
Project Award 2024 Funding Clinic

Circus, Street Arts and Spectacle

24th October, 2023



Who Are We

The Arts Council

The Arts Council is a voluntary body of 12 members and a chair, appointed by the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media for a term of five years.

The ongoing work of the Arts Council is delivered by the executive, including a Director and staff across multiple artform specific and operational teams.

Arts advisers and assessors, who provide additional expertise and strategic advice on different aspects of the arts, are retained on a consultancy basis.

Learn more at: <https://www.artscouncil.ie/about/>

Artform Teams

- Architecture
- Arts participation
- Circus
- Creative Schools
- Dance
- Festivals
- Film
- International Arts
- Literature
- Music
- Opera
- Street Arts and Spectacle
- Theatre
- Traditional arts
- Arts Centres
- Visual Arts
- The Arts Council Collection
- Young People, Children and Education

Who We Are - CSAS Team



- **Assistant:** Cian O'Grady
- **Officer:** Dobrawa Brach
- **Head of Team:** Laura Ivers
- **Advisor:** Adam O'Keeffe

What We Do

The Arts Council of Ireland is the Irish government agency for developing the arts.

We work in partnership with artists, arts organisations, public policy makers and others to build a central place for the arts in Irish life.

The Arts Council's core functions under the Arts Act 2003 are:

- Stimulate public interest in the arts
- Promote knowledge, appreciation and practice of the arts
- Assist in improving standards in the arts
- Advise the Minister and other public bodies on the arts



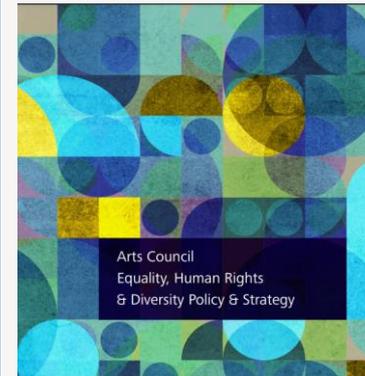
How We Do It

Funding	Providing financial assistance, mainly, but not exclusively, to artists and arts organisations; we also support others who develop and promote the arts;
Advice	Offering advice and information on the arts to Government and to others;
Research	Publishing research and information as an advocate for the arts and artists;
Promotion	Undertaking a range of projects to promote and develop the arts, often in partnership with others

How We Do It

Policy & Strategy

All funding programmes and artform specific policies are informed by the Arts Council's ten-year strategy (2016-25), *Making Great Art Work: Leading the Development of the Arts in Ireland*



Learn more at: <https://www.artscouncil.ie/about/>

Project Award 2024

Introduction

Project Award

Introduction

The Project Award supports the creation and presentation of work to audiences in the Republic of Ireland.

There were two rounds of Project Award 2023:

- 34 Applications requesting €1, 009, 354.03
- 9 Applications were funded to the value of €352, 562.12
- 25% of applications – 1:4
- 35% of requested amount.

Project Award 2024 Budget = €400, 000

Project Award 2024

Guidelines Overview

Project Award 2024

Circus/Street Arts/Spectacle

Purpose of the Award

The purpose of the award is to support high-quality, stand-alone initiatives that specifically deliver a presentation to, or an engagement with, an audience or public.

Key Information

Closing date: 17:30, Thursday 16th November 2023

Maximum awarded: €50,000

Artform and practice(s): Circus / Street Arts / Spectacle

Applicant type: The award is open to professional artists and organisations

Funding Decision: Cross Artform Competitive Scoring - Panel

Project Award 2024

Guidelines

Available at:

www.artscouncil.ie



Available funding



Circus Project Award/

Street Arts & Spectacle Project Award

- Objectives and Priorities of the Award
- Who Can/Cannot Apply
- What you May/May Not Apply For
- Supporting Material
- Eligibility
- How to Make Your Application
- How We Assess Your Application

Circus Project Award 2024

What is the purpose and priority of the Circus Project Award 2024?

The purpose of the award is to support high-quality, stand-alone initiatives that specifically deliver a presentation to, or an engagement with, an audience or public.

