



Cork City Council Arts Grant for Professional Organisations 2026

Cork City Council invites applications to the 2026 Arts Grant Scheme. Grants are available to professional arts 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 20th November 2025

Assessment of Applications

Eligibility Criteria

Only applications that meet the following criteria will qualify for assessment:

- Applicants must be professional arts organisations 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 Professional Arts Organisations supports the ongoing annual work programme of professional arts organisations. For once-off projects, please refer to the **Artist and the Community** or **Project Scheme** awards.

Assessment Criteria

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

Artistic

- Track record of the applicant organisation.
- Quality of artistic work demonstrated in the supporting materials.
- Evidence of continued artistic growth and development.



- Ambition of the proposed work programme and innovation in programming/artist selection.
- Potential impact on art form/ discipline development.
- Relevance of programme/activities to the diverse demographic of artists and audience/participants in Cork city.

Strategic

- Applicant's contribution to and impact on the arts in the city.
- Potential to contribute to relevant objectives in the Cork City Council Arts & Culture Strategy, 2022 – 2026.
- Extent of applicant's regional and national profile.
- Evidence of audience development strategy.
- Demonstrated commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI).
- Evidence of sustainable practices relative to the environmental impact of the organisation's activities.
- Demonstrated commitment to organisational development and sustainability.

Operational

Organisations are directed to the Arts Council of Ireland governance guidelines <http://www.artscouncil.ie/about/Corporate-governance/> for examples of good practice.

- Evidence of sound governance and financial management (certified annual accounts should be supplied).
- Income from other sources, at a minimum of 50%. In kind support is eligible.
- Evidence of equitable and fair remuneration for artists /arts workers, in accordance with professional practice.
- Programme should be accessible to all – thought should be given to venue, cost and access requirements.
- Public presentation of work. In person, remote and blended (a mix of in person and remote modes of presentation) are eligible.

Conditions of Award

If successful, the following conditions will apply:

- If working with under 18 year old's, you must have suitable child safeguarding policies and procedures in place. For guidance, go to [Child Safeguarding Statement - HSE.ie](#) and [Children First Training - HSE.ie](#)
- 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 \(hse.ie\)](#)
- If working with animals, you must have up-to-date animal welfare protection policies and procedures in place. For guidance, go to [gov - Animal Welfare Strategy \(www.gov.ie\)](#)

Freedom of Information



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí
Cork City Council

Arts Ealaíona

Arts Grant Professional Organisations Criteria 2026

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 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.

Contact

Arts Office, Corporate Community & Cultural Affairs, Cork City Council, City Hall,
Anglesea Street, Cork, Ireland Tel: 021 4924000 Email: artsgrants@corkcity.ie