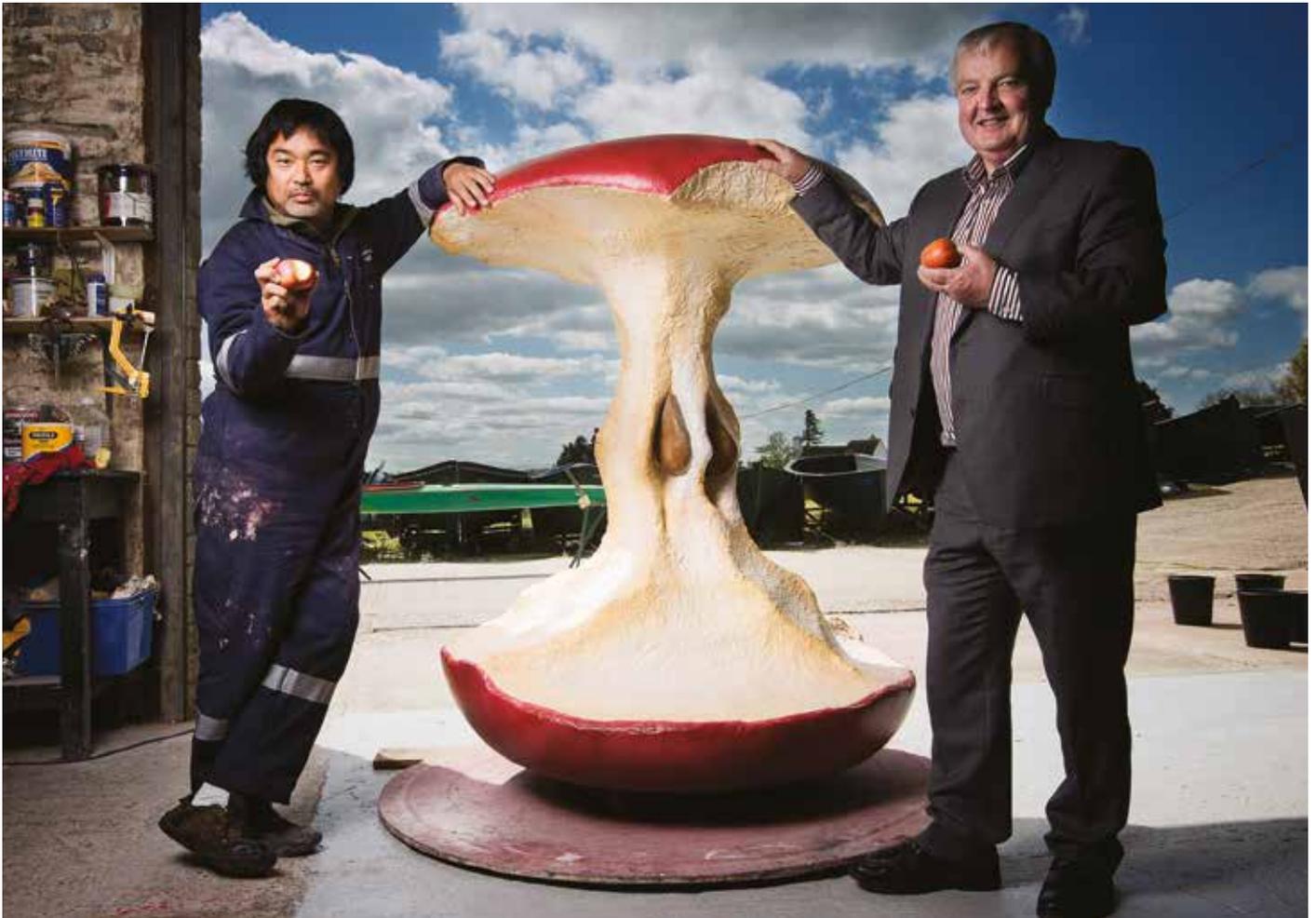


BUILDING PEACE THROUGH THE ARTS

RE-IMAGING COMMUNITIES
NEWSLETTER SPRING 2015



Artist Shiro Masuyama and Colum Best from Dunclug Partnership with part of the 'Five Apples' sculpture which was commissioned by the Partnership through their participation in the Building Peace Through the Arts programme. The sculpture will be sited in the People's Park in Ballymena, with apple trees being distributed to local community groups for planting as part of the project.

