



7th February 2024

TO: An Cathaoirleach and Each Member of Kilkenny County Council,

RE: ARTS ACT GRANTS 2024

A Chara,

In approving the 2024 Budget Elected Members provided an allocation in the amount of €25,000 for the assignment of the Arts Grants in 2024.

This recognises the provisions of the Arts Act 2003 whereby individual local authorities may provide financial assistance for the purposes of:

- Stimulating interest in the Arts
- Promoting knowledge and/ or appreciation of the Arts
- Enhancing standards in the Arts

The expression “the Arts” means creative or interpretative expression (traditional or contemporary) in whatever form and includes in particular visual arts, theatre, literature, music, film, dance and Multi- disciplinary events.

The Arts Office advertised the 2024 Arts Grants process in December 2023 with a deadline for receipt of applications of 22nd January 2024. The following represent the categories of applicants to which grant allocations can be awarded:

- Groups and organisations promoting the Arts
- Individual Artists - all art forms - to enable them to pursue their practice, to develop within their chosen discipline and deliver projects.

A total of 31 applications were received to a total value of €91,694 to assist with the assessment of the applications an assessment panel was convened on 7th February 2024 to assess the grant applications. The assessment panel included:

- Lucina Russell, Arts Officer, Kildare
- Kathy Conlan, Assistant Arts Officer, Kilkenny
- Mary Butler, Arts Officer was present

I recommend that the grants as outlined under the Arts Act Grant are approved by the members as circulated.

Mise le meas,

Mary J. Mulholland,
Director of Services

KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL ARTS ACT GRANTS RECOMMENDATIONS FEBRUARY 2024

ORGANISATION / NAME	PROJECT	DISCIPLINE	AMOUNT SOUGHT	RECOMMENDATION
An Ahead Time	Series of talks in the local gallery by artists and curators to talk about an aspect of their practice	Visual	€1000	€1,000
Barn Owl Players	Provide a series of 6 theatre masterclasses given by a professional theatre practitioner.	Theatre	€1000	€800
Barnstorm Theatre Company	Print, publish and launch 3 Theatre for Young Audiences Plays by Playwright Maeve Ingoldsby	Theatre	€987	€985
Castlecomer Community School	Production of TY school musical – High School Musical	Theatre/ Music	€2000	€1,000
Clogh Writers	Organising writing workshops in the local community with a view to a reading event in Summer & Autumn 2024	Literature	€2000	€2,000
Cult Collective	Funding to stage a full theatre production	Theatre	€1000	€1,000
Dreamstuff Youth Theatre	Funding a series of theatre workshops hosted in St. Canice’s community hall for young people (13-18 years old)	Theatre	€960	€960

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KASP - Kilkenny Artist Support Project	Funding for a nature theme group exhibition with paintings and sculptures and one day Artist Talk	Visual Arts	€1000	€1,000
Kilkenny Uilleann Pipers Group Dave Tuohy	Uilleann Piping/ reed making classes for young musicians in Kilkenny. Promotion of traditional Irish music through series of small, intimate concerts (unamplified)	Music	€1000	€1000
Kilkenny Writers Anonymous	Two Open Mic events to share local literacy works	Literature	€1330.45	€830
Lake Productions	A Theatre production of Da by Hugh Leonard, to be staged at The Concert Hall venue, Thomastown	Theatre	€7700	€1000
Melody Makers	Traditional Music concerts by to performers with supplemental workshops and promotion of emerging musicians as support acts	Music	€9500	€1000
Tada Theatre & Film School	Develop a pilot film based on an adaptation of Shakespeare's King Lear, fostering student	Theatre	€3350	€1,800

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	engagement and enhancing understanding of his works.					
The Lady Desart Choir	Funding for Kilkenny ChoirFest, a community festival of music and fun for all the family.	Music	€2300			Not recommended
Thomastown Creative Arts Festival (TCAF)	Organise and Promote Thomas Creative Arts Festival through brochures, posters and etc. Coordinate and sponsor creative workshops	Multi-Disciplinary	€5000			€1590
Upper Paddock Biodiversity Garden - UPGB	Culture Night Enchanted Garden. Lantern painting workshop activity provided for Children in a whimsical evening experience in the illuminated UPBG	Multi-disciplinary	€4000			€500
Alice Bennett	Create a film which exhibits a body of personal poetry, creative writing, and visual art	Multi-disciplinary	€2157.25			€1520
Brendan Casey	Write a Gothic Novel steeped in the history of Woodstock	Literature	€1250			€1000
Carmel Hogan	Mentor to help and advise on finishing novel	Literature	Not calculated			Not Recommended
David Kirby	Writing a children's book aimed at children between 10-12. The story is set in a rural school with a	Literature	€3000			Not recommended

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	strong focus on hurling.				
Eimear Lawlor	Third Novel which will be a dual time novel from present day and in Kilkenny in 1923.	Literature	€1200	€500	
Jamesie Murphy	Book printed on the history and culture of the river Nore & Barrow	Literature	€5000	Not recommended	
Lukas Dwan	Place a callout inviting artists to use unique recycled paper and host an exhibition of the artwork	Visual Art	€1,497.32	€845	
Marco Di Sante	Fund final work for the MFA course and process with his practice	Visual Art	€1800	€1000	
Martin Matthews	To engage Medb Lambert – Co-Artistic Director, Asylum Productions) for mentoring sessions during devising a one-man show, The Sin Eater.	Theatre / Drama	€1240	€800	
Mary Doyle Burke	BioMaterials Workshop Programme. Create a TY programme for local students that combines Art, Ecology & Sustainability	Visual Art	€1600	Not recommended	

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Michelle McMahan	Make a Brigid's Cloak with KOPC woman using Brat Bride bespoke goddess fabric, to spread Brigid's cross across the world	Visual Art	€2525	Not recommended
Polly Minett	Professional development studying and experimenting with botanical dyes to develop skills and creative practice as a papermaker	Visual Arts	€1400	€670
Rosey Hayes	Funding for post-production costs for a short film	Film	€1250	€1000
Siobhan Armstrong	Researching 'Harp Consorts' by William Lawes (1602-1645)	Music	€1500	€1200
TOTALS			€91,694	€25,000