

Creating with Communities

Arts
Development
Plan

24
/30

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown
County Council

Children & Young People's Edition



Creating with Communities

is a plan to develop the arts in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County from 2024-2030. This version is based on children and young people's feedback. We want to thank everyone who helped us put the plan together. We want to especially thank the children and young people who shared their ideas to help more children and young people who live, work or go to school in the County do creative things.

We look forward to putting it into action.

If you would like to find out more about the full Plan please go to our website:

www.dlrcoco.ie/arts

or contact us at:

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Why do We Need a Plan?

A plan helps us set out what we want to do for everyone who lives, works or goes to school in the County and helps us make sure we do those things.

What do I need to know before I read the plan?

Local Authority Arts Office

The local authority is also called local government or County Council. It does things like run our parks, roads, plan buildings, libraries and other things that affect the County. The Arts Office is the part that plans art events and festivals and organises projects like arts in schools and arts in our youth services.

What are the Arts and Creativity?

Taking part in the arts is one way to be creative. When we asked children and young people what creative things are, they included lots of things like baking, coding, Lego, video arts, animation, fashion and style as well as more traditional artforms like music, visual art and drama.

About the Arts Office

The Arts Office is a small team of people who work for the County Council. Their job is to look after the arts in the County and make sure children and young people can take part.

Local Arts

The Council helps artists, arts, buildings, festivals, exhibitions, school and public art projects. This support can be money, training, space to work or advice.

Our County has spaces where people can work, learn, and experience the arts for example, theatres, artist studios, a gallery, musical and drama groups.



Introduction

We listened to the views of people across the County before we put this plan together. This is called consultation, and it means asking other people what they think about something. We talked to children and young people around the County by visiting them in their class or youth work setting or chatting to them while they attended Cruinniú na nÓg events.

We also ran an online survey that they or a family member could fill in.

Cruinniú na nÓg is a national day for creativity for children and young people taking place in June each year.

How We Made *this* Plan

To put the plan together we had to think about our work, strengths and opportunities. We had to think about your right to have a say in the decisions which affect you.

.....
We had to think about the things that children and young people told us and that everyone else told us.

.....
We had to think about important national policies and plans about what government departments want us to do too.

.....
We talked to organisations and individuals as we put the plan together. We used the focus groups and surveys to get the views of children and young people.

.....
We had a workshop and survey for artists and arts organisations.

.....
We had an online survey for the public.

National policies are rules or tasks from the government or others in charge with things they would like us to do.

A focus group was where a group of people like a class or a team talked together about what children and young people in the County want, and the Council were told what they said.

Resources are a store or supply of things you can use to help you (like money, people to help, or tools).

Over the next 6 years we want to...

Spend More Time telling people clearly what we do and telling people clearly how important the arts are. We want to support artists at all stages of their career.

Do the Hard Work on the Council's climate action plan. Lots of children and young people we spoke to told us that climate action, the environment and being outdoors were important to them.

Follow the Laws on public sector duty. This means we want to make sure we're following the law that asks us to think about human rights and fairness in making our plans. Lots of children and young people told us that making things better for others was important to them.

What did everyone tell us?

During the consultation people told us that they need more arts spaces and more resources for the Arts Office. People said we need more chances for artists to learn and work.

People said we need to work with the community and hear more from children and young people. People said we need to make sure everyone has an equal chance to take part in the arts and we need to spread the arts across the County. Children and young people told us that distance or transport sometimes stop them taking part and that they like doing things outdoors.

We used all these ideas to think about the actions for our plan.

Focus Area / 01

A focus is like a camera lens or telescope, and it lets us zoom in and concentrate on something important!

Art on Our Doorsteps

Children and young people told us that sometimes the things they want to do are too far away and can be hard to get to. They also told us that they preferred to do things in their neighbourhood and with friends. This is what we'll do to help...

We will make sure communities across the County can experience arts activities.

.....

These experiences will be accessible. This means they will be easy to get to and easy to join, not too expensive and in buildings that everyone can be comfortable in.

We want people to feel that the arts are only 10 minutes away.

.....

We want to have more arts experiences in more places so all groups in our community are represented.

