About the Programme

The Building Peace through the Arts – Re-Imaging Communities programme, funded by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, the European Union’s Programme for Peace and Reconciliation (PEACE III) managed by the Special EU Programmes Body and the International Fund for Ireland, enables people throughout Northern Ireland and the Border Region of the Republic to tackle sectarianism and racism. The programme funds local consultation and engages communities in the exploration of themes which unite rather than divide, ultimately leading to the creation of public artwork that promotes tolerance and understanding.

41 projects have been approved so far, projects are underway in all six Northern Ireland counties and four of the border counties (see our project map inside). The closing date for Stage 1 applications is 30th September 2014. If your community wants to benefit from the programme, please contact a member of the team as soon as possible (see back page for details).

Dundalk Institute of Technology Students’ Union (DKIT SU) is one of the groups to be awarded funding. Students from over 40 countries are now working with the local community and artist facilitator Joanne Behan to shape a new piece of public art. The artwork will reflect the diversity of the college and the changing demographics of Dundalk. As well as encouraging dialogue between the groups, the project will also explore and challenge issues of sectarianism and racism.

Pictured with DKIT Students’ Union President, Brian Fitzpatrick, are students Amrutaben Patel and Yuke Cai.
PROJECTS IN FOCUS

The following are examples of current projects being delivered under the programme. To discuss your proposal please contact a member of the team (our details are on the back page).

DUNCLUG PARTNERSHIP, BALLYMENA

Dunclug Partnership in Ballymena was awarded funding in late 2013 to facilitate an art project with engagement from the diverse communities living within Dunclug, an area that has experienced a number of social issues since its inception in the 1970s.

Secondary school pupils, members of the Irish traveller community and representatives from diverse ethnic communities have all pooled their shared experiences and the community consultation stage of the process is now complete.

“Connecting Communities – Forward Together” is the agreed theme of the artwork which will be situated on the Doury Road between the estates in the Dunclug area. The partnership is currently awaiting feedback from a number of artists in response to their brief and is hoping to be in a position to select a final design for the artwork in August.

“WE ARE DELIGHTED TO HAVE RECEIVED THIS FUNDING AND PLAN TO USE IT TO HELP FOSTER RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY CULMINATING IN THE CREATION OF A PIECE OF PUBLIC ARTWORK IN DUNCLUG. IT IS AN EXCITING TIME FOR US AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING TOGETHER TO PROMOTE A SHARED SOCIETY AND A LASTING LEGACY FOR OUR COMMUNITY.” PJ MCAVOY, CHAIR OF DUNCLUG PARTNERSHIP.

DÚNCLUG PARTNERSHIP, BALLYMENA

ARTIST FACILITATORS APPOINTED FOR FERMANAGH’S FIRST RE-IMAGING PROJECTS

Fermanagh’s first Re-Imaging projects are currently underway in Killesher and Lisnaskea.

Carrosyl Community Association in Lisnaskea is using its funding to improve community relations in Carrowhsee Park and Sylvan Hill and begin the process of developing public artwork for the area. The group has appointed experienced local facilitators Stephanie Kenny-Quinn and Dara Hand to undertake a series of community workshops and produce a report on potential themes for the artwork.

Dublin-based writer and theatre director, Declan Gorman, has been appointed by Killesher Community Development Association to facilitate a process that will engage local people in exploring their shared identity.

“THE COMMUNITY HOPES THAT THIS PUBLIC ART WORK WILL SEND A POSITIVE, FUTURE-FACING SIGNAL TO THE WIDER WORLD AND THE FAMILIES LIVING LOCALLY. IT’S HOPED THAT A SHARED

VISION FOR A COMMISSION WILL EMERGE THAT WILL BE ATTRACTIVE TO THE BEST ARTISTS WHILE ALSO DOING JUSTICE TO THE RESILIENT AND GOOD-HUMOURED SPIRIT OF THE LOCAL PEOPLE AND THE

MAJESTIC LANDSCAPE THAT HAS UNIFIED AND SHAPED THEM OVER GENERATIONS.”

DECLAN GORMAN, KILLESHER ARTIST FACILITATOR
CAVAN PROJECTS VISIT RE-IMAGINING ARTWORKS IN BELFAST

Cavan County Council is managing four Re-Imaging projects on behalf of the communities in Redhills, Ballyconnell, Cootehill and Bailieborough.

A delegation comprising of project steering groups, arts facilitators, participants and representatives from Cavan County Council paid a visit to Belfast recently to draw inspiration from some of the public art on display in the city.

The group visited ‘The Yardmen’ on the Newtownards Road in east Belfast, a sculpture created by the artist Ross Wilson that pays tribute to the city’s shipbuilding heritage. Funded by the previous Arts Council led Re-Imaging programme, the sculpture marks the completion of the East Belfast Partnership’s project which saw the successful removal of sectarian imagery at the interface between the Short Strand and Newtownards Road.

PROJECTS AWARDED FUNDING

We want to support as many projects as possible throughout Northern Ireland and the southern border counties and are particularly keen to receive applications from groups based in areas that have yet to receive Re-Imaging funding.

Projects at Stage 1

| ANTRIM  | Cushendall - Dunclug - Lame |
| ARMAGH  | Crossmaglen - Middletown - Ring of Gullion - Scotch Street |
| BELFAST | Ballymacarrett - Bank Sq. - City Cemetery - Suffolk / Lenadoon |
| CAVAN   | Bailieborough - Ballyconnell - Ballyjamesduff - Cootehill - Redhills |
| DERRY – L'DERRY | Bonds St - Drumahoe |
| DONEGAL | Carronagh - Doneyloop |
| DOWN    | Banbridge - Dromore |
| FERMAGH | Killeher - Lisnaskea |
| LOUTH   | Dundalk - Drogheda |
| MONAGHAN | Castleblayney - Monaghan |

Projects at Stage 2

| ANTRIM  | Derriaghy |
| BELFAST | Sandy Row - Shankill |
Building Peace through the Arts involves the involvement of artists at separate and distinct stages.

1. Artist / facilitators will be appointed to lead the local consultation / creative engagement process and produce a report which will inform the development of a brief for the public artwork.

2. Artists will respond to briefs prepared by the project promoters and compete to have their designs commissioned.

Artists will be invited to become involved in projects across Northern Ireland and the Border Region of the Republic, opportunities will be advertised on the Arts Council’s website www.artscouncil-ni.org

Please note that appointments for both roles i.e. for stage 1 and stage 2 will be made by separate open competitions. Being appointed as a facilitator in stage 1 will preclude an artist from being considered to produce the public artwork in stage 2.