

OFFALY ARTS ALERT

Official Newsletter of Offaly County Council Arts Office



Detail from community mural in Edenderry, Creative Places Commission:
Sharon Regan and the Edenderry community

Arts in Action - March - April 2025 News & Events

Welcome to Issue 12 of Offaly Arts Alert.

The purpose of Offaly Arts Alert is to provide a listing of arts events and opportunities in the County.

Offaly Arts Office is a service of Offaly County Council and aims to broaden and deepen access to the Arts in Offaly.

Based in Áras an Chontae, Tullamore, Co. Offaly, you can contact the Arts Office team by emailing arts@offalycoco.ie or calling +353 57 935 7400 during office hours; Monday - Friday 9am - 5pm. Visit our website www.offaly.ie and social media @OffalyArts for further information.

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Offaly Arts Office

Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí
Offaly County Council

Offaly Arts Alert

What's On?

March | April
Arts Events

Birr Theatre & Arts Centre

Tarrac
Seachtain na Gaeilge 2025
Thursday 13 March, 8pm

Directed by Declan Recks, written by Eugene O'Brien
Tarrac, an Irish language movie following Aoife as she returns home to help her father, will be screened in Birr Theatre & Arts Centre on 13 March 2025 at 8pm as part of Seachtain na Gaeilge 2025!

Filleann Aoife Ní Bhraoin ar an mbaile le dul a chúnamh dá hathair Breandán 'The Bear' Ó Braoin atá ag teacht chuige féin ó fuair sé taom croí. Cé gur cosúil go bhfuil gach ní mar ba cheart eatarthu is léir ina dhiaidh sin féin go bhfuil bás a máthar fós ag goilliúint ar an mbeirt acu.



Queer
Thursday, 27 March, 8pm

Daniel Craig shines bright in this bold, vivid sensual and stylish adaptation of William S. Burroughs's novel. The story takes place in a post-war Mexico City, as an outcast gay American expat becomes infatuated with a younger army veteran. The director Luca Guadagnino remind us once again of his mastery as he replicates the cinematographic success of his previous feature length "Call Me By Your Name"
Cast: Daniel Craig, Drew Starkey, Jason Schwartzman, Lesley Manville



John Spillane
Friday, 4 April, 8pm

The beloved Cork singer-songwriter comes to Birr Theatre for the first time to introduce his stunning new album "Fíoruisce - The Legend of the Lough". A two-time Meteor Award winner for Best Folk/Trad act John is one of the most accomplished songwriters in Ireland. With an extensive back catalogue, his songs have been covered by Christy Moore, Sharon Shannon, Sean Keane and many others. Don't miss an exceptional opportunity to see him in such an intimate setting!



For a full listing of events, please see www.birrtheatre.com

Offaly Arts Alert

What's On?

March-April
Arts Events

Esker Arts

Heaven

Fri 14th - Sat 15th March, 8pm

Fishamble returns for a limited tour of its multi award-winning HEAVEN by Eugene O'Brien, following its hugely successful Off-Broadway, Edinburgh, and Off-West End runs.

Irish Times Best New Play Award

Irish Times Best Actress Award

Scotsman Fringe First Award

Heaven is set in the Irish midlands, during the weekend of a local wedding. Mairead and Mal are struggling to keep their marriage together.

Perhaps attending a wedding will help, or it might raise questions that are difficult to answer.



Brahm's wrote two magnificent quintets for string quartet plus an extra viola. For each of these works he provided the option for the clarinet part to be played on the viola and so created four treasured additions to the viola as well the clarinet repertoire. In the quintet the qualities of the viola bring a different perspective to one of Brahms' most loved works.

Sharon Shannon

Saturday 12th April, 8pm

In June 1989 Sharon was rehearsing and demoing tracks for her first album, when she was whisked away to the Glastonbury festival with The Waterboys. In the 30 years that have elapsed since then, Sharon has recorded 10 studio albums, 5 live albums, 4 'Best of...' compilations and 3 live concert DVDs. She has received many awards including being the youngest ever recipient of the Meteor Lifetime Achievement Awards in 2009. In 2023 Sharon released a new compilation album Now and Then to celebrate 30 years at the forefront of Irish Music.



