Live Music Performances in Residential Healthcare Settings Scheme

Background

The Creative Ireland Programme introduced the *Creativity in Older Age* scheme in 2020 in response to the COVID 19 pandemic to support creative initiatives and promote positive ageing and wellbeing programmes for older people, taking account of public health guidance in the community and for healthcare facilities.

Participation in creativity, whether active or passive, has been demonstrated to play an important role in promoting positive health and wellbeing because it creates a space for social connection, enhancing self-esteem and resilience. It helps people to de-stress and relax, and supports people to manage their health and wellbeing and enable recovery.

Research by The Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing (TILDA) at Trinity College Dublin, which was commissioned by the Creative Ireland Programme[1], and by the Institute of Public Health (IPH) examined the implications for health and wellbeing of arts and creativity in later life. Both reports found a positive association between creative engagement and health and wellbeing. The TILDA report found that older adults who participate in creative activities enjoyed a higher quality of life and were less likely to be lonely, depressed and stressed than their contemporaries who did not, while the IPH report found that participation in group arts and creativity interventions helps to support the physical, mental, and social aspects of ageing.

A review of the scheme was published in December 2024. https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/app/uploads/2025/01/20241204-M-Co-Final-CIP-Music-in-Nursing-Homes-Evaluation-Report1.pdf

[1] https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/app/uploads/2021/11/2021_ResearchBrief_CreativeActivity-1.pdf

Scheme Objectives

Through live music performances in residential healthcare settings the objectives of the scheme are:

- supporting positive ageing,
- engaging with issues surrounding social isolation,
- providing creative engagement opportunities for older people in residential healthcare facilities.

As an acknowledgement of the continued tremendous work undertaken through local authorities collaborating with live music performers and residential healthcare settings during the pandemic, the Minister for Culture, Communications and Sport has agreed to support successful proposals for live music in residential healthcare facilities through the Creative Ireland Programme.

Funding

Live Music Performances in Residential Healthcare Settings 2026 will be funded by Creative Ireland and a contribution from the Department of Health through the Creative Arts and Health Working Group. **The funding available for this scheme in 2026 is €150,000.**

General Requirements

1. Local authority Culture and Creativity Teams are invited to submit a single cohesive proposal under the Live Music Performances in Residential Healthcare Settings Scheme 2026.
2. Successful initiatives must be completed no later than November 2026.
3. Proposals from the Culture and Creativity Team must:
   a) demonstrate creative quality, with significant and sustained reach amongst the older community - the scheme is not focusing support toward once off events;
   b) provide for final reporting;

c) clearly indicate that local authority colleagues working to support the Age Friendly and Healthy Ireland Programmes are jointly involved in their submission;
d) include a letter of support from the relevant healthcare facility managers or relevant CHO HSE manager where engagement with those living in residential healthcare settings is anticipated; and
e) be sustainable in light of the evolving nature of any such public health advice and the vulnerability of members of our older community - successful initiatives must be delivered in full compliance with any relevant prevailing public health advice.
f) Proposals must be of a demonstrably high quality of live music performance.
g) The proposal must make some provision for a prior consultation to understand local creative needs.
h) Proposals should provide for a minimum of 2 visits to each facility involved. It is anticipated that funding of up to €15,000 can be available for individual local authority proposals, with the maximum available only where there is evidence that the scale is appropriate.

Only one submission should be made by each local authority. However, up to three local authorities can collaborate on a proposal and pool available funding in order to realise any available scales of economy, e.g., a collaborative proposal from two local authorities for up to €30,000 or three local authorities for up to €45,000 may be submitted. In such proposals, the economy of scale must be clearly set out.

Important Dates

December 8th 2025 — Fund Opens for Applications Submit.com application form is available **here**.

January 12th 2026 — Online Briefing Session

An online webinar which will provide an overview of the fund and a Q&A session. Register **here**.

February 12th 2026 — Closing date

Proposals should be submitted through submit.com by this date.

