Leitrim Arts Strategy 2012 – 2017

Vision

To continue to develop in Leitrim, greater access and quality participation in the arts for all people living in or visiting the county; to nurture individuals, organisations, festivals and communities to be part of that provision, and to work in partnership with local, national and international agencies to achieve common goals.

Themes

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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Awareness</td>
<td>Bring greater awareness to the culturally rich and artistically vibrant offering and services in Leitrim.</td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>Access &amp; Participation</td>
<td>Ensure that each citizen has the opportunity to engage with, and participate in, the arts fully.</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>Professional Development</td>
<td>Support and assist artists and enables arts organisations, venues and festivals to achieve their potential.</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>Linkages</td>
<td>Encourage partnership across all sectors and agencies in order to achieve shared goals.</td>
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Objectives

1. Identify sectors and members of the community who are currently unaware of, or unable to engage with the arts and assist the development of high quality arts programmes appropriate to those contexts.


3. Provide opportunities for children to engage with high quality arts activities through primary schools.

4. Investigate the potential for development within music education for young people in the county.

5. Enhance the capacities of venues, festivals and arts organisations.

6. Enhance the promotion of arts events through on-line media.

7. Conduct research and determine strategies regarding infrastructure for artists.

8. Encourage the development of opportunities for artists to develop their practice and make new work.

9. Develop new and innovative arts programmes to encourage the development of the arts in the county.

10. Continue to develop and maintain standards of excellence in the delivery of a Local Authority Arts Service.
Leitrim County Council Arts Office programmes

Awareness

1. Develop www.whatsoninleitrim.ie to act as a clash diary for event organisers and as an enhancement to the reach of events locally, nationally and internationally.

2. Continue to manage Culture Night as a means of profiling the arts sector in Leitrim and encouraging more people to participate in the arts.

3. Work with venues and other public and private entities to maximise collective marketing and advertising.

4. Develop the capacity of festivals to maximise their potential in terms of programming, marketing and project management.

Access and Participation

5. Continue to develop and implement the Artist in Schools Scheme as a mechanism for artists to engage with young people to develop high quality, well planned arts programmes.

6. Work with local community development agencies to develop an Artist in the Community Programme involving four projects in the first year.

7. Explore the utilisation of interactive communication technologies as a means of widening the provision of arts programmes to schools, and other groups throughout the county.

8. Continue to work with the Wild Words Children’s Literature Festival in partnership with other stakeholders in the county and nationally.


10. Support the artistic programmes of other venues critical to the development of the arts in Leitrim including, but not limited to, The Glens Centre, Leitrim Sculpture Centre, Solas Art Gallery and The Cornmill Theatre.

11. Ensure the continued development of The Dock - a venue developed and owned by the Local Authority and a core service of the arts in Leitrim and the wider region.

12. Develop, in association with Leitrim Library Service, a resource for primary teachers to independently implement arts programmes in schools.
Professional Development

13. Manage the artists’ studios and community programme at Drumshanbo Library in partnership with Leitrim Library Service.


15. Provide direct support to artists to enable them to develop new work and continue their professional Development.

16. Cultivate relationships with international partners to build on the TRADE and LOCIS international artists’ residency programmes.

17. Continue to develop and implement SPARK, in association with Leitrim Local Enterprise Office, a residency programme for artists to work in business environments.

18. Work with Roscommon and Sligo Co Co to develop www.northwestfilm.ie as a portal for filmmakers who wish to work in the county and as a service and support to filmmakers based in the region.

19. Develop Creative Frame with Leitrim Local Enterprise Office, a creative sector network and continuing professional development and mentoring platform.

20. Actively promote services and opportunities available to artists who wish to base their practice here.

Crossover

21. Implement innovative public art projects that uphold the highest standards in arts practice and collaboration with communities in accordance with an agreed public art strategy as opportunities arise.

22. Continue to develop and implement the Leitrim Equation music development programme to develop and promote music in the county. Develop a new show, DVD and international tour as part of Leitrim Equation 4, based on the music of Leitrim. Continue to develop the Leading Edge traditional music professional development week. Support the development of Brí, a group of leading young emerging traditional musicians.