

# Autumn 2021

## Meath Arts Office Newsletter



Welcome to the Autumn edition of the Arts Office newsletter.

With the recent Government announcements relating to the long awaited easing of Covid 19 restrictions, the arts sector can finally look forward to planning its long awaiting road to recovery. With the livelihoods, careers and futures of many artists and arts sector workers having been on hold for the past 18 months, this is welcomed news indeed.

This September, we will see the ever popular and growing Hinterland Festival return to a programme of 'in person' events. With a sterling line up of arts, literature, music and history talks, workshops, readings, conversations and performances, we look forward to experiencing the magical buzz this festival brings to the town of Kells once more.

SoFFT Productions have also announced an upcoming blend of filmed and live events in partnership with the Arts Office supported by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports & Media's Local Live Performance Scheme. 'Autumn Equinox - Until The Harvest Comes' & 'Until The Dew Falls' are a celebration of local music from Meath's finest.

In September we also have the inaugural Poetry Town Programme of workshops, virtual performances and community events occurring during the week of 10th—18th in Dunshaughlin and finally, Culture Night will take place on Friday September 17th this year. A few highlights from this year's Culture Night offerings include:

### **ALoud: Voices from Dunshaughlin and Beyond**

As part of Poetry Ireland's Poetry Town project this online event will include the reveal and presentation of the Poet Laureate's specially commissioned poem to the people of the town in a video production featuring additional contributions from local poets, artists and musicians.

### **Colmcille 1500 Illuminations**

The Colmcille 1500 Illuminations feature projected artworks celebrating the story of Colmcille through artistic expression and includes the iconography produced by monks, scribes, stonemasons and metal workers at Kells monastery. The Colmcille Illuminations will be projected across the county at landmark sites on Culture Night to mark the 1500th anniversary of St. Colmcille's birth.

### **The CoClub presents:**

A contemporary artistic response through film to the life and legacy of Colmcille as part of the Colmcille 1500 celebration.

### **Irish Language Event:**

Meath County Council's Irish Language Officer Nóirín Murphy will facilitate a Zoom talk with Michael McCaughren of Clare County Council entitled: 'Irish, there is healing in the Language'

This flurry of new local Arts Activity is reflective of the change Autumn always brings; the harvesting of what has no doubt been a time of quiet growth and development for many artists as they germinated and developed ideas behind closed doors throughout these past months.

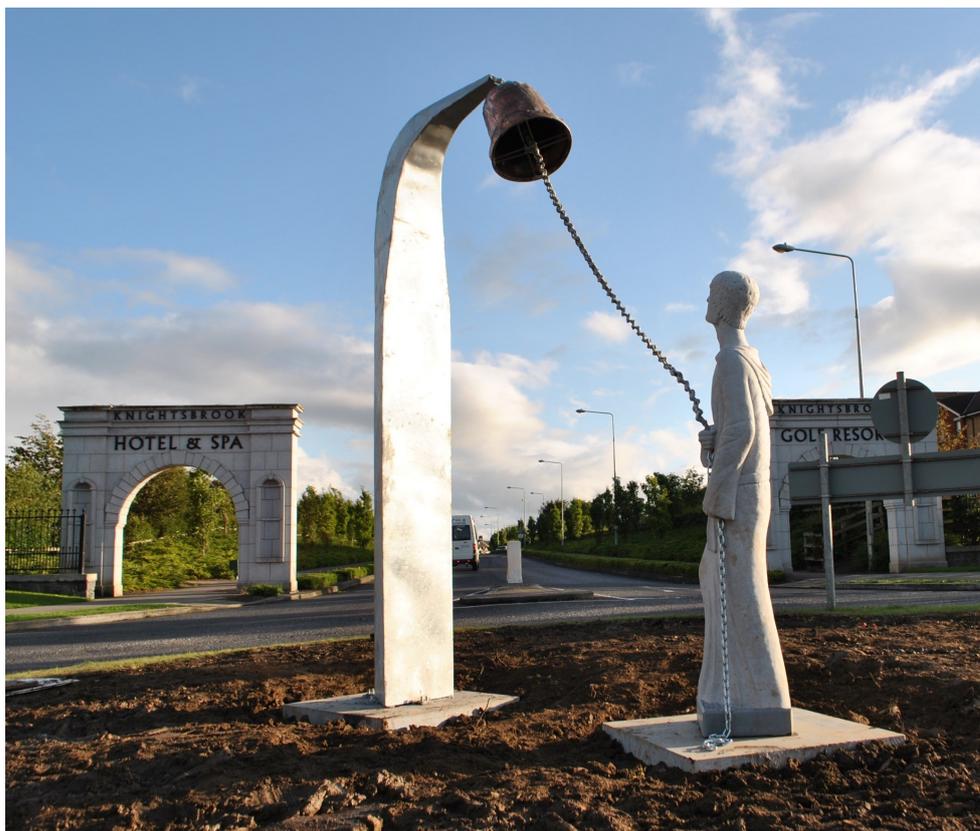
We look forward to a return of live and in-person events and to supporting our colleagues in the delivery of these.

