



Offaly County Council

Festivals Arts Grant Scheme 2020

Guidelines

Please read carefully as the following provides you with the relevant guidance on how to complete your application form. If you require assistance in completing your application form, please contact us on 05793 57400

Purpose of this Scheme

- Offaly County Council's Festivals Arts Grant Scheme 2020 is in recognition of the growing number of festivals in Offaly with an arts programme and the potential of quality programming to enhance the county's cultural tourism potential.
- Festivals and events play a distinctive role in developing a vibrant and sustainable arts environment at a local level and should present new ideas and ways of working that can have far reaching effects for artists and audiences.
- Offaly County Council recognises the valuable contribution made by active voluntary committees in developing and sustaining these festivals.

Who is eligible to apply?

Offaly County Council's Festivals Arts Grant Scheme 2020 is open to organisations that promote festivals or events with a ***clear artistic purpose** where the festival will take place in the calendar year 2020 in the jurisdiction of Offaly. (Arts is defined as music, literature, film, video, community arts, drama, dance, visual arts, architecture). * If festival application is deemed by the selection panel not to have sufficient artistic content, the festival may be considered within other funding schemes (pending available funding).

A festival may represent one art form or may include a wide variety of different art forms. Festivals or events may also be programmed over a number of months (e.g. a concert series).

Who cannot apply?

- Commercial organisations which share out profits to members.
- Competitive events e.g. where the competition is the dominant element of the programme
- Once-off academic conferences/symposia with no wider public benefit
- Activities taking place in a formal education setting where the activity does not primarily engage with the wider community
- Charity/fund-raising events
- Festivals or events that have taken place before the respective closing date for the application
- Parades

What you can apply for

- Artists' Fees (this includes performance fees)
- Audience development (activity carried out to help organisations develop ongoing relationships with existing and new audiences)
- Travel Costs and Expenses for artists/performers

What you cannot apply for

- Activities that are not arts-related (e.g. heritage, commercial, craft, sport, food fairs)
- Training programmes for individuals
- Marketing and Publicity
- Competitive/Commercial and charitable events

Criteria for Assessing Applications

An assessment panel nominated by Offaly County Council will review all applications based on the following criteria. Note that funding is limited and the standard of festivals applying and being funded is very high, therefore you need to carefully consider the assessment criteria and eligibility when making your application.

- a. A **complete and considered application** form having regard to the guidelines with inclusion of all supporting material relating to your application and a complete expenditure/income report for the full festival.
- b. Assessment of the artistic quality and content of your proposed programme, both on a standalone basis and in reference to competing applications.
- c. Assessment that the proposed programme is carefully considered in terms of audience development.
- d. Assessment that the festival is embracing all avenues of community and financial support in order to keep it sustainable.
- e. Assessment of the accessibility and affordability of the arts events to members of the community.

Please note the following:

- **Please ensure that there is no duplication of funding from Offaly County Council, Local Community and Development Committee and LEADER funded projects**
- Festivals must have a valid in-date tax clearance certificate and access number
- Festivals must Indemnify and continue to indemnify Offaly County Council against any claim and provide evidence of same.
- Care should be taken to ensure that festivals do not clash with each other so as to maximize audience participation, support and income.
- Receipt of a grant in one year does not automatically guarantee grant aid the following year.
- Festivals should contribute to the promotion of a positive image of Offaly.
- Festival organisations will be expected to make efforts to maximise income through ticket sales and sponsorship. They should develop a plan to improve their sustainability.

Please submit your completed application by the closing date as stated on the Festival Arts Grants application form late applications will not be accessed.

Queries are welcome in advance to arts@offalycoco.ie or 057 9357400