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# Festival Funding 2023

Information clinic for applicants

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# Festival Funding

## Application Process - Scheme structure

- Funding - First steps
- The Arts Council's Funding Framework
- Funding programmes relevant to festivals (precis)
- Helpful information (festival policy, simple tips)
- Future developments



Images courtesy of: Skibbereen Arts Festival



# Funding - First Steps

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# Funding - First Steps

## Where do I find out more about Arts Council funding?

Arts organisations, artists, and groups working with the arts can apply for funding [www.artscouncil.ie](http://www.artscouncil.ie) check the 'available funding' page.

## How do I apply?

To make an application you must register for Arts Registered Number (ARN). This can be found on the 'online services page'. You can sign up here. You will also use this page to log in to make applications.

You only need to register once. You will be given a unique reference number and you will use this for any applications you make in the future.

Please note: It can take up to 5 working days to issue you with an ARN so please make sure you leave plenty of time if making an application.

The screenshot shows the Arts Council website's online services page. At the top, there is a blue header with the Arts Council logo, the text 'Welcome to the Arts Council' and 'The government agency for funding and developing the arts in Ireland', and navigation links for 'Text Only', 'As Gaeilge', 'FAQs', 'News', and 'RSS'. A search bar is also present. Below the header is a dark navigation bar with links for 'Home', 'About us', 'Artsforms & practices', 'Financial support', 'Online services', 'Publications', 'Links', and 'Contact us'. The main content area is titled 'Online services' and features a 'Log in' section with input fields for 'ARN' and 'Password', a 'Log in' button, and a link for 'Forgot / Request your password?'. Below this is a 'New user? Sign up' section with a list of benefits: 'submit applications;', 'manage payments;', and 'update your account details.', followed by a 'Sign up' button. A small error message is visible at the bottom left of the page: '!! Is /en/homepage serv'' in a new tab'.

# Funding - First Steps

## Where do I find out more about Arts Council funding?

Check the 'available funding' page which will give you a list of funding schemes. You can search by artform or arts practice. You can also check the Festival page on the Arts Council website [here](#) which lists funding suitable for festival applicants.

Select the scheme and download the guidelines

- Check the guidelines thoroughly, in particular you should look at the ELIGIBILITY section to see if you qualify for the scheme and WHAT YOU MAY APPLY FOR
- Log in to OLS using your ARN and select the scheme from the drop down menu. This will allow you to make an application
- Guidelines and applications are available for one month before the scheme deadline.
- All applications materials must be submitted online through OLS.

The screenshot shows the Arts Council website's 'Available funding' page. The page has a dark navigation bar with the Arts Council logo and menu items: Funding, Arts in Ireland, Online services, About, and Contact us. Below the navigation bar, there is a search bar and a 'Share this page' button. The main heading is 'Available funding'. The text below the heading states: 'Arts organisations, artists, and groups working with the arts can apply for funding. Discover what funding is available then register for [online services](#) to submit an application.'

Below the text, there is a blue filter bar with the following options:

- Show only funding within: Select some options
- Or by funding amount: All
- Or by what describes you: All
- Search funds

The main content area displays two funding schemes:

Application deadline <b>19 November 2018 17:00</b>	<b>Artist in the community scheme bursary award</b> The Arts Council Artist in the Community Scheme Bursary Award 2018 aims to support individual artists working in the area of collaborative arts in health context.	Maximum award <b>€10,000</b> <b>Accepting applications</b>
Application deadline <b>Ongoing</b>	<b>Travel and Training award</b> Please note maximum amount awarded differs between artforms. There are three strands to this award: Travel and Training Outbound; Travel and Training Inbound;	Maximum award <b>€3,000</b> <b>Accepting applications</b>



