Arts Council of Northern Ireland

ART FORM AND SPECIALIST AREA POLICY 2013-2018

TRADITIONAL ARTS
Introduction

The Traditional Arts in Northern Ireland incorporate the indigenous music, song and dance of the region and the other art forms that relate to these disciplines, such as story-telling, Mumming and other manifestations of folk custom and tradition.

The Arts Council supports the Traditional Arts through its project and core funding programmes and continues to help organisations, individual practitioners and small community groups to preserve, promote and celebrate the traditional arts of Northern Ireland.

It is essential for the success of the current Traditional Arts infrastructure that we promote and encourage collaboration, exchanges and partnerships between artists, groups and organisations. The future development of the Traditional Arts sector will ultimately depend on positive representation of the art form among young people. The Council will continue to encourage initiatives that generate awareness of the Traditional arts within the formal education sector.

The Council is working with the Traditional Arts sector in developing ways of bringing the Traditional Arts to a wider audience and improving access to the art form through performance, educational and information-based projects.

As Traditional Artists in Northern Ireland are continuing to develop artistically and professionally, the Council will raise awareness of funding opportunities among organisations and individuals and promote the professional development of the artist at home and abroad.

Funding Objectives

- develop innovative ways of bringing traditional music, song and dance to new audiences and venues and retain and diversify existing audiences;
- raise the professionalism of traditional artists by promoting mentoring, networking and other professional development;
- increase collaboration, exchange and partnerships between traditional artists and groups and organisations;
• resource interest in the Traditional Arts within the formal education sector;

• develop educational bursaries for traditional musicians, singers and dancers and design traditional musician residencies in schools;

• ensure Northern Ireland’s Traditional Arts are showcased in Northern Ireland and internationally.

Additional Information

ACNI Music Strategy 2013-2018

‘Creative Connections’ Five Year Arts Strategy, 2007-2012
www.artscouncil-ni.org/subpages/strategy.htm

Corporate Plan, 2007-2010
www.artscouncil-ni.org/subpages/strategy.htm

Art Form and Specialist Area Policies, 2007-2012
www.artscouncil-ni.org/subpages/aboutthearts.htm

Acquisitions  Drama
Arts & Disability  International
Arts & Health  Language Arts
Architecture  Literature
Carnival Arts  Music & Opera
Circus Arts  Public Art
Commissioning  Traditional Arts
Community Arts  Visual Arts
Crafts & Applied Arts  Voluntary Arts
Dance  Youth Arts