



Shared Island
Initiative



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme



Creative Ireland Shared Island Initiative 2023-2025

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2023-2025

The Government's Shared Island initiative aims to harness the full potential of the Good Friday Agreement to enhance cooperation, connection and mutual understanding on the island and engage with all communities and traditions to build consensus around a shared future.

The Creative Ireland Programme will seek to deploy creativity on a shared island basis to:

- Increase opportunities for cross-community cultural and creative initiatives between children and young people;
- Position Ireland as a global leader in demonstrating the value of creativity and mental health including in post-conflict societies;
- Support local authorities to enhance networks of creativity in support of vibrant and inclusive people-to-people and community-to-community partnerships;
- Deepen collaborations for a more environmentally and socially sustainable island.



Circusful, Belfast
Image by Neo Digital Media

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All-Island Day of Creativity for Children and Young People

On the 10th June, Creative Ireland will facilitate an All-Island Day of free creative collaborations for children and young people through cross-community events connecting children and young people from both sides of the border. This vibrant programme of live and online events will give everyone the opportunity to let their creativity shine.

Creative Opportunities for Children and Young People

The Creative Youth Plan will support the development of transformative flagship initiatives for children and young people throughout the Island. This will start with the Story Seeds initiative led by Fighting Words, which will engage children and young people in collaborative, cross-border creative writing activities.

Creative Communities on a Shared Island

Creative Communities on a Shared Island fund for local authority Culture & Creativity Teams to support collaborations utilising cross-border networks in support of cultural and creative people-to-people and community-to-community opportunities. The fund opened in May 2023 and successful projects will begin in September 2023 and run until 2025.

Traveller Health through Creativity

Traveller Wellbeing through Creativity is a programme to support creative projects that will have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of the Traveller community. Alongside an existing grant initiative, additional funds have been made available for shared island initiatives.



Trish Ryding Longford Panel

Photo by Sean McMahon

Creative Climate Action Fund

The Creative Climate Action Fund II: Agents of Change (2023–2025) will support imaginative creative projects that build awareness around climate change and empower citizens to make meaningful behavioural changes. Additional funding has been made available for a number of projects that support shared island initiatives.

Creative Connections for Mental Health

This initiative aims to position Ireland as a global leader in deploying expert-led approaches in arts and creativity to support mental health and wellbeing including in post-conflict scenarios.

Creating an Island of Equals

Funding will be allocated through an open call to sectoral organisations to propose cross-border collaboration programmes based on creativity in relation to disability; gender; race, ethnicity and cultural diversity; and LGBTI.



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Creative Ireland Programme

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#SharedIsland