Potential circus proposals could be those that:

- Involve a variety of circus disciplines within a theme-based performance
- Allow artists to work with professionals such as choreographers, producers, directors and costume designers to develop work that is new to both the artists involved and audiences
- Enable artists to create work that changes their own concepts of current working practices
- Enable artists to create work that pushes the boundaries of circus practice in Ireland

Circus Project Award 2024

What is the purpose and priority of the Circus Project Award 2024?

The Arts Council has identified the following types of projects as strategic priorities for support through this award:

- Projects that create opportunities to extend the life of the work by securing a broad range of performance venues within the finite parameters of the project
- Projects that reflect a strong relationship and/or level of investment between the artist and project partner(s), and leading to high-quality production values for the completed work.
- Projects that have potential to be enjoyed widely in our communities, public spaces (real and virtual) and in dedicated venues and centres across the country, especially offering a meaningful access to and/or engagement with the arts and that reach new and diverse audiences.

This is in line with the Arts Council of Ireland spatial policy, Place, Space and People (see here: <https://www.artscouncil.ie/Arts-in-Ireland/Local,-Place-and-Public-Art/Place,-Space- -People/>).

All awards are informed by the Arts Council's ten-year strategy (2016–25), Making Great Art Work: Leading the Development of the Arts in Ireland (see here: <http://www.artscouncil.ie/arts-council-strategy/>).

Street Arts and Spectacle Project Award 2024

What is the purpose and priority of the SAS Project Award 2024?

The purpose of the award is to support high-quality, stand-alone initiatives that specifically deliver a presentation to, or an engagement with, an audience or public.

Potential street arts or spectacle proposals could be those that:

- Allow artists within these artforms to work with professionals such as choreographers, producers, directors and costume designers to develop work that is new to both the artists involved and audiences
- Involve original artistic ideas, enabling artists to engage with new or experimental collaborative partnerships leading to a public performance

Street Arts and Spectacle Project Award 2024

What is the purpose and priority of the SAS Project Award 2024?

The Arts Council has identified the following types of project as strategic priorities for support through this award:

Projects that reflect a strong relationship and/or level of investment between the artist and project partner(s), leading to high-quality production values for the completed work.

- Projects that present innovative formats of artistic creations and dissemination through high-quality elements of cross-disciplinary collaboration.
- Projects that demonstrate the capacity to deliver ambitious work of high public impact and visibility.
- Projects that have the potential to be enjoyed widely in our communities, public spaces (real and virtual) and in dedicated venues and centres across the country, especially offering a meaningful access to and/or engagement with the arts and that reach new and diverse audiences.

This is in line with the Arts Council of Ireland spatial policy, Place, Space and People (see here: https://www.artscouncil.ie/Arts-in-Ireland/Local,-Place-and-Public-Art/Place,-Space-_-People/).

All awards are informed by the Arts Council's ten-year strategy (2016–25), Making Great Art Work: Leading the Development of the Arts in Ireland (see here: <http://www.artscouncil.ie/arts-council-strategy/>).

Project Award 2024

Who Can Apply?

The award is open to **professional artists and organisations** working in the areas of circus or street arts and/or spectacle.

To be eligible to apply, applicants must:

- Be resident in the Republic of Ireland. There are certain exceptions where the Arts Council may deem eligible applications made by those based outside the Republic of Ireland. However, before admitting as eligible any such application, the applicant would need to explicitly outline within the application how the outcomes of any such proposal would benefit the arts in the Republic of Ireland, and the Arts Council must be satisfied with same.

The Arts Council defines a professional artist as an individual who identifies themselves, and is recognised by their peers, as a practising professional artist. The applicant does not have to make their living exclusively through their arts practice.

As part of its Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy, the Arts Council is committed to offering equality of access, opportunity and outcomes to all potential applicants regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, civil or family status, religion, age, disability, race or membership of the Traveller community, or socio-economic background.

In this funding scheme the Arts Council particularly welcomes applications that are representative of the diversity of Irish society, including but not limited to any of the characteristics outlined above, and/or initiatives that deliver equitable opportunities or outcomes for those involved.

Project Award 2024

Who Cannot Apply?