Beir bua!

Gerardette Bailey  
County Arts Officer



## SPOTLIGHT ON PUBLIC ART : At the End of the Day by Patrick Barry



*At the end of the Day* by Patrick Barry is a monumental stone, copper, steel and zinc sculpture located at Knightsbrook roundabout, on the R154 Dublin Road on the outskirts of the vibrant and flourishing market town of Trim.

Patrick Barry undertook a BA Degree in Fine Art in Crawford College, Cork, where he discovered his passion for stone. The origin of stone, its formation, consistency and durability fascinated Barry. Here began his relationship with a medium that today is his life's passion. The artwork consists of a male figure in historic garments ringing a bell. The bell represents a common theme that runs through the heritage and architecture of the town.

The bell tower is 3.5m in height and has been fabricated from zinc. The male figure is 2m in height and is made from Kilkenny limestone. The bell is copper.

## Meath County Council Arts Office is shortlisted for an Excellence in Local Government Award 2021

Meath County Council Arts Office has been shortlisted for an Excellence in Local Government Award 2021 under the Sustaining the Arts Category for its RE:Form Initiative.

Re:Form is a 2021 initiative of Meath County Council Arts Office. It aims to directly respond to the challenges faced by the local arts sector caused by the Covid-19 pandemic through digital conversion. The initiative seeks to assist those working in the arts in County Meath to meet the fast-tracked requirements of digital transformation. It aims to empower the local arts sector to recognise the benefits of implementing digital technologies to the making of art and utilising digital platforms for its presentation. It aims to support this move through funding schemes, CPD opportunities, commissioning and programming.



The Excellence in Local Government Awards showcase best practice in local government and recognise the skills, hard work, innovation and enthusiasm within local government. The Excellence in Local Government Awards are held in conjunction with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

The arts have taken a big hit during the pandemic. Continued support for the arts is hugely important for the vibrancy of an area's cultural landscape and is a way in which communities can be inspired to celebrate creativity amongst themselves. This award recognises initiatives by a Local Authority to further develop or promote the arts in their locality. The Excellence in Local Government Awards are due to take place on Thursday 18th November.

# 'Autumn Equinox - Until The Harvest Comes'

## A celebration of Local music from Meath's finest



This intimate event, set on the beautiful grounds of Dunderry Park County Meath, will celebrate and boast local Arts and Music from Meath on September 25th 2021. In total, 6 Acts will perform on one mainstage, built by wonderful craft makers to harmonise with the surrounding environment of nature. The event also falls on the Autumnal equinox, which marks the two moments in the year when the Sun is exactly above the Equator and day and night are of equal length and the celestial equator intersect. The energies of this special period in the calendar will be a force as it merges with the creative flow from those performing at the event and those attending. Certainly, it will be an experience to enjoy and cherish after such a long period of isolation for so many in one of the most uncertain times in modern history.

Featuring the fabulous talents of Those Nervous Animals, HAMSANDWICH; Oliver Cole ; Paddy Smith Band; Joy Booth and Bernadette Nic Gabhann, this is an evening not to be missed.