Vanbrugh & Friends Saturday 29th March, 8pm

The Vanbrugh and their guests present two highly contrasted works from the string quintet repertoire.

Mozart's miraculously joyful and relaxed C major string quintet dates from the spring of 1787. More adjectives have been heaped on this music: elegant, sublime, majestic, bewitching... call it what you will, they are all testament to its timeless appeal.

There's something for everyone at Esker Arts
For a full listing of events, please see www.eskerarts.ie



Creative Places Edenderry

is a community based project to connect, create and develop artistic and cultural activities to enhance the community engagement and spirit within Edenderry. Activities are advertised on the [Creative Places Edenderry Facebook](#) and Instagram pages.

See www.creativeplacesedenderry.ie for further information.

Community Forum

MONDAY 24TH OF MARCH
2PM - 4PM
ON ZOOM

PLEASE EMAIL: info@creativeplacesedenderry.ie TO REGISTER AND WE WILL SEND YOU A ZOOM LINK

COME ALONG IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN SUPPORTING CREATIVE PLACES, EDENDERRY!



Edenderry Artists Collective

Are you an Artist?

Are you living or working in Edenderry?
Would you like to join a collective in order to have peer support/discussions about funding and possible future projects?

Wednesday 19th of March
Byrnes Bar, Edenderry
7pm - 8.30pm

Please register by emailing:
info@creativeplacesedenderry.ie

Organisational Skills Training Session With Seonaid Murray

Wednesday 19th March
2pm - 4pm
Edenderry Library

MONDAY MUSIC GROUP

With Angi Ward

2pm - 3.30pm
The Parish Centre

Please register by emailing:
info:creativeplacesedenderry.ie



*Creative Places,
Edenderry
presents.....*

Visual Art Project
With Eleanor Farrelly

For people who identify as
Disabled

Tuesdays
11am to 12.30pm
The Parish Centre, Edenderry

To Register please email:
info@creativeplacesedenderry.ie






community Social

With Nerial

Weekly drop in Arts Based Workshops

Every Friday
12.30pm to 2.30pm
The Parish Centre, Edenderry

To register, contact:
info@creativeplacesedenderry.ie


ActiviTEA! Women's Group

Weekly Arts based workshops with
Jenny!

Every Tuesday, 11am to 1pm:
The Cabin, Edenderry

Offaly Arts Office News

**You can contact us by email: arts@offalycoco.ie
or call us on 0579346800**

RECIPIENTS OF YOUTH ARTS COMMISSIONS 2025

Offaly County Council Arts Office is delighted to announce the recipients of 2025 Youth Arts Commissions:

Music Generation Offaly and Ardscoil Chiarán Naofa, Clara
Artist Michelle O'Donnell and Offaly Travellers Movement
Youth Work Ireland Midlands and theatre practitioner Dana Daly

The Youth Arts Commission scheme invites professional artists, individuals or groups, to work with youth organisations to submit a proposal for the delivery of a Youth Arts Project for the cohort of 13- to 25-year-olds within Offaly.

The commission is open to projects from all art disciplines including visual arts, film, animation, digital arts, performing arts, literature or sound art.



Mini Movies Programme 2025

Offaly County Council Arts Office is delighted to announce that the following Offaly schools will be taking part in the Mini Movies 2025 programme:

S N Seosamh, Gortnamona, Blueball, Tullamore, Co Offaly
Coláiste Naomh Cormac, Kilcormac, Co. Offaly
Geashill NS, Geashill, Co. Offaly

Mini Movies are both action and stop motion short movies created by school children during a series of workshops with professional film-makers/animators.

Following an open call competition, Dillon Cleary & Stephen Kavanagh of KAV TV were contracted to deliver the Mini Movies programme in schools.



Since 2012 Offaly County Council Arts Office has funded a professional film artist to work with three schools in the Birr Area over several days. The result are mini movies which are then screened at the OFFline Film Festival.