Applicants who are not eligible to apply include the following:

- Organisations currently in receipt of funding under the following Arts Council programmes: Strategic Funding, Arts Centre Funding, Partnership Funding – though the involvement of such organisations as partners is welcome
- Organisations or individuals in receipt of 2024 Arts Grant Funding
- Individuals who work on an ongoing basis with organisations funded through any of the above programmes

Note: This refers to individuals who are full-time employees or full-time contractors with these organisations.

- National Cultural Institutions (or their Council members) directly funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

Project Award 2024

Who Cannot Apply?

- Individuals or organisations that do not have a demonstrable track record as professional artists or organisations
- Individuals currently in undergraduate education (including those undertaking foundation courses) or who will be during the period for which this award is offered
- Individuals seeking support towards fees for postgraduate (including unaccredited)/higher education or study

Note: you cannot apply for the award both as an individual and as part of an organisation – e.g. you cannot apply as artistic director of a company and also apply separately under your own name.

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How much can I apply for?

You may apply for up to €50,000.

You are required to submit a detailed budget listing all items of income and expenditure relating to your proposed project.

The maximum amount you may request is the difference between the proposed expenditure and the proposed income you indicate in the budget.

Proposed expenditure should include all fees, wages, technical costs, promotion and publicity costs, administrative costs, etc.

Proposed income should include what you expect to receive from other funders, box office receipts, programme sales, etc.

It is also important to reflect all in-kind support** in both income and expenditure, so reflecting the full and true value of your proposal.

Project Award 2024

Income & Expenditure

You are asked to indicate income, expenditure and amount requested at three stages during your application:

- On the detailed budget that you submit as part of your application as supporting material
- Online, when you initiate the application (totals only)
- In section 3 of the application form.

Make sure that the totals are the same on all three; and make sure that the amount requested equals **TOTAL EXPENDITURE** minus **TOTAL INCOME**.

Project Award 2024

Access costs for artists or participants with disabilities

In addition to the maximum amount permitted, the Arts Council will also consider access costs specifically relating to the making of work by artists or participants with disabilities and/or non-capital public-access costs (e.g. audio description, interpretation) in cases where your proposal has a public outcome.

The Arts Council defines participants as those who express themselves creatively by taking part in artistic activities. In broader terms, this includes anyone who engages with the arts in any way at any level – e.g. those attending an event, reading a book, watching a performance, etc.

The Arts Council takes the definition of disability from the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which states:

‘Persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which, in interaction with various barriers, may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.’

Project Award 2024

What is an access cost?

Access costs for artists or participants with disabilities cover any requirements you may have in order to remove barriers that might stop you from completing your proposal.

This may include, for example, costs towards additional time needed to complete an element of your proposal or additional assistance required to deliver your proposed activity.

Note: in the event that you are requesting access costs, you should include information about the costs and how you arrived at them as part of your supporting documentation.

If you wish to apply for access costs, please upload the following information with your application:

- A short document outlining what your additional access costs are
- An amount for access costs in the expenditure section of your application form budget. This figure should also be included in the total amount you request.

Note: If you are not seeking additional access costs specifically for artists or participants with disabilities please leave the Access Costs fields section blank.

Project Award 2024

What may you not apply for?

You may not apply for more than one project-type award (in any artform/arts practice) in any one round of funding – e.g. the same applicant cannot apply for a Street Arts and Spectacle Project Award and a Theatre Project Award in the same round.

Activities and costs that you may not apply for include the following:

- Major capital purchases
- Ongoing core costs
- Activities or costs that do not fit the purpose of the award
- Activities that are more suited to another award funded by the Arts Council or operated by other state agencies, such as Culture Ireland
- Activities that have already taken place or which will have commenced before 1 March 2024

Project Award 2024

What may you not apply for?

Activities and costs that you may not apply for include the following:

- Activities undertaken for charity-fundraising purposes, for participation in a competition, or for primarily profit-making purposes
- Activities that have already been assessed by the Arts Council, unless you demonstrate that you have substantively developed the proposal since previously applying or if the Council has specifically advised you to redirect your application to this award. Please bear in mind that such advice is not an indication of a successful outcome.
- Projects that solely involve the touring of existing productions
- Projects that are not centred on the creation of new artistic work to be presented to an audience or public.

