evenings and weekends as appropriate
- Experience of project management methodologies and best practice

## **Remuneration**

The Residency will be awarded as a contract for services based on working two days per week for 2 years at a rate of €230 per week. Payment will be made on a monthly basis. The position will require some degree of flexibility of working hours and occasional out of office hours.

The successful candidate may avail of office space within the Arts Office if desired or can work remotely if preferred. Agreed travel expenses will be paid for work related travel aside from attendance at meetings / use of office space in Ennis. Parking is not available at the County Arts Office.

The successful candidate will be required to provide Clare County Council with a tax clearance certificate prior to signing of contracts.

## **Selection process**

- Applicants must submit three copies of their CV (maximum length 3 pages)
- CV's should include the names and contact details of two independent referees.

Please ensure that all submitted materials are clearly marked with the candidates name.

**Applications should be marked 'Public Art Co-ordinator'  
and submitted to:**

The Arts Officer,  
Clare County Library, Mill Road, Ennis, Co. Clare

**Closing date: 12 noon on Friday, June 10th, 2016.  
Interviews to take place the week of June 20th, 2016.**

## **Criteria for selection**

- Experience working in a local authority, arts or other cultural institution or organisation
- Experience in commissioning public art
- Experience in working with artists and with communities
- Relevant third level qualification
- Current driving license

## **Interviews**

Applicants may be short-listed on the basis of their submissions and short-listed applicants will be called for interview the week of June 20th, 2016. Date to be confirmed.

## **In advance of the contract being awarded the following will be agreed:**

- Goals, roles and responsibilities and agreed criteria for the Public Art Co-ordinator and the Arts Office;
- Agreed programme of work that is flexible and responsive;
- Supports available from the Arts Office
- Ongoing review and evaluation; regular meetings.
- Working hours
- Travel expenses

## **Child Protection**

In accordance with the national Child Protection Guidelines *Children First*, the selected candidate will be required to follow child protection procedures as specified by Clare County Council. Applicants are required to undergo Garda Vetting.

## **Freedom of Information**

The provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1997-2003 apply to Clare County Council. Applicants should state if any of the information supplied by them is confidential or sensitive and should not be disclosed to a request for information under the aforementioned Act. Applicants should state why they consider the information to be confidential or commercially sensitive.

## **Prompt Payments**

Under the Prompt Payments Accounts Act, the Local Authority is obliged to pay within 30 days, upon receipt of a valid invoice.

Please refer any queries to Siobhán Mulcahy, Arts Officer 065 6846267 or email [arts@clarelibrary.ie](mailto:arts@clarelibrary.ie)

***Please note that Clare County Council reserves the right not to award this contract if none of the applications received are deemed to be suitable. In this instance Clare County Council reserves the right to pursue a different procurement process.***