Along with musical performances, there will be a screening of the cinematic concept short film 'Until the Dew Falls', a homage to the Autumnal Equinox. The short film is ultimately based around the local community - drawing influence from the artists and directors engaging conversations and experiences with the locals on their cultural environment, along with captivating landscapes and places of historical significance. Keeping it organic, SoFFT Productions are working with local Meath artists to develop brand new pieces of music, dance and poetry which will be filmed at Loughcrew, joining together the poignancy of place with artistic expression.

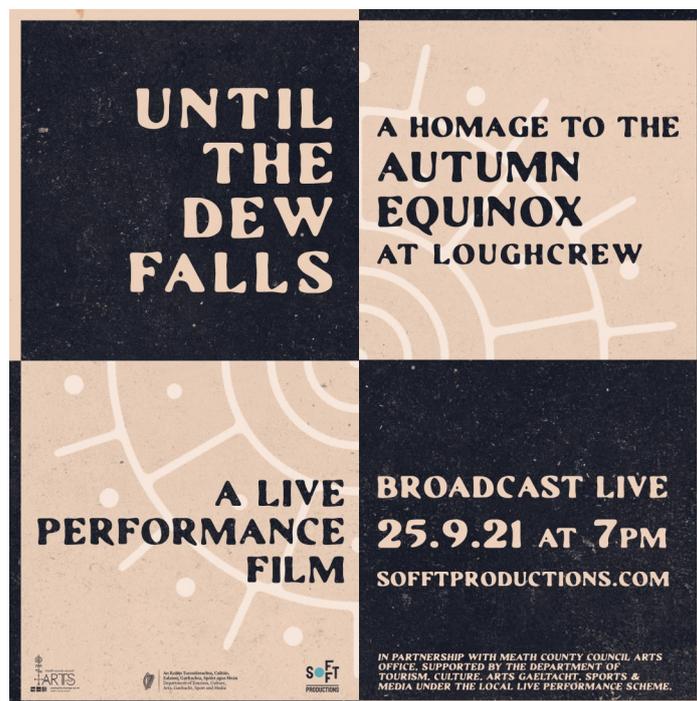
If you can't make the live event the film will also be broadcast at 7pm over on [www.softproductions.com](http://www.softproductions.com) for all to watch.

**You can register now for the screening of the film at the address below.**

[www.softproductions.com](http://www.softproductions.com)

**Tickets for the live event** are €25.00 including the Booking fee and are available at Tickets.ie <https://secure.tickets.ie/Listing/EventInformation/43734/until-the-harvest-comes-dunderry-park-25-September-2021>

Under 18's must be accompanied by an adult. Event subject to government restrictions in partnership with Meath County Council Arts Office, supported by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports & Media under the Local live Performance Scheme.



# Open Call | Meath County Council Cultural Services

## Kathleen McKenna Award 2021



As part of the Decade of Centenaries Programme 2012-2023, our friends at Solstice Arts Centre are delighted to announce an artist award to commemorate Irish republican activist and journalist Kathleen Napoli McKenna, born in Oldcastle, County Meath.

Artists of all disciplines are invited to submit a proposal for a work, or research for a work, that reflects on Kathleen McKenna, and/or, in relation to related feminist themes within the Decades of Centenaries.

Work can be in any form, including essay/written format.

An external panel will assess applications. Artists can submit proposals to the amount of €6,000, however, the panel may award more than one amount, dependant on application merit and demand.



An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir,  
Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán  
Department of Tourism, Culture,  
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media



funding  
the arts



comhairle chontae na mí  
meath county council

Please note to ensure that you pay yourself/others a responsible and adequate fee; it is advised you measure your time, and proposal, in relation to amount of funding requested.

Supported by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under the Decade of Centenaries 2012 – 2023 initiative.

**Deadline for submissions: 13th September 2021.**

Full details available [here](#)

# DUNSHAUGHLIN NAMED CO MEATH'S INAUGURAL POETRY TOWN



Poetry Town, a new initiative, which will see more than a hundred free poetry-related activities take place in 20 towns across the island of Ireland between 10th and 18th September 2021. Dunshaughlin in Co Meath will be among the Poetry Towns, with activities for the town being organised by Poetry Ireland in partnership with Meath County Council Arts Office.

Orla Fay is appointed Poet Laureate for Dunshaughlin and has been commissioned to write a poem honouring her Poetry Town and its people.

