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The Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon 745th Plenary Meeting 2 October 2020

Kevin Rafter, Chair, Fearghus Ó Conchúir, Deputy Chair, Mark O'Kelly, Loughlin Deegan, Helen Shaw, Martina Moloney, Melatu Uchenna Okorie, Dónall Curtin, Sinead Moriarty, Teresa Buczkowska, Jillian van Turnhout, Pádraig Ó Duinnín.

In attendance:

Maureen Kennelly, Director, Martin O'Sullivan, Deputy Director & Company Secretary, Liz Meaney, Arts Director Stephanie O'Callaghan, Arts Director, Ciara Branagan Finance and Council Executive.

Note: Kevin Rafter, Maureen Kennelly and Martin O'Sullivan were in Merrion Square; other members participated via Zoom video conference.

Documents before the meeting

Agenda Communications Working Group Draft TORs Budget 2020 Update

Panel List Renewal
Arts Grant Funding 2021 Recommendations Awards and Schemes

20- 10- 134 Apologies

Martina Moloney.

20 -1 0- 135 Chair's Introduction

Conflicts of Interest- The Chair **noted** that members had already declared their conflicts and requested members to declare any further conflicts that they may have with the agenda items and reminded members to advise him of any conflicts that may arise during the course of the meeting.

21 September Meeting with Minister Catherine Martin regarding Budget 2021- Members **noted** the meeting. Members also **noted** that the Minsters for Finance and Public Expenditure had also been written to.



20 – 10– 136 Communications Working Group

Helen Shaw, Chair of the Working Group, outlined the objective of the Working Group and approach being adopted. Members **noted** and welcomed the progress made. Members also **noted** that an initial paper to inform the preparation of a communications strategy and plan will be brought to the November Plenary Meeting.



20 - 10- 138 Budget 2020 Update

Members **noted** the update.

20 - 10- 139 Panel List Renewal

Members welcomed the peer panel expansion recommendations. Members **noted** that the decision to extend invitations to 16-year-olds is just for YPCE strands and this will be confirmed by the executive. Members **agreed** the recommended panel list renewal process 2020.

20 – 10– 140 Arts Grant Funding Recommendations 2021 - Deferred Recommendations

Liz Meaney, Arts Director and Stephanie O'Callaghan, Arts Director joined the meeting for this agenda item. A brief overview of each artform / practice area in the context of the AGF programme was provided by individual Managers who also joined the meeting as required.

Members agreed the following recommendations.

- Taking Flight: Education & Performance Ltd;
- Croi Glan Integrated Dance;
- The Firkin Crane
- Museum Of Literature Ireland;
- Words Ireland;
- Sounding The Feminists;
- ANU Productions;
- Louise White;
- Landmark Productions;
- Tipperary Excel Heritage Company;

Clifden Community Arts Week

The recommendation was **agreed**

In consideration of the organisation's role within the festival ecology, geographic location, the access provided to a rural community of linguistic and cultural diversity and the work it undertakes in relation to arts in education, Council agreed funding of €90k.
Bewley's Café Theatre The recommendation was agreed. In the context of the particular challenges presented by the current public health context, Council agreed funding of €65k.
Courthouse Arts Centre
The recommendation was agreed . In the context of the particular challenges presented by the current public health context, Council agreed funding of €50k.
St. John's Arts Centre
The recommendation was agreed . In the context of the particular challenges presented by the current public health context, Council agreed funding of €60k.
Waterford Walls
The recommendation was agreed . In the context of the particular challenges presented by the current public health context, Council agreed funding of €19k towards the education programme.
Communication- Members agreed that the Executive should develop a communications plan
in relation to these decisions.
20 – 10– 141

20 - 10- 142 Awards

Next Generation Artist Award 2020

Members **noted** the Panel decisions. A financial appendix is attached to the Minutes.

20 - 10- 143 Any Other Business

Advisory Group and Cultural Task Force

Members **noted** that an update will be brought to the next Plenary Meeting.

Summary of decisions

- Panel List Renewal- Members **agreed** the recommended panel list renewal process 2020;
- Arts Grant Funding Recommendations 2021- Deferred Recommendations- see minute 20-10-140 above for agreed decisions;