Actions

Work more closely with early education, school and youth groups to create more arts experiences for children and young people

Make sure there are equal chances spread across the County for Arts Office funding

Find new places to show artists' work

Grow the County Arts Collection and show it in more places across the County

Tell people about local arts so they know about experiences available to them

The County Arts Collection is the collection of paintings, sculptures and other art owned by the County Council.

Focus Area / 02

Bringing People Together

We will support an arts programme that connects local communities.

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The arts can help people in communities feel that they belong.

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Taking part in the arts can help us make friends for life and be good for our mental and physical health.

Children and young people have a right to meaningful experiences with the arts.

Actions

Ensure children and young people see their needs and views reflected in the programme of arts activities (because they have the right to be involved in decisions that impact their lives and communities)

Have more programmes for groups such as older people, disabled people, new people to the County and country and Travellers. Children and young people told us they want more children to have more chances to do things

Support artists and arts workers to learn new skills and ways to work with the community

Include more people and places that get left out in arts programmes and collections

Support artists and communities to think about the climate emergency and our environment because children and young people told us that this was important to them

Work with local services and communities to make sure everyone has equal access to the arts

Have arts and cultural opportunities that help groups in society to connect and work together

All Kinds of Artists

We encourage and support all kinds of artists in the County to have good careers.

Artists help us to understand that where we live is beautiful, to have pride in our communities and to tell our stories.

.....
Every community needs artists. They make our lives better.

.....
Having a career as an artist can be hard sometimes, so artists need our help and support.

We hope this benefits children and young people as there would be more artists with the skills to work with them and more projects for them to work on.

Actions

Keep funding and supporting artists. Have accessible application systems

Give artists more information about supports, clearly and simply, and in more accessible ways

Support local and national organisations for artists so they can meet and work with others

Help artists who wish to build skills in the areas of community, health, education, climate action and social justice

Support small and new arts organisations and companies to find ways to work in the County

Focus Area / **04**

Making Space *for* Art

Artists need space to create.

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Audiences need space to
experience the arts.

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There is more and more demand for
arts spaces in the County.

We need new ideas for creating
and developing artist spaces.

Actions

Look for more places for art in the County

Have plans across the Council to help people use
local buildings across the County as temporary
arts spaces

Plan for a community culture and civic centre
in Dundrum

Improving Our Area

The Council will strengthen its networks and partnerships so that more people can take part in the arts.

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The Council will spend money in the right way to grow art and culture across the County.

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The County has a rich network of arts venues, arts organisations, community organisations, education centres and health care providers.

We will work with these partners to deliver an arts programme that makes a difference.

Actions

Have partnerships with education organisations to support the artists of the future

Work on well-being and arts ideas that are age friendly

Work with national organisations to put policies, programmes and funding schemes in place

Talk about the importance of supporting the arts across local and national networks and agencies

Putting *the* Plan *into* Action

We will listen to children and young people, find new ways to involve everyone, ask for feedback and think about better ways to meet needs.

We want to make sure that what we are doing is working and we get the best results. We will check on our progress and change things if we need to.

We will work in partnership across the Council. We will also work with the arts sector, our partners in health, education, community and our funders.

We will have a work plan for each year. We will meet to check our progress and report back to the Council and the wider community.

We will let children and young people know how we're getting on and listen to what they think.

A workplan
is like the
Arts Office's
homework for
the year.

Special thank you to the following groups, classes and people for their time:

Anne O'Gorman who conducted the consultation process and devised this version with children and young people.

dIrl Comhairle na nÓg

Gaelscoil na Fuinseoige, Múinteoir Neasa Ní Cheallaigh agus Rang a Sé 2023-24

Helena O'Brien, Co-ordinator, dIrl Children and Young People's Services Committee

Scoil Mhuire, Teacher Eoin Quane and 4th Class 2024-25

TASK Programme, Southside Travellers Action Group and Co-ordinator Amylouse Hussain

Young People from Nutgrove Youth Service and Youth Development Officer Lucy Moffit



