

ENGAGE THE CITY 2019 OPEN CALL

Calling artists, designers, architects, youth workers, community leaders, and undefined creative types! Dublin City Council Culture Company is inviting applications for *Engage The City 2019*.

Engage The City is a artist-led research programme developed by Dublin City Council Culture Company. We want to connect artists and communities who are interested in collectively exploring and developing their creative skills. We will act as a catalyst in this research, linking the work of participating artists to communities, and indeed to urban development research in Dublin and in other European cities. Through this programme, we create the conditions for artists and community members to learn, participate and grow through direct, hands-on cultural engagement.

So what does that actually mean?

Engage The City is a programme where artists and communities can apply for support (money, mentorship and group workshops with other people in the programme) from Dublin City Council Culture Company to try out new ideas where artists and communities work together. This programme will take place between February and June 2019. For more about Dublin City Council Culture Company and our values, see below.

What kind of communities?

- Existing communities of place (e.g residents of a street or area, users of a community centre or youth service, or park)
- Communities of interest or experience (e.g a sporting or hobby club, a craft, arts, history group, a language class, a support group),
- As yet undefined communities (e.g those people you see on the bus every day, the other dog walkers in the park, gaeilgeoirí on Twitter, people you chat to on Mumsnet, or Instagram, your colleagues on the allotment, people you meet for a regular if informal singing or music session, the people you see regularly in the hospital waiting room, the people who you club/dance with).

Communities must be based largely in Dublin city. We encourage applicants to think of 'community' in the broadest sense as articulated above. Dublin City Council Culture Company conducts an ongoing and wide-ranging engagement programme and we are also happy to make introductions and facilitate partnerships between artists and communities for this programme.

What kind of artists?

Professional, part-time, volunteer, amateur or kitchen-table artists working in any medium (visual art, theatre, dance, writing, music, film, circus, spectacle, architecture as well as creative work like design of all kinds, craft, gardening, food, carpentry.) You might be someone who earns their living some or all of the time via your creative work, or you might be someone who'd like to do more. Either way, we are looking for people who have a track record of working creatively or working either as a professional or volunteer in a community setting where art and creativity is part of your work.

What kind of projects?

You can apply to this programme with all kinds of projects. The key thing we are looking for here is how your research might benefit your work as an artist or community leader, and how it might benefit the community you have chosen to work with in terms of increasing their access to cultural activity, starting their own creative projects, or seeding the idea of a future, longer-term project. You might want to sound out a particular group to see if you can work together. You might want to create a template/pilot for a workshop you'd like to deliver, in communities, that can be led by you or other people. You might want to gather or share stories or experiences about a particular place or activity with a view to creating an arts project about it. You might have a particular question you want to address with a group whose experience is relative. You might want to figure out what the best way for a particular group of people to meet and work creatively together (time, place, duration, scope). What we are not looking for is for you to propose a full project with a defined outcome or show. This programme is about research.

What can you expect from *Engage The City*?

- The programme offers time (up to 10 days over 5 months) where an artist or community worker/volunteer will be paid to work collaboratively with a community to explore new ideas, ways of working and ideas for projects. This is research time – no outcome/finished project or show is required.
- The programme offers peer support and learning; over the course of the project from February to June, *Engage The City* will gather the group of selected artists alongside the Dublin City Council Culture Company Engagement team once a month. This group will discuss their research and hear about other projects that have happened or are happening at our *Engage The City* Labs.
- The programme offers a listening ear and an opportunity for reflection. Dublin City Council Culture Company will support your research through ongoing contact with Project Manager Róise Goan, where you will have time and support to discuss your work. We will document the project. We will also commission some critical reflection on the project which we hope to publish later in 2019.
- A fee of €4,000 per artist applies to this program.

What commitment is required from you?