Project Award 2024

Supporting Material

Supporting material means **material that is separate from and additional to your application form**. This helps the person assessing your application to get a clearer understanding of your proposal.

Please read what supporting material is required below very carefully, as failure to comply with this is the most common reason for applications being deemed ineligible.

In order to be considered eligible for assessment for a Circus or Street Arts and Spectacle Project Award, you must submit the following supporting material online:

- Up-to-date CVs or biographies (max. three pages) for each of the key artists involved in the proposed project
- A detailed budget – separate from and in addition to the budgetary information requested within the application form. This should set out all of the individual costs, and any projected income, associated with the project. Note: this must include proposed rates of pay for all personnel involved; rates of pay should be realistic and commensurate with the practitioners' level of professional experience.

Project Award 2024

Supporting Material

- Letters/emails of support, and/or copies of MOUs, outlining details of collaborations and/or confirming any commitments of income either in cash or in-kind towards the proposal
- Video clips showing examples of recent work (check acceptable file formats under section 2.3)
- In cases where the project proposal has a public outcome, a marketing and/or dissemination and/or engagement plan which outlines who the work is for and how they will be enabled/encouraged to engage with it.

For support with please see: <https://www.artscouncil.ie/Arts-in-Ireland/Strategic-development/Public-engagement/>

For SA&S please see: <https://isacs.ie/resource/audience-aware-street-arts-handbook/>

In order to assess the volume of applications that we typically receive in a timely manner, we cannot review any supporting materials other than those listed above.

CSAS Team Note:

We suggest putting all required supporting material together in one master PDF document (with a table of contents) that demonstrates your ideas in a way that panelists, who will likely not be familiar with your work, can clearly and easily assess your proposal.

Project Award 2024

Additional Material required in certain circumstances

If you are seeking additional **access costs** to support work by individuals with access requirements, or to support access to your work by audiences with disability requirements, please provide a document outlining these costs, and outlining how they have been arrived at. Please also ensure that you include this additional amount as part of your budget.

If your proposal involves working with **animals**, you must provide a copy of your Animal Welfare Protection Policies and Procedures.

For applications involving **children and young people** under the age of eighteen the Arts Council requires all individuals and organisations providing services (e.g. cultural, recreational, educational) to children and young people under the age of eighteen to have suitable child-protection policies and procedures in place

For applications involving **vulnerable adults** you must indicate in section 1 of the application form whether or not your proposal involves work with or for vulnerable persons. By ticking the Yes box, you are indicating that you will work with, or present work to, this cohort as part of your proposal, and that you acknowledge that you have familiarised yourself with and adhere to the **National Policy & Procedures on Safeguarding Vulnerable Persons at Risk of Abuse**.

If you do not submit all required supporting material, your application will be deemed ineligible.

Project Award 2024

How to make your application

- **Register with the Arts Council's Online Services.** All applications must be made through the Arts Council's Online Services; applications made in any other way (by post, fax or email) will not be accepted. You must have an Online Services account to make an application.
- You will need to use a computer/laptop to submit your application. **Our Online Services website does not work on phones or tablets.**
- You will need to have **Microsoft Word or OpenOffice Writer** installed to complete the application form.
- The **application form** is formatted in such a way that the Arts Council can extract information from the form for assessment purposes. It is very important that you type inside the grey boxes in the form, and that you do not delete them and/or type outside them. If you do this, the form will not upload properly.

Project Award 2024

Formats and URL links

- **Acceptable file formats:**

text files .rtf/.doc/.docx/.txt

sound files .wav/.mp3/.m4a

spreadsheets .xls/.xlsx

image files .jpg/.gif/.tiff/.png

video files .avi/.mov/.mp4

Adobe Acrobat Reader files .pdf

- **Submitting URL links:** links to streaming platforms may be used to provide samples of work. Instead of uploading material directly, you may provide links to material hosted on streaming platforms that do not limit access through financial subscription. To do this, copy the URL (the full address of where your material is hosted) into a Microsoft Word/OpenOffice Writer or a PDF document and upload it as a weblink-supporting document.
- While not an exclusive list, examples of acceptable sharing platforms include YouTube, Vimeo, Soundcloud and Bandcamp. Please note that we will not accept links to file-sharing sites (e.g. Google Drive) nor links to social-media platforms nor to individual applicants' websites.
- **Stand-alone supporting material** such as CVs and letters of support, etc. must be uploaded as separate documents with your application.

