



## International Artists in Residence Programme

### Commissioning Brief

**Application Deadline: 5.00 p.m, Friday 25 May 2018**

### Programme Description

*Artsland* is a new arts and culture initiative which will help to develop skills within the sector, promote positive health and well-being and raise awareness of traditions from a bygone era through arts, crafts and performance. The *Artsland* programme will make a total investment of £250,000 across the district, each of the programme themes will provide a series of arts, crafts, performance and training workshops and activities for various groups in local communities. The activities will result in the development of new skills and expertise, exhibition and performance opportunities, creation of new artworks, and, increased capacity across the arts and cultural sector in Fermanagh and Omagh. The investment includes £125,000 of National Lottery Funding that Fermanagh and Omagh District Council has secured through the Arts Council of Northern Ireland's Challenge Fund.

### Residency Opportunities

The *Artsland* three main themes will be underpinned by the major Artist-in-Residence programme, unprecedented in scale or ambition in the district. The Artist -in-Residency programme is open to all artforms including performing arts, visual arts, crafts & applied crafts, film, photography & digital arts, participatory arts, literature, language and culture.

There will be a number of both short and medium-term residencies delivered across the district. Within each strand, there will be 2-3 medium-term residencies, usually 3 – 6 months, with an artist of international standard, living, working and delivering activities in the district. We are flexible on the timetabling of residencies e.g. an artist could be in residence for 3 x 1 month.

Each artist will spend some time on socially-engaged practice, delivering an education and outreach programme. Examples of engagement might be with schools, community groups, young people, businesses, local artists and/or others. These opportunities might include masterclasses for professional, amateur & voluntary artists, workshops, talks, demonstrations, performance and other activities depending upon their artform and engagement group experience. There will also be an opportunity to develop professional practice. Fermanagh & Omagh District Council will provide accommodation and a fee to all artists, as well as support them to curate a programme of creative engagement.

The residencies will also create opportunities to enhance the programming of local arts festivals and events, and artists will be required to deliver either a physical &/or skills base output so that the district will be left with enhanced knowledge, news skills, art works or other creative legacies.

## **Fees**

As part of the international Residency programme artists will be provided with self-catering accommodation in a beautiful rural setting. This provision includes rent, and also covers the payment of household bills such as electricity, gas, broadband etc, whatever is applicable to the specific accommodation.

In addition to this the fees for the Artist in Residence programme will include a residency fee of £1,200 per month.

Out of pocket expenses including materials may be considered.

Fees will be paid in GB sterling only and paid through the BACS system.

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council may consider applications from organisations for international artists for shorter term residencies where a programme of work has already been identified for example as part of a festival

## **Insurance**

Artists shall indemnify Fermanagh & Omagh District Council for all personal injury, loss and damage whatsoever which occurs in the fulfilment of the residency. Artists are responsible for checking with their insurance company that all appropriate insurances are in place for the duration of the proposed residency. Minimum

requirements are £5m Public Liability and a copy must be submitted to the Council if appointed.

## Legacy & Outputs

The Artists in Residence programme is a social engagement residency which will have benefits to last beyond the duration of the programme.

Outputs will include:

- Workshops
- Masterclasses
- Commissioned Artwork
- Demonstrations
- Train the Trainer events
- Educational resources
- Innovative projects & ideas

## How to apply

Artists wishing to be considered for a residency should complete the online form at <https://bit.ly/FODCInternationalArtists> and submit the following:

1. An up to date CV which details published work, exhibitions performances etc., including work and social engagement experience.
2. Detailed description of two previous social engagement projects with supporting evidence, and, please supply a referee and contact details for each project whom we may contact.
3. A residency proposal of approximately 2 x A4 sheets outlining the methodology:
  - Engagement with in the local community, e.g schools, community or other groups,
  - Proposed target audience e.g Older people
  - Link to at least one of the three *Artsland* themes (*Arts for All*, *Multiple Identities* and *Loughs, Bogs & Mountains*)
  - Intended outputs
  - Development of your own practice as an artist
4. Any additional costs for consideration, e.g specialist materials
5. Preferred dates and duration of the residency
6. Specify if you have a preference to be considered for one of the two residency locations
7. Two referees

Queries to [culture@fermaghomagh.com](mailto:culture@fermaghomagh.com) by 5.00 p.m, Friday 18 May 2018

**Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria:**

1. Quality of proposal and creative practice
2. Social engagement activities and audience
3. Legacy outputs
4. Relevant experience
5. Imaginative approach
6. Relevance to the *Artsland* theme/s Potential of the artist to develop their practice

## **Residency Base**

### Aughakillymaude

Aughakillymaude is nestled in the heart of the Fermanagh countryside, overlooking the shores of Upper Lough Erne and under the shadow of Knockninny Rock. There is a first-floor studio apartment with a separate kitchen. Please note that there is no lift to the studio flat. Artists workshop space is located directly below the studio.

