

International Early Childhood Arts Commission 2016

Dublin City Council
Fingal County Council
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
South Dublin County Council



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council



DUBLIN
CITY
ARTS
OFFICE





Introduction

The four Dublin Local Authorities (Dublin City Council, Fingal County Council, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and South Dublin County Council) are working in partnership to invite applications for the creation of new artwork(s) of ambition, scale and depth for an early childhood audience.

This opportunity is funded by the Arts Council of Ireland's Invitation to Collaboration Scheme and the four Dublin Local Authorities.

Objectives of the Commission

- Support artistic ambition in the research and development of new work in early childhood which can be presented in different contexts – including festival, professional arts space, library and childcare settings.
 - Reach new early childhood audiences.
 - Stimulate dialogue between the Dublin Local Authorities and with artists, early childhood educators and organisations.
 - Build on current research investigating practice across artforms /professional disciplines/ contexts.
 - Consider how engagement with audiences may be influenced by the presentation of the commission in the different contexts.
 - Generate advocacy in early childhood arts.
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Background

Full Document Available

Each Dublin Local Authority supports early childhood arts practice, provision, partnership and policy that is responsive to local motivations and need.

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council delivers residency programmes and with their local County Childcare Committee, building artists' practice through longer-term residencies and co-commissions in childcare settings.

Fingal County Council produces an international early childhood arts festival that includes professional development for artists and educators; and is a partner in completing action research residencies in music and the visual arts in two creche settings in association with Trinity College Dublin.

Dublin City delivers a Children's Art in Libraries Programme and Project 20/20 in Dublin 1, and will pilot an early childhood CPD programme with Preparing for Life in Coolock in 2016/2017.

South Dublin County has identified early years practice as an area for development in its new Arts Plan and is building resources and relationships with the County Childcare Committee.

For more information see supporting document.

Brief

We are looking for individuals, collectives, organisations or companies to develop exciting and ambitious new artistic work for an early childhood audience. This audience includes children, parents and early childhood educators.

- We are open to all artforms.
 - Proposals must have the capacity to present within each of the four local authority areas over the course of an agreed delivery schedule.
 - Proposals must take into consideration that they will be required to perform/showcase in a variety of contexts including festival, professional arts space, library and childcare settings. (This element will need to be flexible and responsive to each local authority programme).
 - We are open to collaborative approaches.
 - We are inviting applications of between €20,000 and €50,000. Final budgets must be inclusive of VAT, full production costs and all other associated costs including the presentation of work in each Local Authority area. The budget amount will be inclusive of VAT whether VAT responsibility lies with the applicant/s or the commissioners.
 - Artists are not required to be living in or from any of the four Dublin Local Authority administrative areas and may work with artists/collaborators from elsewhere in Ireland or internationally.
 - Artists may apply from abroad, as well as from Ireland, and while artists are not expected to live in the county, they must be in regular contact and make regular visits.
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Timeline

Stage one:

Deadline for applications: Thursday 24 November 2016 at 12 noon.

Successful applicants notified by: Monday 19 December 2016.

Stage two:

Deadline for submissions: Wednesday 25 January 2017.

Interview: Wednesday 8 February 2017.

Successful applications notified by: Wednesday 15 February 2017.

Commissions must be completed within 2017, presentation within the Local Authorities areas must be completed by end of May 2018.

Selection Process

This is a two stage open submission selection process.

Stage One:

Please apply in writing clearly marking the application 'International Early Childhood Arts Commission' and include 6 hard copies of the following:

- An expression of interest as to why you have applied for this opportunity and how you feel this proposal will develop the area of Early Childhood Arts within the Dublin region. (max 500 words)
- Please provide 3 examples of your work that are relevant to this commission. (max 500 words per example)*
- An outline of artistic ideas and approaches for the commission. Please outline how the commission would have the capacity to present in each of the four Dublin Local Authorities. (max 800 words)
- An indication of budget with a broad outline of expenditure (short-listed candidates will be asked for a detailed budget break-down).
- Please submit Curriculum Vitae/s of key personnel involved and company profile if relevant.

