



## **Cork City Council Arts Grant for Community & Voluntary Organisations 2026**

Cork City Council invites applications to the 2026 Arts Grant Scheme. Grants are available to community & voluntary groups/organisations throughout the city area.

Cork City Council Arts Grants offer funding support for the artistic costs of running an annual arts programme. This programme should deliver high-quality arts experiences, foster engagement, and contribute meaningfully to the development of the arts in our city.

Cork City Council may offer amounts of grant aid less than the amount sought. Grant assistance will only be awarded where applications meet the criteria set down by Cork City Council.

### **Submission Information**

**Deadline for receipt of applications is 4pm Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

### **Assessment of Applications**

#### **Eligibility Criteria**

- Applicants must be community or voluntary arts organisations or groups based within Cork City Council's administrative area.
- Applications must be fully completed, signed and submitted before the stated deadline.
- Requested supporting material must be submitted.
- Work must be carried out on a not-for-profit basis.
- Work must be artistic in nature.
- Where relevant, organisations must have up-to-date child & vulnerable persons safeguarding policies that are compliant with the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Acts 2012 to 2016.

#### **Essential Information**

The Arts Office Arts Grant for Community & Voluntary Organisations supports the ongoing annual work programme of community & voluntary arts organisations and groups. For once-off projects, please refer to the **Artist and the Community** award.

#### **Assessment Criteria**

Applications will be assessed according to how well they meet the criteria below:

##### **Artistic**

- Organisations/groups must demonstrate a sustained commitment to arts practice.
- Potential for programmes to extend and enhance participant's understanding and/practice of art form/s.
- Quality of experience and engagement with the art form in the proposed activity.



### **Strategic**

- Potential to contribute to relevant objectives in the Cork City Council Arts & Culture Strategy, 2022 – 2026.
- Relevance to the needs of the relevant community / target group / audience.
- Recognition and accommodation of the diverse cultures and demographics in the city.
- Evidence of sustainable practices relative to the environmental impact of the organisation's activities.

### **Operational**

- Programme should be accessible to all – thought should be given to venue, cost and access requirements.
- Evidence of sound book-keeping practices (certified annual accounts should be supplied).
- Evidence of a committee-based governing structure for organisation.
- Evidence of equitable and fair remuneration for professional artists /arts workers, where engaged.

<b>Conditions of Award</b>
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If successful, the following conditions will apply:

- If working with under 18 year old's, you must have suitable child safeguarding policies and procedures. For guidance, go to [Child Safeguarding Statement-HSE.ie](https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/childsafeguarding/ChildSafeguardingStatementHSEie) and [Children First Training-HSE.ie](https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/childrenfirst/ChildrenFirstTrainingHSEie)
- If working with vulnerable people, you must have policies and procedures for safeguarding vulnerable people in place. For guidance, go to [Safeguarding Vulnerable Persons at Risk of Abuse \(2014\) National Policy & Procedures-Corporate \(hse.ie\)](https://www.hse.ie/eng/health/vulnerablepersons/VulnerablePersonsatRiskofAbuse2014NationalPolicyProceduresCorporatehseie)
- If working with animals, you must have up-to-date animal welfare protection policies and procedures in place. For guidance, go to [Animal Welfare Strategy \(www.gov.ie\)](https://www.gov.ie/en/publications/2019-01-animal-welfare-strategy/)

<b>Freedom of Information</b>
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Cork City Council proposes that the following information relating to this grant application competition will be made available on request:

- Name of the successful applicants.
- Reasons an applicant did not qualify for grant consideration.

Cork City Council undertakes to use its best endeavours to hold confidential any information provided by applicants subject to its obligations under law, including 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



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí  
Cork City Council

**Arts** Ealaíona

## Arts Grant Community & Voluntary Criteria 2026

information is not identified as sensitive and Cork City Council on 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. Cork City Council will consult with any candidates about sensitive information before making a decision on any Freedom of Information Act request received.

<b>Contact</b>
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Arts Office, Corporate Community & Cultural Affairs, Cork City Council, City Hall,  
Anglesea Street, Cork, Ireland Tel: 021 4924000 Email: [artsgrants@corkcity.ie](mailto:artsgrants@corkcity.ie)