# Funding Framework

# Funding Framework

<p><b>Strategic</b></p>	<p>To provide funding on a competitive basis to support arts organisations with ambitious and imaginative proposals to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- assist artists in developing their practice and their ideas, and/or</li> <li>- deliver excellent arts experiences to the public</li> </ul>	<p>Organisations that are formally constituted and have a track record for the delivery in the arts</p>
<p><b>Project &amp; Programmes</b></p>	<p>To provide funding on a competitive basis to support individuals, entities or organisations to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- develop a specific idea, or</li> <li>- to deliver more than one idea or activity</li> </ul>	<p>Individual artists Organisations Entities that come together for the purpose of delivering a project or programme</p>
<p><b>Artists' supports</b></p>	<p>To support individual artists to develop their ideas and their practice through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- taking time out to concentrate on their artistic practice</li> <li>- travelling to learn or to experience work in other countries or</li> <li>- availing of a residency opportunity with an organisation or institution</li> </ul>	<p>Individual artists only</p>
<p><b>Partnership</b></p>	<p>To provide funding to support local authorities in delivering arts experiences to people across Ireland</p>	<p>Local authority arts offices</p>
<p><b>Development</b></p>	<p>To support a range of activities designed to assist artists and organisations in undertaking developmental activities that enhance participation and stimulate public interest in the arts. (Two types of development funding programme)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Programme in partnership with third party organisations</li> <li>- Programme managed directly by the Arts Council</li> </ul>	<p>Development funding is not an open funding programme* *subject to change</p>

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# Funding Framework

There are a number of schemes offered to support organisations working with the arts. Below is a suite of those most relevant to festivals and festival practice.

## STRATEGIC INVESTMENT

### Strategic Funding

## PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES

Festival Investment Scheme (FIS)

Arts Grant Funding (AGF)

Open Call\*

Commissions Award

Capacity Building Support Scheme (CBSS)

Culture Night Late

Architecture Project Award (Strands 1&3)\*\*

Artform Project Awards /Residencies

An Invitation to Collaboration

Creative Places Award

International Residency Scheme (IRIS)





# Funding Programmes (Festivals)

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# Funding Programmes available to festival organisations

## STRATEGIC INVESTMENT

### Strategic Funding 2024

Supporting organisations whose work is critical to the arts infrastructure in Ireland

Maximum Award: Unlimited

Deadline: Annual Round **Opens 27th June - Closes 7th September 2023**

Award Announcements: Anticipated - December end 2023.

Large festival organisations that are formally constituted that support and lead out in artist development, artform development, large programmes of public engagement are best suited to this programme.

Who may not apply:

- Organisations that have applied to another Arts Council scheme to undertake the same programme of activity
- Organisations in receipt of partnership funding/arts centre funding
- Individual artists

Formally constituted festivals that: are large scale, whose work is critical to the arts infrastructure in Ireland are best suited to this scheme.

If your intention is to apply to Strategic Funding please talk to the Festival Team first.

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# Funding Programmes available to festival organisations

## PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES

### Festival Investment Scheme 2024 Rounds 1 and 2

The festival Investment scheme is open to multi-disciplinary festivals and single artform festivals to fund festival activity. The Scheme is also open to annual and biennial festival models.

#### Maximum Award: €45,000\*

Deadlines: Round 1 **Opens 2nd May - Closes 1st June 2023** (Festivals Jan-June 2024)

Award Announcement: Anticipated - August/September 2023

Round 2 **Opens 24th October - Closes 23rd November 2023** (Festivals July-December 2024)

Award Announcement: Anticipated -January/February 2024

#### Scheme Notes:

- This scheme offers a banded programme of support : Up to €10,000\*, €10-25,000,\* €25-45,000\*. The establishment of your festival and number of consecutive festivals that have taken place restrict entry. (You can only apply to one band per year)
- Those offering quarterly events or a programme series are considered NON priority.
- FIS forward commits funds (ie, 2023 application deadline for 2024 festival activity)

#### Who may not apply:

- Organisations in receipt of Strategic Funding (including multi-annual support), Partnership Funding or Arts Centres Funding
- Organisations that have applied to Arts Grant Funding 2024 to undertake the same programme of activity
- Organisations that have applied to another Arts Council scheme to undertake the same programme of activity

Festivals that are new/small-mid scale are best suited to this scheme.