- The programme will support you to meet/work with a community of your choice. You will either
 - (a) already have a working relationship with that community,
 - (b) have identified someone from that community who has agreed to work with you or,
 - (c) if not, provide us with a clear plan on how you propose to engage that community or individuals.
- You will be required to attend six *Engage The City Labs* over the course of the project, each lasting 3.5 hours.
- You will plan and deliver in or around 10 engagements with a particular community.
- Your expected time commitment on this project is around 20 days, total, over a five month period (February-June).
- You will regularly meet with Project Manager Róise Goan to discuss and reflect on your project.

What criteria will Dublin City Council Culture Company use to evaluate the applications and select projects?

- We will look at the track record of the artist or community leader
- We will consider the scope of the project - who does the applicant want to work with? Why? What do they hope to get out of this research opportunity?
- Evidence of commitment from a community and artist of a real desire and feasibility to work together within the timeframe, or evidence of feasibility in making a connection and building a relationship with a particular community.
- Potential legacy for the engaged community
- How does this research fit within the wider practice of an artist, community worker/volunteer?

How do you apply?

Please complete [this form](#) which has six questions and requires your CV or biog in addition. You can respond to the questions in written format, or by uploading a video or audio file per question if you prefer. The word count will apply to both written and recorded files!

If you have any questions about this programme or making an application, please contact Róise Goan at engagethecity@dublincitycouncilculturecompany.ie.

Deadline: 10am on Monday 21st January 2019.

Selection Process

Applications will be reviewed by a panel (DCCCC Engage the City Project Manager Róise Goan, DCCCC interim CEO Iseult Byrne, freelance theatre practitioner Veronica Dyas, and one other external panelist) based on the criteria as set out in this notice. The panel reserves the right to invite shortlisted applicants to interview. Decisions will be communicated by late January/ early February 2019. The project should begin in early February and complete no later than June 2019.

Dublin City Council Culture Company is an equal opportunity employer. For more information on our Equal Opportunities Policy, please see [here](#). Please note that 14 Henrietta Street (the museum) is Part M access compliant, and the offices of Dublin City Council Culture Company have limited physical access as are located on the 2nd and 3rd floor of the building. Reasonable accommodation of access requirements will be made for successful applicants. Interviews will be held in an accessible location.

We are committed to respecting and protecting your privacy. We keep several kinds of personal data about our prospective employees and contractors so we can manage the recruitment and selection process effectively and efficiently and meet our legal obligations. For more information please see our Privacy Notice for Job Applicants [here](#).

ABOUT DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL CULTURE COMPANY

Established in March 2018, Dublin City Council Culture Company runs cultural initiatives and buildings across the city on behalf of Dublin City Council and the people of Dublin.

Collaborating with citizens, communities, cultural organisations, businesses, and Dublin City Council itself, the company's work is focused on embedding cultural experiences and increasing cultural participation throughout Dublin's neighbourhoods.

14 Henrietta Street, from Georgian townhouse to tenement dwelling, is a new visitor experience which Dublin City Council Culture Company operates. Dublin City Council owns and conserves the building. Current engagement projects include Tea&Chats, Culture Club, 14 Henrietta Street, The National Neighbourhood, Culture Near You, and Heart of the City.

More details available at www.dublincitycouncilculturecompany.ie

The Board of Directors has overall responsibility for the governance of the Dublin City Council Culture Company. A Cultural Advisory Group and Heritage Advisory Group,

including leading arts, cultural, and academic stakeholders, will support and inform the activities of the Culture Company.

Our Vision - A Dublin where culture connects everything and everyone.

Our Mission - Connecting people through culture and conversation, to generate experiences, to ignite imaginations, to inspire actions.

Our values

- Participation
Because it makes culture 'real', it activates and empowers people (using their imagination and creativity), it connects people together.
- Partnership
We are stronger together. We act as a catalyst, bringing different people and organisations together to grow knowledge, empathy, understanding... and respect.
- Relevance
We aim to embed culture in everyday life because we believe culture is central to human development and central to Dublin's quality of life.
- Capacity Building
We want to develop skills and activate new ways of working that enable everyone to create more cultural opportunities.
- Quality
We do all this in the best way possible. We access and use skills, experience, and knowledge to build impact, sustainability and quality into every project.