**You may include one copy of supplementary information; which may include reviews, programmes, images, transcripts, visualisations etc. One copy of these is sufficient per application. These can be provided in hard copy or CD/DVD/USB.*

Closing date: Thursday 24 November at 12 noon.

Guidelines

- Late applications will not be accepted.
- Email applications will not be accepted.
- Applications with less than 6 hard copies will not be accepted.

**Please note that supplementary information will not be returned to applicant (applicants should ensure that they do not send any unique or irreplaceable material).*

The Selection Panel

The Selection Panel whose decision is final will be composed from the following:

- Professionals from the 4 Local Authority Arts Offices and Early Childhood Sector.
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Selection Criteria

The proposals will be assessed by the selection panel using the following criteria:

- Concept and relevance to the early childhood arts context. (25 marks)
 - Quality and relevance of previous work. (25 marks)
 - Quality and originality of artistic ideas and approaches. (25 marks)
 - Feasibility of delivery. (25 marks)
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Selection Process

Stage Two:

A maximum of four of the highest scoring candidates from stage one (please note that the minimum qualifying mark is 80), will be invited to further develop their proposal and present at interview for phase two.

A fee of €500 will be paid to the short-listed candidates.

The detailed proposal at this stage must include:

- Detailed description of the proposed commission.
- Full budget breakdown including costs of presenting in each of the four local authority areas.
- Consideration given to the potential and challenges of presenting in each local authority area.
- Detailed CVs of all the artistic personnel that will be involved in the commission.
- Commission timeline with a detailed schedule.

Award Criteria for Stage Two

The proposals will be assessed by the selection panel using the following criteria:

- Artistic merit and distinctiveness of the proposal. (40 marks)
 - Perceived ability to realise the commission within the budget and timeframe allocated. (30 marks)
 - Suitability and responsiveness of the proposal for presenting within the four Dublin Local Authorities. (30 marks)
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Insurance

Please note that the successful applicant will be required to have adequate insurances as may be advised by the four Local Authorities. The levels of Public Liability, Employer's Liability etc will be dependent on the activities proposed.

Freedom of Information

The provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1997-2003 apply to all four Dublin Local Authorities. Applicants should state if any of the information supplied by them is confidential or sensitive and should not be disclosed in response to a request for information under the aforementioned Act. Applicants should state why they consider the information to be confidential or commercially sensitive.

Garda Vetting

Successful applicants will be Garda Vetted under the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2013.

Queries

Stage one applicants are welcome to make general enquiries regarding the commission. At stage two short-listed applicants may submit questions of a factual nature by email. Please note that these questions will be circulated to other short-listed applicants.

Queries should be sent to Orla Scannell:

Tel: 01-4597834

Email: oscannell@sdblincoco.ie

Address for applications

Applications should be marked and delivered to:

International Early Childhood Arts Commission

Arts Office

Library Headquarters

Unit 1

The Square Industrial Estate Tallaght

Dublin 24

Ireland

The four Dublin Local Authorities reserve the right not to award the commission if none of the proposals received are deemed to be suitable and in this instance reserve the right to pursue another procurement process.

Presentation & Discussion of Brief – 3rd November 2016

A presentation and discussion session for this commission will take place during a Dublin City Council Arts Office Development Day / Children's Arts Sector at The Lab, Dublin 1.

Details next page >>

Presentation & Discussion of Brief

Dublin City Arts Office: Development Day / Children's Arts Sector

November 3rd 11.30-2.30, in The Lab.

This session will explore new opportunities for the children's arts sector in the Dublin region. The event will happen in two parts, with an early years performance of *Starcatchers* and Branar's latest show – *The Shape of Things* created by Allie Cohen and Marc MacLochlainn, followed by presentations which will include a presentation by the four Dublin Local Authorities on *The International Early Childhood Arts Commission*.

Places are limited for the performance and presentations, for booking please contact: liz.coman@dublincity.ie

