



Business to Arts
Developing Creative
Partnerships



Bank of Ireland Begin Together Arts Fund in partnership with *Business to Arts*

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Bank of Ireland Begin Together Arts Fund in partnership with *Business to Arts*?

The Bank of Ireland Begin Together Arts Fund in partnership with *Business to Arts* (The Fund) is an all-island arts fund which aims to support artwork(s) / arts project(s) that:

- **have been adapted due to COVID-19 (criteria one)**

With this criteria, we are seeking to support artwork(s) / arts project(s) that have been adapted due to COVID-19. For example, this may include projects that require funding to help with the costs, equipment or expertise related to:

- i. technology and distribution of artwork(s) / arts project(s) online (e.g. professional filming, equipment, and skills required)
- ii. adapting venues, exhibition spaces or spaces for performances for socially-distant audiences etc.
- iii. adapting models for the delivery of learning and public engagement programmes to reach their audiences
- iv. adapting artwork(s) / arts project(s) so they can be realised in the public realm or outdoors

- **are inspired by/respond to COVID-19 (criteria two)**

With this criteria, we are seeking to support the creation of new artwork(s) / arts project(s) based on themes, narratives, or ideas which have been prompted due to living through the pandemic and our current environment. For example, this may include helping to realise new artwork(s) / arts project(s) created specifically:

- i. for digital and online audiences
- ii. for the public realm or outdoors
- iii. hybrid models of delivery (e.g. online and in-venue)
- iv. to respond to themes of people impacted by COVID-19, lockdown, opening society, etc

The Fund is designed to support artists and arts projects across all art forms whose projects benefit a range of audiences. We realise that we are unable to support all areas of need being experienced by the arts sector with this fund. As a result, we have focused on the above two criteria. A consultation process conducted by *Business to Arts* has informed the design of these criteria. Read more [here](#).

When is the application period open for the Bank of Ireland Begin Together Arts Fund?

The first round of applications will be accepted between **Monday 21st September** and **Wednesday 4th November 2020, at 5:00pm**. For this first round, only projects that plan to take place between February 2021 and December 2021 are eligible. We plan to open a second and third round for applications in April/May 2021 and in April/May 2022. The above criteria are applicable for this round and may change in rounds two and three.



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What is the funding amount?

Applicants can request funds between €3,000 – €10,000 / GBP£2,500 – £8,400. Average grants will be €5,000 / GBP£4,200, with maximum grants of €10,000 / GBP£8,400.

Is there a deadline to apply?

The deadline to apply for the first round of funding is Wednesday 4th November 2020 at 5:00pm. For this first round, only projects that plan to take place between February 2021 and December 2021 are eligible.

Is my project eligible?

The eligibility criteria for The Fund can be found [here](#). If you are still unsure, please email begintogetherartsfund@businessstoarts.ie or call 01 662 9238.

How do I apply?

To apply please complete the online application form [here](#).

I can't access the online application form what should I do?

If you are experiencing issues accessing the online form please:

- i. close your browser and reopen a new window
- ii. ensure that your browser is not preventing 'pop-ups'. If you continue to experience issues accessing the application form, please contact the Fund team by calling 01 662 9238 or you can email begintogetherartsfund@businessstoarts.ie

What art forms are eligible to apply for The Fund?

On the application form you will be asked to select one of the following categories:

- Arts & Health
- Community Arts
- Craft
- Dance
- Festivals/Events
- Film
- Literature
- Music
- Multi-Disciplinary
- Opera
- Street Theatre/Circus/Spectacle
- Theatre
- Traditional Arts
- Visual Arts
- Other

However, this is not an exhaustive list and we welcome applications from all artists, arts projects, and across all art forms including performing arts, comedy, spoken-word, rap, etc.



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Partnerships



How should my project take place or be presented?

The Fund is designed to support artists and arts projects across all art forms whose projects benefit a range of audiences. There is no set format for how a project should take place or be presented, however the target audience / participants for the project should be identified in the application.

My project takes place in 2022, can I apply now?

Only projects that plan to take place between February 2021 and December 2021 are eligible to apply in this round. We plan to open a second and third round for applications in April/May 2021 and in April/May 2022.

My project will take place mainly outside of Ireland, can I apply?

Only applications with projects occurring on the island of Ireland (Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland) are eligible. Web-based projects with a global audience are welcome to apply provided the majority of the applicant team are based on the island of Ireland.

Can I apply to cover the cost of staff wages/organisation overheads/rent etc.?

We expect applications to allocate at least 40% of funding to artists fees. Otherwise, this fund should support new or existing artwork(s) / arts project(s) that have been adapted due to COVID-19, or are inspired by / respond to, or have been adapted due to COVID-19. Applications may only be made for projects which will take place between February 2021 and December 2021. More information about application criteria can be found [here](#).