Small Wonders,
dIrl Lexicon, Dún Laoghaire.
Photo: Mark Granier

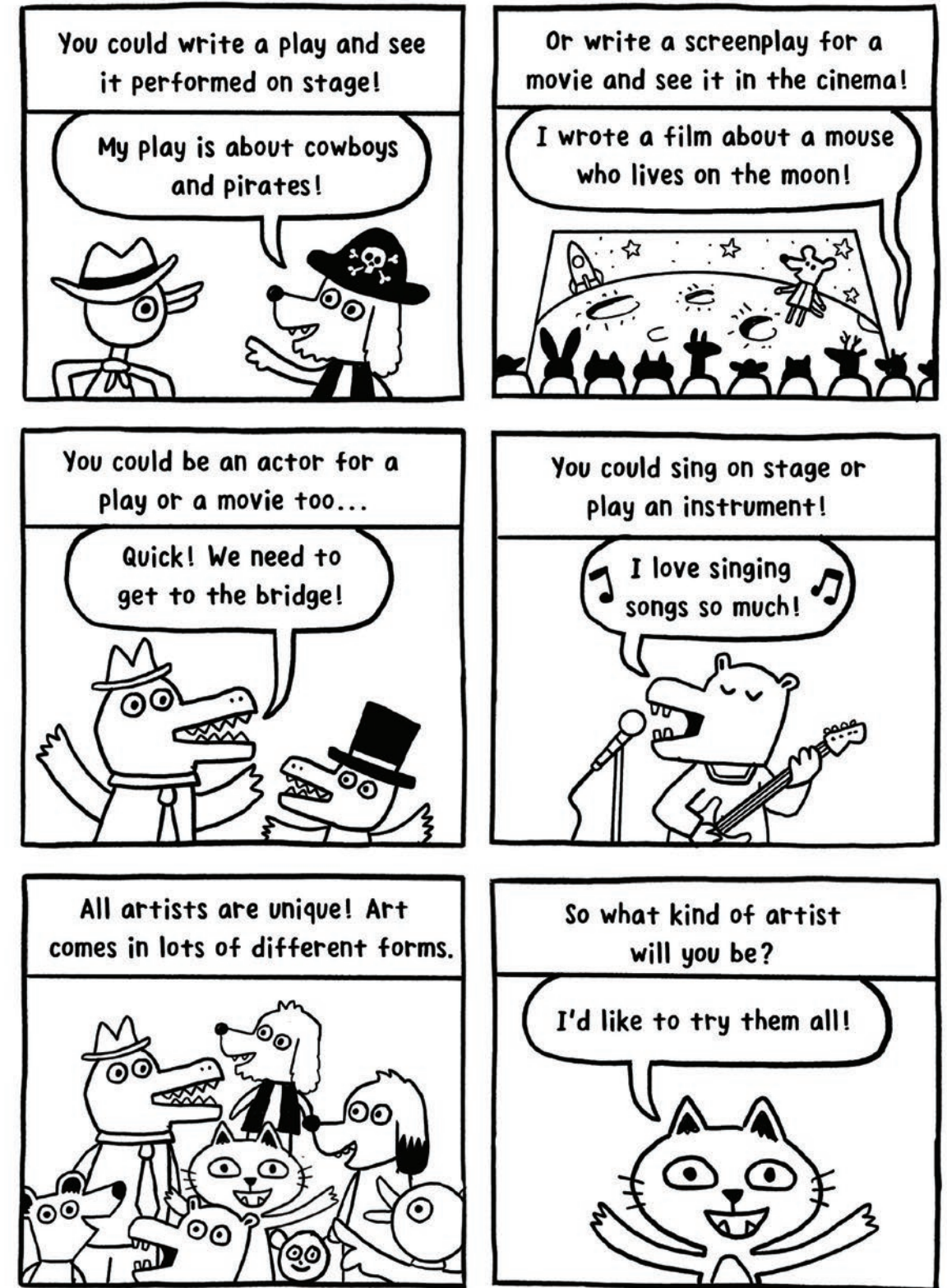
HOW TO BE AN ARTIST!

There are lots of ways to become an artist. You could be a painter, actor, director, playwright, dancer, singer, musician or comic artist.

It just takes passion and practice!



1. Use markers, colouring pencils or crayons to colour in the page below!
2. Get a piece of paper and write and draw your own comic about being an artist!
3. Make up a song and dance about you and your friends!
4. Make a short film about robots with your friends!



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