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# Funding Programmes available to festival organisations

## PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES

### Arts Grant Funding 2024

Arts Grant Funding will award funding to organisations and individuals to carry out a series of activities between

- the creation, production and/or presentation of work to the public
- the development of artistic ideas
- the delivery of a series of arts activities or events
- the provision of supports, resources and facilities to artists.

Maximum Award : Unlimited (please note that the average award in 2023 was €50,000)

Deadline: Annual Round **Opens 21st March - Closes 11th May 2023)**

Award Announcement: Anticipated -September 2023

Scheme Notes:

- AGF forward commits funds (ie, 2023 application deadline for 2024 activity)

Who may not apply:

- Organisations in receipt of Strategic Funding, Partnership Funding or Arts Centres Funding
- Organisations that have applied to another Arts Council scheme to undertake the same programme of activity

**Festivals that have developed through the FIS Scheme, larger programmatic festivals or festival development initiatives are best suited to this scheme.**

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- *If you are intending to apply for multi-annual funding. Please speak with the Festival team after the applicant guidelines are published.*
  - *If your intention is to apply to both the Festival Investment Scheme 2024 and Arts Grant Funding 2024 for different proposals please speak with the Festival Team about your proposals ahead of submitting applications.*

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# Funding Programmes available to festival organisations

## PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES

### Open Call 2024\*

(\*Scheme in Review)

Supporting the creation of one-off projects which are original and ambitious works of excellence, that are collaborative and contain an international dimension. Open to individuals, organisations and consortia.

Maximum Award : €TBC (For Open Call 2023 -the max award threshold was €500,000)

Deadline: Annual Round **Opens TBC - Closes TBC)**

Award Announcement: **TBC**

Scheme Notes:

- Open Call forward commits funds (ie, 2023 application deadline for applications commencing in 2024)
- For one-off large projects additional to your normal programme of activity.

Who may not apply:

- Organisations that have applied to another Arts Council scheme to undertake the same programme of activity

Festivals that have the capacity to and wish to create a large scale or ambitious projects are best suited to this scheme.

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# Funding Programmes available to festival organisations

## PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES

### Commissions 2023

The purpose of the Commissions Award is to enable the commissioning of new work from freelance artists. In general, the finished work may be in a form capable of being presented, exhibited, published, performed and/or disseminated in its entirety at the point of completion, or it may be capable of being presented as a work-in-progress, either live or online.

Maximum Award :€15,000-€45,000 (dependent on the strand selected)

Deadline: Annual Round **Opens 24th January- Closes 23rd February 2023)**

Award Announcement: Anticipated -June 2023

Scheme Notes:

Strand 1 - Artform Commissions in Dance/Music/Opera or Traditional Arts

Strand 2- Cross Arts Areas - Festivals /YPCE

**Festivals may apply to any strand but may make only one application.**

Who may not apply:

- Please check guidelines as depending on the strand and type of organisation will depend on eligibility
- Organisations that have applied to another Arts Council scheme to undertake the same programme of activity

Festivals that wish to commission new work are best suited to this scheme.

**Strategic Funded Festivals cannot apply to particular strands of this award - please check applicant guidelines**

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# Funding Programmes available to festival organisations

## PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES

### Capacity Building Support Scheme 2023

Supporting organisations to build capacity.

Examples of where supports have been offered is:

- Digital capability
- Business and practice development
- Professional development
- Developing collaborations and connections
- Developing capacity for inclusion and diversity

Maximum Award : (In 2022 the max award threshold was €20,000 for individual organisations and €30,000 for consortia applications)

Deadline: Annual Round **Opens 4th April - Closes 4th May 2023**

Award Announcement: Anticipated -June/July 2023

Scheme Notes:

This programme is not for the creation of artworks or arts activities or major building capital costs

Who may not apply:

- Organisations that have applied to another Arts Council scheme to undertake the same programme of activity
- Individual artists
- Organisations that have not been previously funded by the Arts Council or are NOT formally constituted
- or Not Non-for profit.