ABOUT THE PROGRAMME

The Building Peace Through The Arts - Re-imagining 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 International Fund For Ireland, enables people throughout Northern Ireland and the border region of the Republic to tackle sectarianism and racism. The programme funded local consultation and engaged communities in the exploration of themes which unite rather than divide, ultimately leading to the creation of public artwork that promotes tolerance and understanding.

Stage 2 of the programme is now near completion and will see the unveiling of projects across Northern Ireland and the border counties. It has facilitated community consultation and creative engagement enabling thousands of people to participate whilst offering many the opportunity to meet and engage with people from diverse backgrounds.

The Building Peace Through The Arts - Re-imagining Communities programme has changed the landscape of Northern Ireland and the boarder region, positively transforming the public realm and community relations.

PROJECT IN FOCUS



The William Conor sculpture in the making

CONOR'S CORNER WEST BELFAST ATHLETIC & CULTURAL SOCIETY

Artist: Holger Lönze

This new public sculpture designed by artist Holger Lönze, will be located in the heart of Belfast's Shankill Road, and commemorates the work of celebrated Belfast painter William Conor (1881-1968).

The 1.9m high bronze figure and Corten steel light panels featuring Conor's work will be replacing a mural highlighting the UVF & Shankill Protestant Boys Flute Band. The newly named Conor's Corner has been designed to promote dialogue and an understanding of the culture of the area as well as creating a focal point for the local community and visitors alike. Visitors and passers-by are encouraged to interact with the work, to explore the work of the historic Belfast artist and the area that inspired his work. Developed after significant buy-in from the local community and stakeholders the development of Conor's Corner is expected to have major, positive impact on how the local Loyalist community explore issues of their identity.

The scale and combination of figurative elements and contemporary technology creates a centrepiece for Belfast's new cultural corridor and an iconic landmark for the North Belfast area.



Members of West Belfast Athletic & Cultural Society with David Gilliland and Artist Holger Lönze

FLAX FLOWER BESSBROOK (RING OF GULLION) NEWRY AND MOURNE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Artist: Alan Burke

The Camlough River flows from Camlough Lake and its energy harnessed to power the mill in Bessbrook, which drove the local economy and flowed through the communities it created. The geography of the area, the quality of the water and the ability to grow, process and weave flax locally, was central to the growth of the linen industry in the locality of Bessbrook.

Artist Alan Burke has used the form of the flax plant and flower in the design of the sculpture he has created for Beesbrook pond. A stainless steel single stem of flax rises up 6 meters from the water. The flower has a mirrored finish in a blue PVD coating to resemble the colour of the flax flower. A woven pattern fabricated into the structure represents the linen industry, which used the flax as its raw material.

This design also represents the community project undertaken with local schools that highlights the intertwined nature of different communities within the area.

It has been designed to remind us of the common ground of a shared history and heritage.



Artist Alan Burke at work in his studio

ARTS COUNCIL OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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THE BELFAST HANDSHAKE SUFFOLK LENADOON INTERFACE GROUP (SLIG)

Artist: Ralf Sanders

Suffolk Lenadon Interface Group (SLIG) work with young people and adults across the interface area to support peace and reconciliation. During stage 1 of the programme two cross community groups (the Older and Active Group and the SLIG Youth Group) were facilitated in storytelling where personal objects were used to promote dialogue.

During the consultation period the green area at the entrance of the Stewartstown Road building was chosen for the location of the artwork, this is the only site in the locality of the Interface that is perceived by both communities as shared space. The theme 'Above the divide' was the agreed and German artist Ralf Sanders, was selected for stage 2.