Current Funding Opportunities

This year, Culture Night will take place on Friday September 19th.

Applications for the **Culture Night Commissions** and **Culture Night Event Fund** 2025 will open on March 19th. Please check the Offaly Arts website for further information.



Birr Writers' Residency Award 2025 Call Out

Birr Writers' Residency offers professional writers' accommodation and workspaces for five nights, at Brendan House in the centre of Birr, County Offaly. This Georgian Heritage Town in the midlands of Ireland has a remarkable history and is embedded in a community with a thriving arts culture.

The purpose of the residency is to provide an opportunity for artists to focus on a writing project (current or new) in a tranquil environment which supports and values high professional artistic development. It is open to professional writers of any genre, e.g. literary fiction, poetry, playwrights, journalism or travel writing.

Deadline: Monday 19th May, 5pm



For further information on the residency, the location and to apply visit:

Birr Writer's Residency 2025

Offaly News and Opportunities

SCRIPTS Festival Call-Out

SCRIPTS: Ireland's Playwriting Festival, in partnership with Birr Theatre & Arts Centre, seeks new works for stage.

Taking place in Birr, Co Offaly, Scripts Ireland's Playwriting Festival creates unique opportunities for playwrights to have their work developed and produced.

Three scripts, most suited for development, will be selected through a rigorous shortlisting process.

Deadline for submissions is
Friday 21st March 2025 @ 12 noon

Here's a link to all the details: **SCRIPTS**



Visit Offaly

Please see the website www.visitoffaly.ie for a comprehensive list of events taking place in Offaly soon. Here you will find all the up to date information on activities and events for the spring and summer season.

Film Offaly News

Film Offaly Short Film Award Applications Open for 2025

Entries for our annual film award are now open. We want your scripts!

We are pleased to announce the FilmOffaly Short Film Award 2025. This funding initiative aims to foster creative, resourceful filmmaking in the county. We are looking for unique, original stories by talented new filmmakers, professional and novice alike. The only stipulation is that filming must take place in County Offaly. FilmOffaly also encourage the use of local crew and business.

There will be one award to one successful applicant who will receive €12,000 towards the cost of their production and a local premiere for their completed film. Short-listed applicants will receive mentoring for developing their scripts.

The closing date is 5pm on Tuesday 18th March 2025. Make sure you post your entries before St Patrick's Day to make sure they are with us on time!

Competition guidelines and application forms are available on www.filmoffaly.ie



National Talent Academy's Network Event for the Midlands with Film Offaly



We are excited to announce our first big event for 2025. This network event run by the National Talent Academies: Crew Academy East and Film & TV, in collaboration with Film Offaly, is designed to provide opportunity, insight, inspiration and connections for those looking to access opportunities or progress in the screen sector. It's open to the curious or anyone interested in starting or developing their career in the sector.

It's held on Saturday 12th April, 2025 from 11am-1pm at Esker Arts in Tullamore.

There will be a panel with screen sector stakeholders where you will learn the opportunities and resources available to those wanting to access and progress within the screen sector and about the different journeys into the industry. There will be a Q&A section following this for audience questions.

This will be a great opportunity to talk and connect with your creative peers, the National Talent Academies, FilmOffaly and other stakeholders in the screen sector. Guests must RSVP on a first-come, first-served basis.

REGISTER [HERE](#). The deadline to RSVP is Friday, April 4th, at 12pm or when the guest list reaches capacity.

Please address any questions to crew.east@nationaltalentacademies.ie

FILMOFFALY LOCATIONS CALL-OUT

We are looking to expand FilmOffaly's database of potential film locations within the county.

We already have a diverse range of unique locations, but we are always on the lookout for buildings or spots that could be the next screen star, whether it's your home, workplace, or local bar.