**Festivals that wish to develop organisation capacity are best suited to this scheme**

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# Funding Programmes available to festival organisations

## PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES

### Culture Night Late

Culture Night Late is designed to support events that will begin after 9pm and continue late into Culture Night on Friday 22nd September 2023.

Maximum Award : (Strand 1 applicants Up to €16,500)

Deadline: Annual Round **Opens 14th March - Closes 13th April 2023**

Award Announcement: Anticipated -June/Early July 2023

#### Scheme Notes:

The award will support (strand 1) arts festival-led late-night flagship events with an audience capacity of over 500 people in partnership with the local authority.

#### Who may not apply:

- Organisations that have applied to another Arts Council scheme to undertake the same programme of activity
- Individual artists /Organisations not listed as eligible in the applicant guidance.

Festivals that wish to develop their Culture Night Offering are best suited to this scheme.



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# Funding Programmes available to festival organisations

## PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES

### Project Awards 2023

While these awards are not designed specifically for festivals, festivals are generally not precluded from applying. Festivals can be partners to an artist or arts organisation applying to this scheme.

Maximum Award: Dependent on artform area

Deadline: Round 2 Projects 2023 **Opens 21st February - Closes 23rd March 2023)**

Round 1 Projects 2024 **Opens 10th October - Closes 16th November 2023)**

### Architecture Project Award

To support ambitious, innovative and creative, high quality initiatives that specifically aim to enhance and extend the public's experience of architecture. The Engaging with Architecture Scheme also seeks to build an expert network of architects, curators, arts programmers, festivals and arts centres working in this area.

Maximum Award : Strand 1 Research and Development up to €7,000 / Strand 3 Engagement up to €25,000

Deadline: Annual Round **Opens 21st February - Closes 23rd March 2023)**

Award Announcements: Anticipated - June/July

**Festivals that wish to provide a focus on architecture are best suited this scheme.**

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# Funding Programmes available to festival organisations

## PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES

### An Invitation to Collaboration

The award is open to local authorities to apply for projects or initiatives that they identify as being of strategic significance to arts development locally, regionally and nationally. For projects that focus on: public engagement, artist focused programmes, policy development

Maximum Award : €TBC

Deadline: Annual Round - **Opens 15th August Closes 14th September 2023**

Scheme Notes:

[The award is open to local-authorities only but can be in partnership with festival organisations.](#)

Who may not apply:

- Organisations that are not local authorities

Festivals may NOT apply to this scheme but are able to partner with Local Authority applicants.

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# Funding Programmes available to festival organisations

## PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES

### Creative Places Award

The Creative Places programme is designed to invest in places (e.g. towns, villages, suburbs, rural places) that have had fewer opportunities to take part in the arts. Creative Places should be inclusive and diverse, and their programmes rooted in socially engaged arts practice and community-development principles. Successful applicants will build on existing cultural strengths and be led by community participation and ideas. In particular, they will look to involve people who are often excluded.

Maximum Award : Strand 1 Creative Places Award €330,000 over three years. Strand 2 Creative Places Research and Development Award €35,000

Deadline: Annual Round - **Opens 28th February - Closes 30th March 2023**

#### Scheme Notes:

The lead applicant for the Creative Places Award can be a local authority, an arts organisation or a community development organisation. Whichever is the lead applicant; they must collaborate with and include (at least) both other organisation types as partners to encourage a sustainable grassroots approach to creativity and local arts development.