Orla will be delivering a poetry themed workshop via Zoom which can be booked [here](#)

There will also be a wide variety of other activities occurring for Poetry Town.

These will include a series of poetry events involving local poets; poetry schools workshops and competitions; public poetry displays, including 'Poetry Underfoot'; and a range of physical activities called 'Poems that Move You'.

Local businesses, including cafés and chemists, will also be participating in the activities to celebrate their town by distributing 'pocket poems' to customers. The full programme for each town will be made available on the Poetry Town website.

**Poetry Town is an initiative of Poetry Ireland in partnership with Local Authority Arts Offices. It is made possible with funding from the Arts Council of Ireland's Open Call funding, and is also supported by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.**

For further information, visit the Poetry Town website: [poetrytown.ie](http://poetrytown.ie).

## ALoud: Voices from Dunshaughlin and Beyond



Tune into the Meath County Council [YouTube](#) this Culture Night, Friday 17th September for a special presentation as part of Poetry Town entitled ALoud: Voices from Dunshaughlin and Beyond.

Here, Dunshaughlin Poet Laureate Orla Fay will reveal her specially commissioned town poem for the first time.

Orla will be joined by a host of other talents including:

Peter Fahy, Ellie O'Neill, Fiona Sherlock Tadhg O'Dushláine, Sadbh Kellett, Asta Jones, Paperclap, Nuala Leonard and Sean Ogedebe who will each present original works in lyric and verse to celebrate the strength, diversity and heritage of Dunshaughlin: Poetry Town 2021.

Not to be missed!

## Edit and Pitch Masterclass with Fiona Sherlock



Edit and pitch masterclass with Meath County Council's Writer-in-Residence Fiona Sherlock - **Tuesday 7th September at 7.30pm**

With the return of publishing book fairs, it's a good time to dust off that book and pitch it to agents and publishers!

Join Fiona Sherlock for a masterclass in editing, polishing and pitching your book. Whether you have a finished manuscript or if you just want to learn more about the publishing process, join Fiona for this virtual masterclass.

Fiona will also review and provide feedback for participants submission packs.

This is a small group workshop so numbers are limited.

Bookings to [meathlibrariansocial@meathcoco.ie](mailto:meathlibrariansocial@meathcoco.ie) #CreativeIreland

## Four Online Poetry Workshops with Gallery Authors

The Gallery Press is delighted to announce an exciting new initiative, Gallery Goes Workshopping.

This Autumn The Gallery Press are offering online poetry workshops with four Gallery authors: Peter Sirr, Grace Wilentz, Ciaran Berry and Andrew Jamison.

### GALLERY GOES...



...WORKSHOPPING

Their first series invites two levels of applicants – Beginning and Emerging Writers.

These courses will provide an ideal platform for participants to explore the creative process of writing under the guiding eye of an experienced, published poet in the company of a community of similar aspiring writers. Attention will also be paid to the procedures toward publication in magazine and book form.

The Gallery Press invite submissions from writers of all backgrounds and encourage underrepresented voices. Application is open to Irish poets (resident anywhere) and to poets currently resident in Ireland. Applicants must be over 18.

Each workshop is made up of four one-and-a-half-hour sessions which will take place once a week.

A fee of €25.00 for your chosen workshop will be payable when a place has been offered and you have accepted the offer. Fees must be paid in full within three days of acceptance.

Workshops are limited to 12 participants.

Applications can be made from August 25th for all workshops.

Closing dates are as follows:

Workshop A with Grace Wilentz (Aspiring) – **September 4th** (Begins September 11th)

Workshop B with Ciaran Berry (Emerging) – **September 25th** (Begins October 2nd)

Workshop C with Andrew Jamison (Aspiring) – **September 25th** (Begins October 5th)

Workshop D with Peter Sirr (Emerging) – **October 15th** (Begins November 5th)

For further information, please contact The Gallery Press (0)49 8541779 / email [books@gallerypress.com](mailto:books@gallerypress.com)

Full details available [here](#)

# Hinterland Festival of Literature and Arts 2021



**HINTERLAND – IS BACK !**

**9-12 September 2021**

Featuring:

The music of David Bowie.

The latest adventures of Ross O'Carroll Kelly.