First week of November 2026 — Deadline to draw down funds.

March 31st 2026 - All successful and unsuccessful applicants will be informed by the 31st March 2026

The timeframe for the projects to run are April 2026 to November 2026.

If you have any queries about the funding scheme or the application process, please email creativeireland@ccs.gov.ie using the subject heading "Live Music Performance Funding Scheme 2026"

Application and Evaluation Process

1. The closing date for receipt of applications is **12th February 2026** (**1pm**).
2. **Applications must be submitted through submit.com here and should clearly describe:**

a) the creative programme of engagement, delivery schedule and expected outcomes;
b) how the objectives of the Live Music Scheme 2026 will be met;
c) experience and expertise of programme partners and management; and
d) costs, including costs funded elsewhere, and amount of funding requested from this scheme.

3. Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

Criterion	Marks Available
Quality of the proposal in terms of meeting programme objectives	35
Experience and expertise of the team	35
Anticipated value for money	30
Total	100

4. The evaluation process will also consider the requirement for a balanced regional distribution of initiatives across the scheme.
5. If applicants are having issues accessing the application on submit.com, please email creativeireland@ccs.gov.ie for assistance before **31st January 2026**.

Appendix
Range of project types previously supported

What types of projects have been successful?

A range of different types of projects were successfully funded, from projects rooted in specific local tradition, to others at national scale; supporting a wide spectrum of creative engagement. An illustrative selection of the projects supported is detailed below.

Creative Ireland and the Department of Health continue support for Live Music Performances in Residential Healthcare Settings in 2025 - Creative Ireland Programme

An Scéim um Léirithe Cheoil Bheo i dTithe Cúram Sláinte Cónaithe

Cúlra

Thug Clár Éire Ildánach Scéim na Cruthaitheachta do Dhaoine Níos Sine isteach in 2020 mar fhreagra ar phaindéim COVID-19 chun tacú le tionscnaimh chruthaitheacha agus cláir um aosú dearfach agus folláine do dhaoine níos sine a chur chun cinn, ag cur san áireamh treoir sláinte poiblí sa phobal agus áiseanna cúram sláinte.

Tá ról tábhachtach ag rannpháirtíocht sa chruthaitheacht, ghníomhach nó éighníomhach, maidir le sláinte agus folláine dhearfach a chur chun cinn mar cruthaíonn sé spás le haghaidh nasc sóisialta, a fheabhsaíonn féinmheas agus acmhainneacht. Cuidíonn sé le daoine fáil réidh le strus agus scíth a ligean, agus tacaíonn sé le daoine a gcuid sláinte agus a folláine a bhainistiú agus téarnamh a chumasú.

Scrúdaigh taighde de chuid Staidéar Fadaimseartha na hÉireann ar Aosú i gColáiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath, a choimisiúnaigh Clár Éire Ildánach[1], agus an Institiúid Sláinte Poiblí na himpleachtaí do shláinte agus folláine na n-ealaíon agus na cruthaitheachta níos déanaí sa saol. Chonacthas sa dá thuarascáil go raibh baint dhearfach idir rannpháirtíocht chruthaitheach agus sláinte agus folláine. Chonacthas i dtuarascáil Staidéar Fadaimseartha na hÉireann ar Aosú go raibh caighdeán beatha níos fearr ag daoine níos sine a ghlacann páirt i ngníomhaíochtaí cruthaitheacha agus gur lú an seans go mbeidís uaigneach, faoi dhúlagar agus faoi strus ná a gcomhghleacaithe nach raibh, agus chonacthas i dtuarascáil na hInstitiúide go gcuidíonn rannpháirtíocht in idirghabhálacha grúpa-ealaíon agus

[1] https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/app/uploads/2021/11/2021_ResearchBrief_CreativeActivity-1.pdf

cruthaitheachta chun tacú le gnéithe fisiceacha, meabhracha agus sóisialta an aosaithe.