If it's distinctive or has character, we'd love to hear from you.
For more information please contact filmoffaly@offalycoco.ie

www.filmoffaly.ie

National News & Opportunities

Artist in the Community Scheme Awards 2025 **Deadline: 31 March**

The Arts Council's Artist in the Community (AIC) Scheme, managed by Create, offers awards to enable artists and communities of place and/or interest to work together to create exceptional art. Applications are now open for Artist in the Community Scheme Awards 2025. This includes the following awards:

- Research and Development Award (without mentoring)
- Research and Development Award (with Mentoring)
- Recent Graduate Research and Development Award (with Mentoring)
- Project Realisation Award

AIC Scheme Online Info session – 12 March 2025



The Artist and Youth Work Residency Grant Scheme **2025 is now open for applications!**



Do you have a good idea for a youth arts project but require the funding to work with an artist?

Applications are now invited to support innovative partnerships involving artists in residence in youth work settings and/or youth work groups in residence in arts settings commencing in May 2025.

Application Deadline:
Friday, March 28th @12pm

[DETAILS HERE](#)

National News & Opportunities

**The Lir Academy at Trinity College Dublin
is accepting applications for autumn 2025 courses in: .**

- Stage Design (Set, Costume and Lighting)
- Theatre Producing
- Playwriting
- Theatre Directing

As a conservatoire, they offer practical, hands-on training in small classes with dedicated practicing course directors - recognised leaders in their field. Full fee details and funding opportunities and links to Trinity College Dublin supports are on each course page. Students from all over the world join every year, from different life experiences, c
The programmes include placements and public showings of students' work.

The closing date for applications is March 31st



Jobs, Funding & Opportunities

**THE FOLLOWING LINKS WILL BRING YOU TO AN OVERVIEW ON
VARIOUS AVAILABLE FUNDING**

WWW.VISUALARTISTS.IE
WWW.CULTUREIRELAND.IE
WWW.CREATE-IRELAND.IE

**THE FOLLOWING SITES CONTAIN A BROAD RANGE OF ROLES &
OPPORTUNITIES CURRENTLY ADVERTISED IN THE ARTS.**

WWW.VISUALARTISTS.IE/ADVERTS
WWW.PERFORMINGARTSFORUM.IE/JOBS
WWW.ARTSMANAGEMENT.IE/JOBS
WWW.CREATE-IRELAND.IE/CATEGORY/OPPORTUNITIES
WWW.ARTCONNECT.COM/OPPORTUNITIES
WWW.IRISHWRITERSCENTRE.IE/JOB-OPPORTUNITIES
WWW.POETRYIRELAND.IE/WRITERS/OPPORTUNITIES

ARTS COUNCIL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



**SEE WWW.ARTSCOUNCIL.IE/FUNDING FOR AVAILABLE AWARDS
WITH VARIOUS STRANDS AND CLOSING DATES**

Opening in February

FUNDING PROGRAMME	OPENING	CLOSING
Culture Night Late	04 February	06 March
Joan Denise Moriarty Award - Dance	11 February	13 March
Opera Projects and Production Award 2026 / Opera Commissions Award	18 February	20 March
Creative Places Award	25 February	27 March
Creative Schools 2025-2026	25 February	08 May

Opening in March

FUNDING PROGRAMME	OPENING	CLOSING
International Residency Initiatives Scheme	04 March	03 April
Children and Young People's Arts Residency	04 March	03 April
Arts in Early Learning and Childcare Scheme	04 March	03 April
Agility Award	04 March	24 April

Opening in April

FUNDING PROGRAMME	OPENING	CLOSING
Touring of Work Scheme 2026, Round 1	08 April	08 May
Festivals Investment Scheme 2026, Round 1	29 April	29 May

Artists Wellbeing

Screen-Ireland Professional Development

Certificate in Continuing Professional Development in Neurodiversity
(Screen Industry)

This is a Level 6, fully online, university-accredited, part-time course and a continuing professional development certificate. This course is fully funded by Screen Ireland. This course is the first university of its kind globally. Once registered, you will receive the fully confirmed timetable and all the course details.

Click on the link for details:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ace-ccpdns>



Minding Creative Minds is an organisation established to offer a free 24/7 wellbeing & support programme for the Irish Creative Sector.

For further information on workshops and events visit www.mindingcreativeminds.ie



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