#### Who may not apply:

- Any organisation that does not fall within the categories above is not eligible to apply
- Members of the Council of National Cultural Institutions (CNCI) directly funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media cannot be a lead applicant but may be a partner

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# Funding Programmes available to festival organisations

## PROJECTS & PROGRAMMES

### International Residency Scheme (IRIS)

The purpose of this scheme is to support art organisations in the delivery of residency initiatives and to create opportunities for transnational exchange and cooperation across all art forms. The scheme aims to facilitate diverse residencies programmes that involve partnerships with organisations based abroad thus creating a supportive framework for the international mobility and professional development of artists and art practitioners. **The emphasis of the scheme is on enabling art organisations to initiate or consolidate collaborative frameworks with partners based abroad.**

Maximum Award :€50,000

Deadline **Annual Round Opens 7th March- Closes 6th April 2023**

Award Announcements: Anticipated - June/July

Scheme Notes:

- Clinic is expected in March (see Arts Council Newsletter and Website for details)

Who can apply

- Organisations working in all art forms and art practices. To be eligible an organisation must be based in the Republic of Ireland and be able to demonstrate the active involvement of at least one other partner organisation based abroad.

**Festivals that have established international partnerships or relationships and seek to strengthen these are best suited to this scheme.**



# Helpful Information

# Festival Funding Clinic

## Helpful Information

- Check the Arts Council available funding page to see when schemes are open for application, the deadline of a scheme and scheme guidelines
- Sign up to the Arts Council newsletter to receive monthly news updates and social media feeds (twitter/facebook)
- Attend clinics (where relevant) as these may be helpful in learning more about the scheme
- Double check the eligibility on all schemes and deadlines.
- If you are having difficulties with your online application or have questions about a scheme - please call or email.
- Request your assessments - feedback is available to all applicants.

<https://www.artscouncil.ie/funding-opportunities-schedule/>

## Arts Council 2023 Funding Schedule

FUNDING PROGRAMME	OPEN	CLOSE
Liam O'Flynn Award	6-Dec-22	19-Jan-23
Touring 2023, Round 2 and Advance Planning 2024	20-Dec-22	2-Feb-23
Agility Award 2023, Round 1	3-Jan-23	9-Feb-23
Bursary Award, 2023, Round 1	3-Jan-23	9-Feb-23
Markevitz Award	17-Jan-23	16-Feb-23
Deis Recording & Publication	17-Jan-23	16-Feb-23
Dance Artist Residency Scheme	24-Jan-23	23-Feb-23
Commissions	24-Jan-23	23-Feb-23
Young Ensembles Scheme	31-Jan-23	2-Mar-23
Opera Projects & Production 2024	21-Feb-23	23-Mar-23
Project Award 2023, Round 2	21-Feb-23	23-Mar-23
Creative Places	28-Feb-23	30-Mar-23
International Residency Scheme	7-Mar-23	6-Apr-23
Teacher Education University Residencies (YPER)	7-Mar-23	6-Apr-23
Next Generation Artists Award	14-Mar-23	13-Apr-23
Culture Night Late	14-Mar-23	13-Apr-23
Arts Grant Funding 2024	21-Mar-23	11-May-23
Capacity Building Support Scheme	4-Apr-23	4-May-23
Creative Schools (2023/24)	11-Apr-23	15-Jun-23
Festivals Investment Scheme 2024, Round 1	2-May-23	1-Jun-23
Author'd Works	9-May-23	8-Jun-23
Reel Art	9-May-23	8-Jun-23
Agility Award 2023, Round 2	23-May-23	22-Jun-23
Bursary Award, 2023, Round 2	23-May-23	22-Jun-23
Touring 2024, Advance Planning 2025	TBC	TBC
Full-time Islandwide Dance Company	27-Jun-23	27-Jul-23
Strategic Funding 2024	27-Jun-23	7-Sep-23
Arts Centres 2024	4-Jul-23	14-Sep-23
Creative Production Supports	18-Jul-23	31-Aug-23
Partnership Funding 2024	25-Jul-23	5-Oct-23
Visual Arts Workspace Scheme	15-Aug-23	14-Sep-23
Invitation to Collaboration	15-Aug-23	14-Sep-23
Open Call 2024	TBC	TBC
Project Award 2024	10-Oct-23	16-Nov-23
Festivals Investment Scheme 2024, Round 2	24-Oct-23	23-Nov-23
Co-funding Awards	7-Nov-23	7-Dec-23