How to write a detective novel.

***Embargo*** by Deirdre Kinahan

As well as Marian Keyes, Paul Howard, Louise Nealon, Tom Dunne, Liz Nugent, Éanna ní Lamhna, Luke O'Neill, Diarmaid Ferriter, Catriona Crowe, Melatu Okorie, Cauvery Madhavan, Roisín and Ann Ingle, Patrick Freyne, Manchán Magan, Robbyn Swan on the 20th anniversary of 9/11, the return of *Striking Back*, and much much more.

There is also a rare opportunity to see Deirdre Kinahan's highly acclaimed play *Embargo*, set during the War of Independence this is one definitely not to be missed!

All events are fifty-five minutes in duration and all venues are within a few minute's walk of each other.

The Eirgrid Stage is located in the Kells Theatre on Kenlis Place (St Vincent de Paul Hall). The Merriebelle Irish Farm, O'Brien's Supervalu, Meath County Council Stages and Eureka House are all located in the grounds of the old Eureka Convent secondary school on the Navan Road, opposite Kells Courthouse.

Further information on booking tickets and event details available at <https://www.hinterland.ie/>



*Deirdre Kinahan*



*Marian Keyes*

## Kells Type Trail 2021



Summertime usually sees the streets, shops and many premises of Kells bursting with art installations and works by artists and groups from all over the country and across the water.

Adapting to the current Covid19 circumstances the 2021 Type Trail Festival takes place this year from late August to the end of September with a new online Trail and website

<http://kellstypetrail.com/> alongside street installations.

Each year the team take a different word and translate into a variety of languages. This year's word is **Identity** ...

shop fronts, shop windows, streetscapes... look up, look down, look all around and take in the fabulous interpretive works created by local, national and international artists and groups all under the direction of Mark Smith and the wonderful Type Trail team.

Further information available from <http://www.kellstypetrail.com/>

Kells Type Trail is supported by Meath County Council Arts Office with assistance from the Arts Council and Creative Ireland.

## Project Evaluator Tender



Offaly County Council Arts Office is seeking tenders for the appointment of a temporary Event Manager and for the appointment of a temporary Project Evaluator with regard to their In the Open – Faoin Spéir programme.

Briefs for the tenders are available for download from <https://www.offaly.ie/eng/Services/Arts-and-Culture/News/Events-Manager-Project-Evaluator-Call-.html>

This is an online application process through submit.com. Please read the briefs carefully and compile relevant documentation as requested. Allow plenty of time for your application. Application to be submitted no later than **3p.m. on 14th September 2021**

For further information, please contact **Arts Office Offaly County Council 05793 57400** or email **arts@offalycoco.ie**

## Call for applications for the Kavanagh Fellowship 2021



The Trustees of the Estate of Katherine Kavanagh intend to offer the Patrick and Katherine Kavanagh Fellowship, normally of up to €8,000, again in 2021.

The Fellowship is specifically for Irish poets in their middle years.

Poets in order to be eligible must have published a substantial body of work, and show that they are in particular need of assistance.

Poets who think they may be entitled to apply **are strongly advised** to request further infor-

mation on the conditions of

application for the Fellowship, by writing to the Trustees at **3, Selskar Terrace, Ranelagh, Dublin 6**, or by email to **pktrust@tcd.ie**

There is no application form, but applicants will be asked to supply documentary evidence of age, financial need and Irish citizenship. They will also be asked to supply copies of publications.

The Fellowship will be awarded in November, 2021.

**The deadline for applications is 10th September, 2021.**

# The Arts Council Funding Opportunities



The Arts Council are currently accepting applications for funding under a variety of schemes.

## [Agility Award](#)

This award aims to support individual professional freelance artists and arts workers at any stage in their careers to do one or more of the following:

This award was developed to support people following the COVID-19 crisis and is open to all.

**Closing date: 17:30, Thursday 9 September 2021**

**Further details available at** <https://www.artscouncil.ie/Funds/Agility-Award/>

## [Open Call](#)

Open Call is a programme for artists and arts organisations to develop and shift their practice and profile work on a national scale, creating high-profile arts central to people's lives.