Foilsíodh athbhreithniú ar an scéim i mí na Nollag 2024.
https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/app/uploads/2025/01/20241204-M-Co-Final-CIP-Music-in-Nursing-Homes-Evaluation-Report1.pdf

Cuspóirí na Scéime

Trí thaibhithe ceoil beo i suíomhanna cúram sláinte cónaithe is iad cuspóirí na scéime:

- tacú le haosú dearfach,
- dul i ngleic le fadhbanna a bhaineann le leithlisiú soisialta,
- deiseanna rannpháirtíochta cruthaitheacha a sholáthar do dhaoine níos sine in áiseanna cúram sláinte cónaithe.

Mar aitheantas ar an obair iontach leanúnach a rinneadh trí údaráis áitiúla ag comhoibriú le taibheoirí ceoil bheo agus tithe cúraim le linn na paindéime, d'aontaigh an tAire Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán tacaíocht a thabhairt do thograí rathúla maidir le ceol beo in áiseanna cúram sláinte cónaithe trí chlár Éire Ildánach.

Maoiniú

Beidh *Léirithe Cheoil Bheo i dTithe Cúram Sláinte Cónaithe* 2026 maoinithe ag Éire Ildánach le ranníocaíocht ón Roinn Sláinte tríd an nGrúpa Oibre um Ealaíona Cruthaitheacha agus Sláinte. **Is é an maoiniú atá ar fáil don scéim seo in 2026 ná €150,000.**

Riachtanais Ghinearálta

1. Tugtar cuireadh d'Fhoirne Cultúir agus Cruthaitheachta na n-údarás áitiúil togra comhtháite amháin a chur isteach faoin Scéim um Léirithe Cheoil Bheo i dTithe Cúram Sláinte Cónaithe 2025.
2. Ní mór tionscnaimh a n-éireoidh leo a thabhairt chun críche tráth nach déanaí ná Samhain 2026.
3. Ní mór do thograí ón bhFoireann Cultúir agus Cruthaitheachta:

a) caighdeán cruthaitheach a léiriú, le rochtain shuntasach agus leanúnach i measc an phobail níos sine - níl an scéim ag díriú tacaíochta ar imeachtaí aonuaire;
b) ullmhú le haghaidh tuairisciú deiridh;
c) a chur in iúl go soiléir go bhfuil comhghleacaithe údaráis áitiúil atá ag obair chun tacú leis na Cláir Aoisbhácha agus Éire Shláintiúil páirteach ina n-aighneacht;
d) litir tacaíochta a chur san áireamh ó bhainisteoirí na háise cúram sláinte ábhartha nó ón mbainisteoir ábhartha eagraíocht cúram pobail FSS i gcás ina bhfuiltear ag súil le rannpháirtíocht leo siúd atá ina gcónaí i suíomhanna cúram sláinte cónaithe; agus
e) bheith inbhuanaithe i bhfianaise nádúr forásach aon chomhairle sláinte poiblí den sórt sin agus leochaileacht na mball dár bpobal níos sine - ní mór tionscnaimh rathúla a sheachadadh i gcomhlíonadh iomlán le haon chomhairle ábhartha sláinte poiblí atá i réim.
f) Ní mór do thograí a bheith ar ardchaighdeán léirithe cheoil bheo.
g) Caithfidh an togra foráil a dhéanamh do réamhchomhairliúchán chun riachtanais chruthaitheacha áitiúla a thuiscint.
h) Ba cheart go mbeadh íosmhéid 2 chuairt ag gach togra ar gach áis lena mbaineann. Táthar ag súil go mbeidh maoiniú suas le €15,000 ar fáil do thograí údaráis áitiúil aonair, agus nach mbeidh an t-uasmhéid ar fáil ach amháin nuair a bhíonn fianaise ann go bhfuil an scála oiriúnach.