Project Award 2024 - Eligibility

Your application will be deemed ineligible, and will not go any further in the process, if any of the following is true:

- You miss the application deadline
- You do not submit a completed application form through the Arts Council's Online Services (an application form attached as a supporting document will not be accepted).
- You fail to complete all of the sections in the application form relevant to your proposal.
- You cannot apply as set out in sections 1.2 to 1.4 of the Guidelines (who can and cannot apply).
- You apply for an amount of funding greater than the maximum amount allowed for within the award to which you are applying, (except where you are applying for an additional amount to cover access costs).
- You apply for an activity or purpose that you cannot apply for, as set out in section 1.6 of the Guidelines (what you not apply for).
- You fail to provide all mandatory supporting materials.
- Your application is better suited to another funding programme offered by the Arts Council or by another funding agency (in this case we will redirect you to the more appropriate funding opportunity).

Note: in the event that your application is ruled ineligible, it will not be assessed, and you will be able to apply again with the same proposal in future funding rounds.

Project Award Assessment Criteria

Overview

Applications are assessed in a competitive context and with consideration of the application form and the supporting materials submitted.

All applications are assessed against criteria of

- a) artistic merit,
- b) how they meet the objectives and priorities of the award, and
- c) feasibility.

Each of these criteria is described in the Guidelines.

While applicants may select other artforms/arts practices as being relevant to their application, the application will be assessed by the team responsible for the chosen primary artform, and which may, in certain instances, ask for a secondary assessment from another team.

Project Assessment Process

Overview

Applications Received



Eligibility Check Completed



Adviser(s) and/or staff complete a written assessment of the application based on the criteria and recommend an application as shortlisted or not shortlisted



A peer panel reviews all shortlisted applications and makes funding recommendation



Decisions are communicated in writing to applicants

Project Assessment Process

Peer Panel

- Peer Panels are made up of artists and sector professionals and made funding decisions for key funding programmes such as the Bursary and Project Awards.
- Panels assist in maintaining standards of quality and ensuring transparency.
- Peer panel members use their expertise and knowledge to assess, score and make decisions in line with the **published criteria for the award** and in the context of available funds.

For more information about the Arts Council Peer Panels please see: <https://www.artscouncil.ie/Funding/Peer-Panel/>

Applying for Funding – general tips

General Tips

Common mistakes

- Not registering on OLS in time (if a first-time user)
- Leaving it too late and missing the deadline (window opens one month in advance).
- Not uploading required supporting material for a programme
- Reading an older set of guidelines – always look at the most recent set via the *Available Funding* section of our website
- Not relating application to the objectives and priorities of the programme.
- Not attending artform clinics. ✓



Mistake #1 – Note reading the guidelines carefully

Application Process

- Register/Log In to OLS
- Download the application form to your computer
- Read the guidelines thoroughly (Objectives of award, Supporting documents + Eligibility criteria)
- Supporting documents – before submitting ensure that whatever you were asked to upload has been uploaded.
 - It is helpful if all C.V.'s are in one document
 - It is helpful if all MOU's/LOS's are in one document
 - It is helpful if all YouTube/external links are one document and clearly named
- Complete the application form and save it.
- Upload the application form to OLS and hit submit
- Give yourself plenty of time to submit your application – ideally submit at least 48 hours before the deadline
- Call/Email us if you have any queries – ‘Contact us’ section of website

Access Supports

If you have a disability and need help submitting your application, please contact the Arts Council's Access Officer.

You can either:

- Phone the Access Officer on (01 618 000) or
- Send an email to access@artscouncil.ie

Please do so as early as possible, as this will give the Access Officer time to assist you.

We will tailor support to individual requests. We do our best to accommodate people with disabilities who want to submit an application or who have difficulties in accessing Online Services.