**Closing date: 17:30, Thursday 23 September 2021**

**Further details available at** <https://www.artscouncil.ie/Funds/Open-Call/>

## [Authored Works \(opens 31 August\) | Deadline:30 September, 5:30pm](#)

The purpose of Authored Works is to provide film artists with the creative and editorial freedom to make a feature-length authored cultural film work from a strong artistic point of view. Films must be artist-led.

**Closing date: 17:30, Thursday 30 September 2021**

**Further details available at** <https://www.artscouncil.ie/Funds/Authored-Works/>

## [Writers in Schools Scheme](#)

Operated by Poetry Ireland

This scheme is co-funded by the Arts Council but administered by Poetry Ireland. The Writers in Schools Scheme part-funds visits by writers and storytellers to schools throughout the island of Ireland.

For more information, please refer to the education section of the Poetry Ireland website, [www.poetryireland.ie](http://www.poetryireland.ie) or <https://www.artscouncil.ie/funds/Writers-in-schools-scheme/>

**Further information on all Arts Council funding opportunities available at:** <http://www.artscouncil.ie/available-funding/>

# CREATE | Artist in the Community Scheme 2021 (Round 2)



**create** national development  
agency for collaborative arts

The Arts Council offers awards through the Artist in the Community Scheme to enable artists and communities of place and/or interest to work together on projects. The Artist in the Community Scheme (AIC) is managed by Create.

The scheme is open to artists from any of the following artform disciplines: architecture, circus, street art and spectacle, dance, film, literature (Irish and English language), music, opera, theatre, visual arts and traditional arts.

Visit Artist in the Community Scheme section at [www.create-ireland.ie](http://www.create-ireland.ie) for further details.

For information on the Scheme and how to apply contact [support@create-ireland.ie](mailto:support@create-ireland.ie) or phone 01 473 6600.

**Deadline: 27 September, 5:30pm**

**Web:** [www.create-ireland.ie/projects/subpage/aic-awards/](http://www.create-ireland.ie/projects/subpage/aic-awards/)

# Culture Ireland Funding



Culture Ireland offers support to Irish professional artists, arts organisations and international presenters to present work by Irish artists at significant International venues and festivals.

In supporting an event, Culture Ireland traditionally offers grant funding towards costs which relate directly to the international presentation of the event, i.e. travel and travel related costs such as transport, freight, accommodation and subsistence.

In response to the current Irish Government travel guidelines and the ongoing uncertain situation regarding international travel into 2021, Culture Ireland is now also accepting applications from Irish artists and Irish or International arts organisations for the presentation of work online to International audiences.

In order for an application to be considered, the applicant must have an International partner or be an International presenter who will provide a fee to the artist and assist with promotion and presentation costs.

Costs which will be considered by Culture Ireland include, but may not be limited to, technical and recording costs, venue hire, equipment hire, post-production costs and promotion services. A detailed breakdown of costs should be attached as a separate document when submitting the application.

**The next deadline for receipt of grant applications is 1st October 2021.** Applications for funding to present work internationally from 15th December 2021 onwards must be submitted by this date.

Further information and application form available at <https://www.cultureireland.ie/funding/schemes/regular>

## IMO Youth Orchestra & Choir



The Irish Memory Orchestra is now inviting applications from musicians aged 10 – 24, to participate in the 2021/22 IMO Youth Orchestra & Choir programme: 'Vision and Memory'.

This new cross-genre orchestra is funded by the Arts Council of Ireland's Young Ensemble Scheme and will meet in Galway City from 12th-16th April 2022. Following an audition process, a large number of young full-sighted, blind and visually-impaired instrumentalists and singers will be selected to rehearse and perform alongside core members of the Irish Memory Orchestra and professional blind and visually-impaired musicians.

Further information and application details are available [here](#)

**Application deadline:** Friday 24 September 2021

# Meath County Council Arts Office is pleased to announce the success of the 2021 Summer Funding Cycle



Following the July meeting of Meath County Council, the Arts Office is pleased to announce that a total of 29 awards were recommended across 4 streams of funding: the Arts Sector CPD Fund Round II, the Community Arts Award, the Drama League of Ireland Bursary and the Schools Musical Instrument Purchase Scheme.