Níor cheart do gach údarás áitiúil ach aighneacht amháin a dhéanamh. Mar sin féin, is féidir le suas le trí údarás áitiúla comhoibriú ar thogra agus an maoiniú atá ar fáil a chomhthiomsú chun aon scálaí geilleagair atá ar fáil a bhaint amach, m.sh., togra comhoibríoch ó dhá údarás áitiúla i gcomhair suas le €30,000 nó trí údarás áitiúla ar suas le €45,000 a chur isteach. I dtograí den sórt sin, ní mór barainneacht scála a leagan amach go soiléir.

Dátaí Tábhachtacha

8 Nollaig 2025 — Osclaíonn an Ciste d'Iarratais

Tá foirm iarratais Submit.com ar fáil anseo**.**

12 Eanáir 2026 — Seisiún Faisnéise ar Líne

Seimineár gréasáin ar líne a thabharfaidh léargas ar an gciste agus seisiún ceisteanna agus freagraí. Cláraigh anseo.

12 Feabhra 2026 — Dáta deiridh

Ba cheart tograí a chur isteach trí submit.com faoin dáta seo.

An chéad seachtain de mhí na Samhna 2026 — An spriocdháta chun cistí a tharraingt anuas.

31 Márta 2026 -Cuirfear gach iarratasóir ar éirigh leo agus nár éirigh leo ar an eolas faoin 31 Márta 2026.

Is é an fráma ama le haghaidh na dtionscadal a rith ná Aibreán 2026 go Samhain 2026.

Má tá aon cheist agat faoin scéim mhaoinithe nó faoin bpróiseas iarratais, seol ríomhphost le do thoil chuig creativeireland@ccs.gov.ie le "Scéim Mhaoinithe um Léiriú Cheoil Bheo 2026" sa líne ábhair.

Próiseas Iarratais agus Measunaithe

1. Is é an dáta deiridh chun iarratais a fháil ná **Dé hAoine, an 12 Feabhra 2026** (1in).
2. **Ní mór iarratais a chur isteach trí submit.com anseo agus ba chóir go ndéanfaí cur síos go soiléir ar:**

a) an clár cruthaitheach rannpháirtíochta, an sceideal seachadta agus na torthaí a bhfuiltear ag súil leo;

b) conas a chomhlíonfar cuspóirí na Scéime um Léiriú Cheoil Bheo 2026;

c) taithí agus saineolas na gcomhpháirtithe cláir agus na bainistíochta; agus

d) costais, lena n-áirítear costais a mhaoinítear in áiteanna eile, agus an méid maoinithe a iarrtar ón scéim seo.

3. Déanfar iarratais a mheas de réir na gcritéar seo a leanas:

Critéar	Marcanna ar Fáil
Caighdeán an togra maidir le cuspóirí an chláir a chomhlíonadh	35
Taithí agus saineolas foirne	35
Luach ar airgead measta	30
Iomlán	100

4. Breithneofar sa phróiseas meastóireachta freisin an gá atá le dáileadh cothrom réigiúnach tionscnamh ar fud na scéime.
5. Má tá deacrachtaí ag iarratasóirí rochtain a fháil ar an iarratas ar submit.com, seol ríomhphost chuig creativeireland@ccs.gov.ie chun cúnamh a fháil roimh an 31 Eanáir 2026.

Aguisín

Réimse cineálacha tionscadal ar tacaíodh leo roimhe seo

Cad iad na cineálacha tionscadal ar éirigh leo?

Maoiníodh raon de chineálacha éagsúla tionscadal go rathúil, ó thionscadail atá fréamhaithe i dtraidisiún áitiúil ar leith, go tionscadail eile ar scála náisiúnta; ag tacú le speictream leathan de rannpháirtíocht chruthaitheach. Tá mionsonraí ar rogha léiritheach de na tionscadail ar tugadh tacaíocht dóibh thíos.

Leanfaidh Éire Chruthaitheach agus an Roinn Sláinte de thacaíocht a thabhairt do Léirithe Ceoil Beo i Suíomhanna Cúram Cláinte Cónaithe in 2025 - Creative Ireland Programme