\*Please note that dates or schemes could change over the course of the year. We will update this list accordingly as soon as possible. Make sure to read the guidelines carefully for each award for any updates

Date of Issue: 06/12/2022

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# Festival Funding Clinic

## Helpful Information

The Arts Council has produced policies for each of the artform/arts practice areas.

The festival policy, recently published, sets out a three year strategy and set of priorities aligned to the Arts Council's strategy Making Great Art Work. The festival policy can be found here:

[http://www.artscouncil.ie/uploadedFiles/wwwartscouncilie/Content/Research\\_and\\_Publications/Festivals\\_and\\_events/Festivals%20Policy%20and%20Strategy\\_2020-2025.pdf](http://www.artscouncil.ie/uploadedFiles/wwwartscouncilie/Content/Research_and_Publications/Festivals_and_events/Festivals%20Policy%20and%20Strategy_2020-2025.pdf)



Images courtesy of: Cork Midsummer Festival and Galway International Arts Festival



# Future Developments



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# Festival Funding Clinic

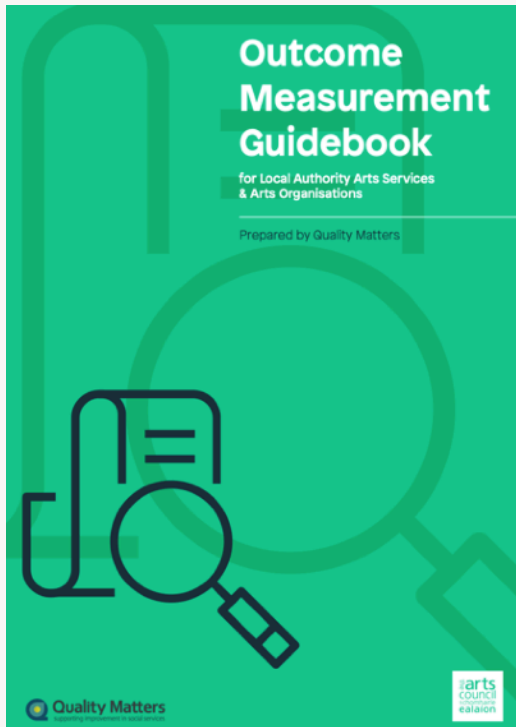
## Future Developments

### Festival Conference 11&12 May 2023 (Galway)

The Arts Council in partnership with Drama and Theatre Studies at the University of Galway will present the Festival Makers Conference on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023 in Galway City; a gathering of festival makers and festival stakeholders in Ireland to map developments, exchange ideas and share skills in festivals.



<https://www.artscouncil.ie/Arts-in-Ireland/Festivals/Festival-Makers-Conference-2023/>



## Arts Festival Resource Research

A Resource Audit and Needs analysis research is underway and a national survey has been completed with festival organisations. Round table discussions with festivals and festival stakeholders will take place in late February/Early March along with interviews and case studies. GM Innovations, who are leading the study will update at the FESTIVAL MAKERS CONFERENCE - a report and recommendations will be produced in September 2023.

## Impact Measurement

A three year pilot (2023-2025) is taking place with six multidisciplinary arts festivals to measure the social impact of their programme and year round work. The pilot, which is facilitated and supported by Quality Matters will report back at the FESTIVAL MAKERS CONFERENCE in May. Festivals wishing to use the Measurement Guidebook can access it [here](#)

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# Festival Funding Clinic 2023

Information clinic for applicants

Arts Council 01 618 0200

Festival Team

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Thank you