These awards, together with the earlier Spring Funding Cycle, has seen support paid to 90 different artists, arts groups, community groups and schools across County Meath towards the development and sustainment of artistic activity in 2021 and represents a major boost for the arts locally.

The arts sector has been one of the hardest hit by the Covid-19 pandemic. Meath Arts Office has, through these funding cycles, and a suite of other artists' supports, focussed on helping local arts practices adapt and continue throughout this difficult period.

The 29 Summer Funding Cycle payments included 16 awards to schools throughout the county for the procurement of musical instruments via the Schools Musical Instrument Purchase Scheme. This scheme has been a longstanding successful tradition of Meath Arts Office in helping to ensure the young people of the county are continually offered opportunities in musical education and enjoyment. In the past 10 years, one hundred national and secondary schools have received grants payments through this scheme, enabling banks of musical instrument to be developed in schools across the county.

Since 2011 there have been 34 Community Arts Awards issued which have helped community groups and schools engage with professional artists to facilitate creative projects which enhance long term partnerships between the community and arts practitioners. This award has been accessed by such diverse groups as Mens' Sheds, Gaelic Football Clubs, Family Resource Centres, Tidy Towns Committees and schools.

Funding artists, arts activities and development is a key strategic objective of the Meath County Arts Development Plan 2019 – 2024. Meath Arts Office 2021 grants were bolstered by Creative Ireland funding and funding received through the Arts Council of Ireland. We will be announcing details of further schemes in the coming weeks. To be kept up to date with funding and other local arts sector opportunities; please contact the arts office to be added to the mailing list: [artsoffice@meathcoco.ie](mailto:artsoffice@meathcoco.ie) or keep an eye on our website <https://www.meath.ie/council/council-services/arts>

*Slane Mens' Sheds with art tutor, 2019*



In Case You missed it...

## Art & Mindfulness — In the Midst of the Masters

Art & Mindfulness



As part of the Meath County Council's Keep Well Campaign, Meath Arts Office was thrilled to present *In the Midst of Masters*; a mindful exploration of art.

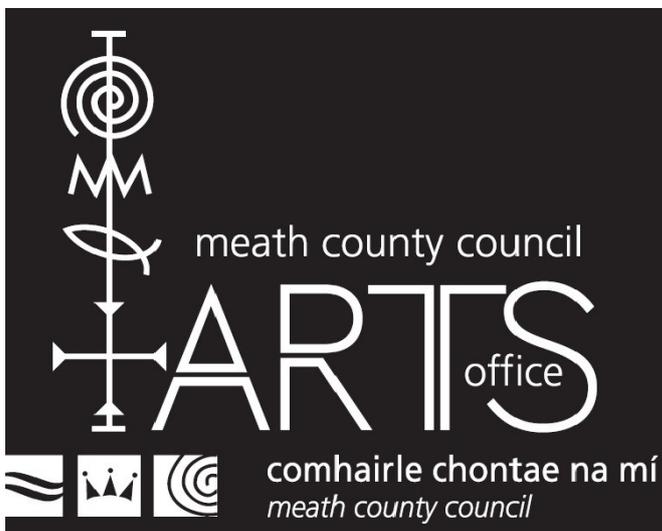
Featuring works currently held in the Meath County Council Public Art Collection, this art and mindfulness series invites you to focus your attention in a guided survey of works by some of the foremost figures in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Irish art.

*In the Midst of Masters* features a mix of audio, text and video presentation and will be available online in a three part series throughout the year.

Including artwork by Maurice MacGonigal, Norah McGuinness, Anne Butler Yeats and more, *In the Midst of Masters* will exam-

ine the important, valuable and varied resource that is the Meath County Council Public Art Collection and how it can be used as a tool to help reduce stress and ease anxiousness through mindful engagement. Presented in a 3 part series, *In the Midst of Masters* can be viewed online [here](#).

## SUBMIT A LISTING



Are you an arts professional?

Do you have an upcoming exhibition, show or event?

Are you delivering online talks or workshops?

If you would like to submit a listing for inclusion in our newsletter, please send details and an image for consideration to: [artsoffice@meathcoco.ie](mailto:artsoffice@meathcoco.ie) with **LISTING** in the subject bar.