

**CULTURE NIGHT**

**FRI 20th Sept| 4PM TILL LATE |** [**WWW.CULTURENIGHT.IE**](http://culturenight.ie/)

**INFORMATION**

**What is Culture Night?**

Culture Night is an annual all-island public event that celebrates culture, creativity and the arts. This year, it will take place on Friday 20th September between 4pm till late. On Culture Night, arts and cultural organisations and venues of all shapes and sizes, including the National Cultural institutions, extend their opening hours to allow for increased access to the public. Special and unique events and workshops are specifically programmed at participating locations and everything is available free of charge. Kilkenny City is designated as a night time economy pilot city. Under the Kilkenny City Night Time Economy Action Plan 2024-2025, additional funding has been provided this year to ensure Culture Night can facilitate more inclusive and innovative late-night arts events that are suitable for all ages.

**The Ethos of Culture Night**

* Encourages more people to visit cultural venues and experience culture in their locality
* Reminds us all about the fantastic cultural facilities and resources that we have locally and nationally
* Raises the profile of cultural organisations, activities and facilities
* Encourages people to try new things and to get into the habit of going more often to cultural venues and activities in their locality
* Makes it easier for people to play a role in their local cultural scene
* Helps create a sense of community and belonging

**Culture Night 2024**

To ensure that the 2024 event remains fresh and exciting, it is important to combine tried and tested formulas with new approaches to event programming, audience engagement, promotion and marketing. This will help you make sure that Culture Night is more than a one-night wonder for your community and your area.

This year the Arts Council of Ireland asks that you reflect on the following in your programme for 2024:

* *Strive to respect, support and ensure the inclusion of all voices and cultures that make up Ireland today. In 2019, the Arts Council published their Equality, Human Rights and Diversity (EHRD) Policy and Strategy, designed to build on a range of existing Arts Council work areas, including an* [***Arts and Disability***](http://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=17268&d=1Pf43stPOmbQic1wrXG4Hvsrn6Vvl2_d1JCKNifPAw&s=380&u=http%3a%2f%2fwww%2eartscouncil%2eie%2fuploadedFiles%2fwwwartscouncilie%2fContent%2fPublications%2fStrategic%5fDevelopment%2fArts%2520and%2520Disability%2520Policy%2520and%2520Strategy%25202012-2016%2epdf) *policy, a* [***Cultural Diversity and the Arts***](http://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=17268&d=1Pf43stPOmbQic1wrXG4Hvsrn6Vvl2_d1JXfYCCSUg&s=380&u=http%3a%2f%2fwww%2eartscouncil%2eie%2fuploadedFiles%2fMain%5fSite%2fContent%2fResearch%5fand%5fPublications%2fArts%5fParticipation%2fMicrosoft%5fWord%5f-%5fFinal%5fCD%5fPolicy%5fand%5fStrategy%5fAug2010%5fOM%2epdf) *policy and a* [***Dignity at Work***](http://scanmail.trustwave.com/?c=17268&d=1Pf43stPOmbQic1wrXG4Hvsrn6Vvl2_d1JHVYHSfVQ&s=380&u=http%3a%2f%2fwww%2eartscouncil%2eie%2fuploadedFiles%2fMain%5fSite%2fContent%2fAbout%5fUs%2fDignity-at-Work%2epdf) *policy.*
* *Paying the Artist - we join forces with the Arts Council on this, building our commitment to create a change and improvement in this area*

Some ideas to keep in mind if you are thinking of getting involved:

* Think about what happens after Culture Night - how will you encourage first-time visitors to come back?
* Use the opportunity of Culture Night to build a local network of interested people and organisations to keep momentum going.
* Showcase any unique events that will happen only on Culture Night and use these as incentives especially for first time participants.
* Involve local schools, choirs, drama groups and visual arts and crafts groups, including lead-in events prior to Culture Night in order to build anticipation and participation if possible.
* Invite family and friends to your area on Culture Night.
* Make it fun for your audience and visitors to come back! It’s relatively easy to devise incentives so that people visiting your event on Culture Night get incentives to make repeat visits (e.g. stamps / printed materials / loyalty cards).
* Some organisers have found it really useful to build relationships with potential audiences, in local GAA clubs, women’s and men’s clubs in the area, book clubs, choirs, local drama and musical groups, youth groups, active retirement groups, specialist clubs etc.
* Make as much as possible of Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat and other social media as a way of increasing people’s engagement with Culture Night, not just on the night, but also in the run-up to events and afterwards.
* Encourage online activity such as blogging, online previews and reviews of and shareable ‘on the night’ reports from people attending Culture Night - this makes it exciting and fun, and helps create a sense of community based on culture, creativity and the arts.

**Funding will only be allocated to cultural events programmed from 4pm till late on Friday 20th September 2024.**

**Guidelines for applicants**

**All applications for participation in Culture Night 2024 can be posted or emailed no later than 4pm on 14th May**

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**Application Information**

Below is information that may assist you in your application for funding:

* We are interested in your approach to organising and ensuring broad participation and local ownership of Culture Night and supports the future development of the night time economy
* Your ideas on how to make Culture Night 2024 a unique experience
* Budget / Funding:

**FUNDING IS LIMITED** - It may not be possible to offer funding to all applicants and it may also not be possible to offer the full amount requested to any individual applicant. **(However, inclusion in the programme will be open to all applicants).**

It is therefore important to ensure that all relevant information is included in your application, including the proposed budget for the event. Below is a list of the type of areas we fund:

* **Programming Costs** (this includes hiring performance groups/acts/entertainment etc)
* **Artist Fees** (fees paid to artists for performances, commissions, exhibition etc)
* **Production Costs** (this includes set-up requirements, professionals involved in producing events)
* **Venue Hire**
* **Equipment Hire** (this includes sound & lighting equipment and other essential production equipment)

Please note that all participants must acknowledge the support of all funding bodies with relevant logos, which will be provided to all participants.

**Please remember all Culture Night events must be free of charge to the public.**

Kilkenny Arts Office may contact you directly to clarify or seek further information in relation to your application for participation in Culture Night 2024.

**Report**

If your application is successful, you will be required to submit a brief post event report outlining your achievements on Culture Night to The Arts Office no later than **Friday 4th October 2024**

Your Report must include the following:

1. Based on your experience this year which audiences/ communities would you like to engage with in 2024
2. What was your critical learning from Culture Night this year?
3. How did you support diversity and inclusion in your Culture Night Programme?
4. In which areas/ genres do you see the greatest scope for Culture Night Late and the night time economy?
5. Provide a budget breakdown

**Deadline for applications is** **no later than 4pm 14th May 4pm**