Ralf consulted further with the community in preparation of the 2.5 m x 2m high sculpture made from bronze composite material patinated with liver of sulphur and two metal sheets with the figures on either side made from marine grade stainless steel. Handprints of the residents of the Suffolk and Lenadon area were incorporated into the middle column of the sculpture

The final sculpture is a gesture of welcome and of reconciliation. Its legacy will serve as a constant visible reminder of how the community built peace through the arts.



Suffolk Lenadon Interface Group (SLIG) workshop participants from the community Older and Active Group who worked with German artist Ralf Sanders as part of the creative process to develop 'Giving Hands'



Artist Denis Connolly during a workshop, with pupils from St. Clare's Secondary School

WALK THE WALK BALLYJAMESDUFF COMMUNITY CRÈCHE

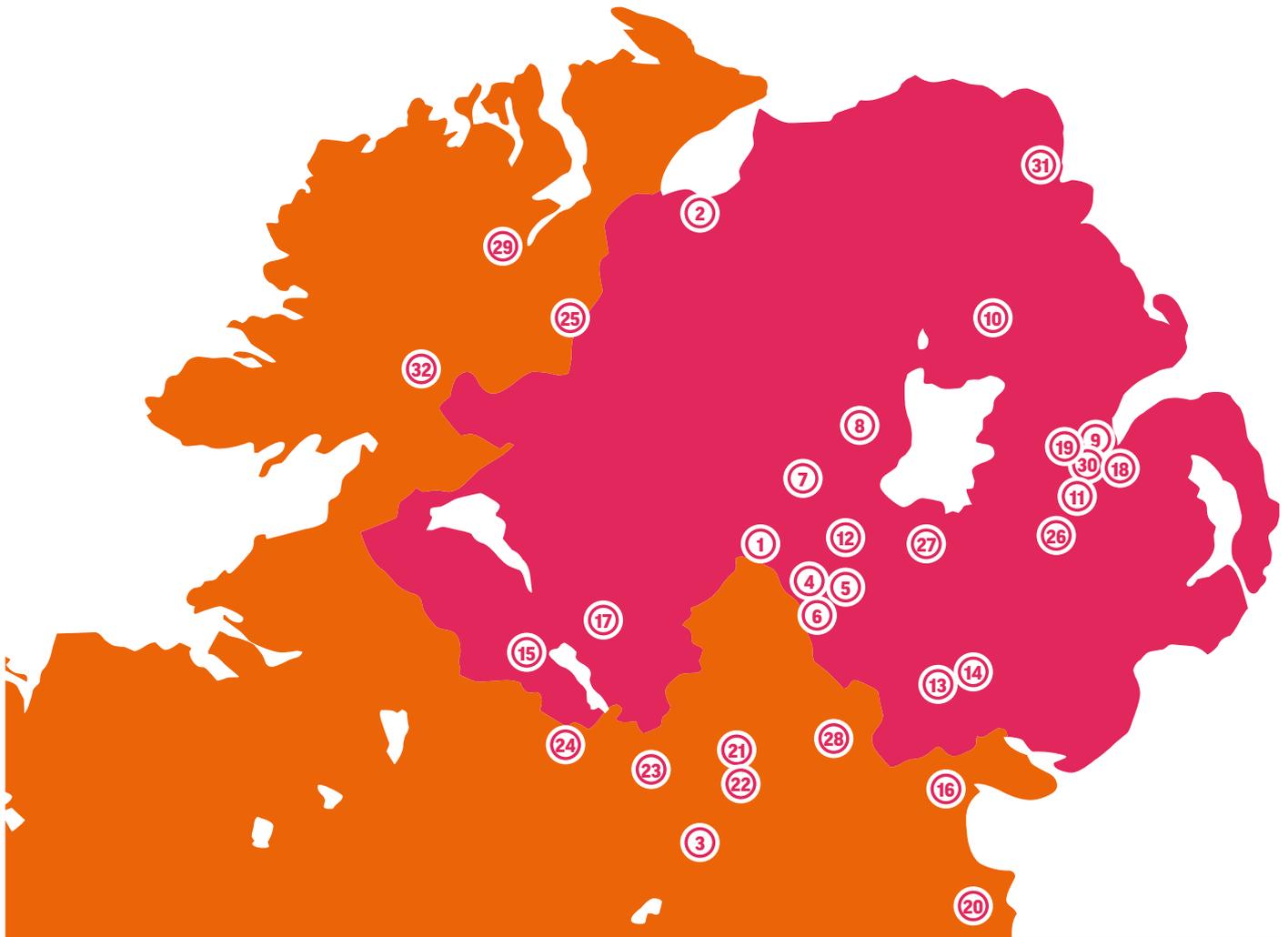
Artists: Connolly and Cleary

Ballyjamesduff Community Crèche wished to address racism and promote integration by celebrating the increasingly diverse make up of the town's population. The creative engagement and consultation phase led to the theme of 'Journeys and Destinations', (reflecting the area's history of emigration and the experience of those from other countries and cultures who've settled there in more recent times), being agreed.

Throughout the spring, artists and local children have been busy bringing the historic Nun's Walk alive. This little known wooded trail, which circles past the new World War 1 Trench Experience at the Cavan County Museum, has long been one of the town's best kept secrets. Now it will be celebrated with two stunning bronze gates, created with the participation of children from St Clare's Secondary and National Schools, Billis National School and the Ballyjamesduff Community Crèche. Internationally acclaimed, Paris based Irish artists Cleary and Connolly are working with the Ballyjamesduff Community Crèche, and will complete the artwork at the end of June, when locals and visitors alike can fully enjoy the lush Nun's Walk.