The premises are a restored part of a former National School, situated in a beautiful, idyllic rural area, just over 3 miles outside the village of Derrylin and 14 miles south west of Enniskillen, Co Fermanagh.



Further information can be accessed through the web links below.

### An Creagán

An Creagán is located in a rural setting between the historic town of Omagh and the market town of Cookstown at the foothills of the majestic Sperrin Mountains. Artists will be accommodated in one of the cottages which form part of the complex. One of the cottages is fully wheelchair accessible. Artists workspace is available in the complex which includes tourist information, craft shop, restaurant and small exhibition. An Creagán provides beautiful views of the mountains and the bog land that surrounds this area. There is a shop and petrol station within a 5-minute walk.



### **More location information**

#### **Fermanagh**

<http://www.fermanaghlakelands.com/>

#### **Aughakillymaude**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/northernireland/yourplaceandmine/fermanagh/A975576.shtml>

<http://www.fermanaghlakelands.com/Aughakillymaude-Mummers-Centre-Derrylin-Enniskillen-P14167>

#### **Omagh**

<https://exploreomaghsperins.com/>

#### **An Creagán**

<http://www.an-creagan.com/>

#### **Fermanagh and Omagh District Council**

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

## Programme Overview

Each residency must link with at least one of 3 themes which are: *Arts for All*, *Multiple Identities* and *Loughs Bogs and Mountains*.

### 1. Arts for All

For the *Arts for All* theme, a creative engagement programme will be delivered for older people, those currently experiencing or at risk of developing poor mental health and people with a sensory, physical &/or learning disability.

The projects will include a number of performance and exhibition opportunities for those involved in the programme, creating rare opportunities for older people to showcase their skills.

We will further develop opportunities for adults with a learning disability to develop dance and drama skills, with a long-term aim of creating a physical theatre group.

We will work with men in rural areas to expand their activities to include the delivery of traditional craft-making, storytelling and visual arts. Our focus will be on older and isolated men, particularly those living on their own. This project element intersects with our Loughs, Bogs & Mountains theme and will address rural as well as social isolation.

Our lead partner for this strand in partnership will be the South West Age Partnership (SWAP) along with Fermanagh & Omagh District Council's Access & Inclusion unit.

### 2. Multiple Identities

For the *Multiple Identities* the focus is on upskilling, capacity building and connecting two vibrant individual single identity organisations, to improve the quality of both their creative and administrative activities.

In a collaboration, Omagh-based Dún Uladh (Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann) and the Royal School Pipe Band Association (Northern Ireland branch) will partner to deliver a capacity-building programme to develop skills around governance, fundraising, marketing, committee skills and other administrative areas.

The partnership will also deliver a series of musical masterclasses, talks and workshops both individually and together, to raise standards, improve musicianship and create opportunities for performing and composing collaboration. There will also be a commission of a suite of music (drawing inspiration both from local musical heritage and traditions, as well as the environment and sense of place) for a Two Traditions Orchestra which will be performed in both the Ardhoven Theatre Enniskillen and Strule Arts Centre Omagh, two arts venues owned and operated by Fermanagh & Omagh District Council. The composition will provide the district with a show-stopper performance piece both for now and for the future.

### **3. Loughs, Bogs & Mountains**

This theme will showcase the natural beauty of the Fermanagh Lakelands, the Sperrins and Gortin Glens through a programme of rural and environmental arts. Arts activities will be delivered away from the main centres of population (Omagh and Enniskillen) and take place in rural places where there has been little or no arts activity to date.

Both areas of the district have a very strong sense of place and the impact of Brexit is a major concern going forward. This element of the programme seeks to increase civic pride, enhance our sense of place and belonging, contribute to rural regeneration and creatively celebrate our unique and beautiful landscape.

Working with our partners, a programme of activities will be delivered in tiny rural communities where opportunities to access the arts by residents and visitors alike are rare. The focus will be on community arts, engaging local artists and craftspeople. This will include supporting existing festivals and arts organisations, to deliver outreach activities in isolated areas.

There will be commissions for a series of public art works linked to the residency programme including at the UNESCO Marble Arch Caves Global Geopark.

The lead partners for this theme are Sliabh Beagh, based in Coranny, Co Fermanagh and An Creagán, Co Tyrone.