General advice

- Do not assume that the assessors will know you or your work. Treat each application as if it were your first.
- Several people will be involved in making a decision about your application – be clear, concise & unambiguous.
- Make sure it's clear why you are doing this and why you are working with the people you're working with.
- Try not to slip into imitating Arts Council language/jargon and losing your voice.
- ALWAYS relate your proposal back to the award priorities/objectives criteria.
- Have someone you know read through your application before you submit it!

Contact Us

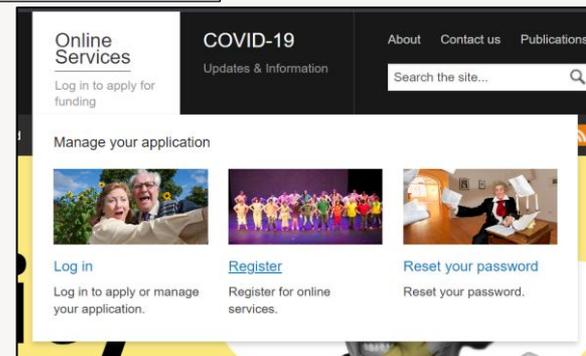
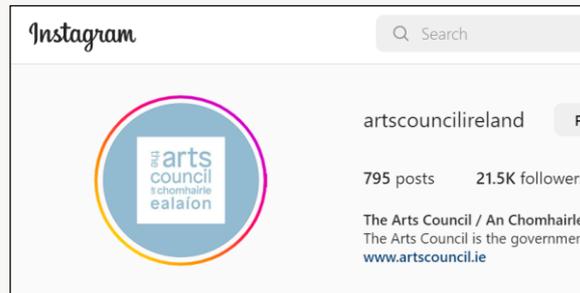
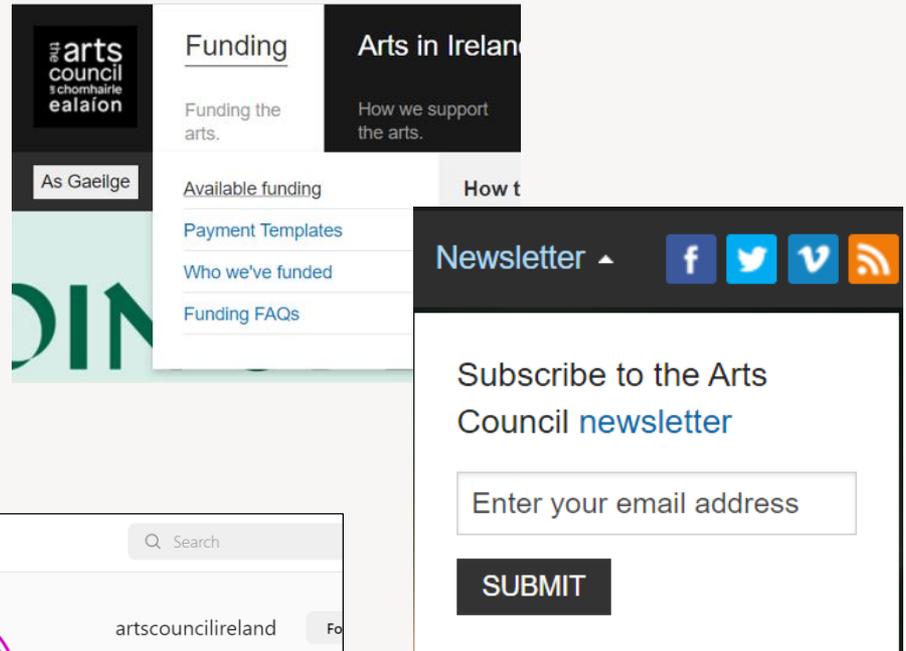
If you have queries or would like to invite the team to upcoming presentations or events – please reach out!

Team email: CSAS@artscouncil.ie

For other arts and operational team contact information please go to: <https://www.artscouncil.ie/contact-us/>

Where to find information

- Funding page: [artscouncil.ie](https://www.arts council.ie)
- Sign up to our newsletter
- Social media
- Register for Online Services (OLS)



Thank You