PROJECT LOCATIONS

The Building Peace Through the Arts programme was launched in February 2013, since then 47 stage one awards have been made, this enabled groups to consult with and engage the community about how the programme would benefit them. 31 of the projects progressed to the next stage. Stage two has seen and continues to see, artists concepts being brought to life in a variety of spectacular sculptures, all of which are expected to be completed by the end of June 2015.



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| 1 Aughnacloy Development Association | 9 West Belfast Athletic and Cultural Society, Shankill Road | 17 Carrosyl Community Association, Lisnaskea | 25 Donnellyloop Youth Club, Claudy, Tyrone |
| 2 Drumahoe Community Association, Londonderry | 10 Dunclug Partnership, Ballymena | 18 Belfast City Council, City Cemetery | 26 Dromore In Action, Co. Down |
| 3 Ballyjamesduff Community Creche - Cavan | 11 Derriaghy Village Community Association | 19 Suffolk Lenadoon Interface Group (SLIG) | 27 Richmount Rural Community Association |
| 4 Blackwater Regional Partnership - Monaghan | 12 Servite Trust, Benburb | 20 Drogheda Civic Trust | 28 Castleblayney Community Enterprises, Monaghan |
| 5 Blackwater Regional Partnership, Caledon | 13 Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership Scheme, Camlough | 21 Cavan County Council, Cootehill | 29 Colgan Community Resource Centre, Donegal |
| 6 Blackwater Regional Partnership, Middletown | 14 Ring of Gullion Landscape Partnership Scheme, Bessbrook | 22 Cavan County Council, Bailieboro | 30 Belfast South Community Resources, Sandy Row |
| 7 Mid Ulster District Council, Pomeroy | 15 Killsherr Community Development Association, Co. Fermanagh | 23 Cavan County Council, Redhills | 31 Cairns Residents Group, Cushendall |
| 8 Mid Ulster District Council, The Loup | 16 Dundalk Institute of Technology, Louth | 24 Cavan County Council, Ballyconnell | 32 Clogher le Cheile, Barnesmore Gap, Donegal |



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