Can I submit an application for a project that requires 100% funding?

Yes. Applicants can request funds between €3,000 – €10,000 / GBP£2,500 – £8,400. Average grants will be €5,000 / GBP£4,200, with maximum grants of €10,000 / GBP£8,400.

I have already received partial funding for this project, am I still eligible to apply for The Fund?

Yes. Artwork(s) / arts project(s) with larger budgets that have secured funds elsewhere are encouraged to apply. Applications must include proof of other funding secured and disclose the relevant funding source.

Can I apply as an individual artist?

No. Applications must involve an artist or a group of artists working with a partner organisation (e.g. a venue or event, arts organisation, community organisation or another funding agency). An application can be made by either an artist or an organisation, as long as it involves the other partner. A statement of commitment by the applicant's partner is required for all applications.

What is a "Partner Organisation"?

A partner organisation may be a venue or event, arts organisation, community organisation or another funding agency that an individual artist or group of artists collaborate(s) with for the purposes of this project. A statement of commitment by the applicant's partner is required for all applications. We recommend that partner organisations submit a maximum of one application.

What does it mean to "evaluate" the project?

This question asks you to reflect upon the objectives of your project and how you hope to achieve or measure those objectives. This may include measuring audience levels, audience feedback, critical response, etc.



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Developing Creative
Partnerships



The application must be for a project that has been adapted due to, or is inspired by / responds to COVID-19. What does this mean?

We realise that we are unable to support all areas of need being experienced by the arts sector with this fund. As a result, we have focused on projects that align with the following criteria:

- **Projects that have been adapted due to COVID-19 (criteria one)**

With this criteria, we are seeking to support artwork(s) / arts project(s) that have been adapted due to COVID-19. For example, this may include projects that require funding to help with the costs, equipment or expertise related to:

- i. technology and distribution of artwork(s) / arts project(s) online (e.g. professional filming, equipment and skills required)
- ii. adapting venues, exhibition spaces or spaces for performances for socially-distant audiences etc.
- iii. adapting models for the delivery of learning and public engagement programmes to reach their audiences
- iv. adapting artwork(s) / arts project(s) so they can be realised in the public realm or outdoors

- **Projects that are inspired by/respond to COVID-19 (criteria two)**

With this criteria, we are seeking to support the creation of new artwork(s) / arts project(s) based on themes, narratives, or ideas which have been prompted due to living through the pandemic and our current environment. For example, this may include helping to realise new artwork(s) / arts project(s) created specifically:

- i. for digital and online audiences
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- iii. hybrid models of delivery (e.g. online and in-venue)
- iv. to respond to themes of people impacted by COVID-19, lockdown, opening society etc.

[I'm not sure how to complete a budget can you help?](#)

Unfortunately we cannot provide assistance on a case by case basis. For more information on how to complete the application, please join on of our webinars where this information will be covered:

- Wednesday 30 September at 12 midday (register [here](#))
- Wednesday 7 October at 2pm (register [here](#))

[How will my application be assessed?](#)

An assessment panel will be convened to review eligible applications. The panel will consist of a representative of *Business to Arts*, two representatives of Bank of Ireland and two external panellists including a multidisciplinary arts programmer and an artist. All decisions are final and there will be no appeals process.

[When will I find out whether my application was successful?](#)

Applicants will be informed by email if they are successful/unsuccessful. We expect to inform successful/unsuccessful applicants before December 31st 2020.

[When will I receive feedback about my application?](#)

Due to the number of applicants expected, unfortunately we are unable to offer individual feedback.



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Developing Creative
Partnerships



[If my application is successful how will I receive the funding?](#)

Grants made to successful applicants will be paid to the lead applicant, who must have a bank account in the Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland.

[If I am unsuccessful in the first round can I reapply for the second or third round of funding?](#)

Yes. If you are unsuccessful in the first round of funding applications we encourage you to review your application in accordance with the criteria and consider reapplying in the second or third round. Keep in mind that the criteria detailed above are applicable for this round and may change in rounds two and three.

[What will happen if my project cannot take place due to COVID-19?](#)

Should the realisation of a project be delayed due to Government restrictions or illness caused by COVID-19, additional terms may be applicable. Bank of Ireland and *Business to Arts* will continue to monitor the situation as it develops.

[About *Business to Arts*](#)

Established in 1988, *Business to Arts* is a membership-based, charitable organisation (CHY 9871, RCN: 20024741) that brokers, enables and supports creative partnerships between businesses, individuals and the arts. We work with our corporate members on arts sponsorship, commissioning, corporate social responsibility programmes, internal and external communications and event programming. We also work with artists and arts organisations providing a range of training opportunities and coaching to help diversify income streams, grow audiences and enhance strategic planning.

We are known for our in-house programmes, which include the [Business to Arts Awards](#), our annual showcase of leading corporate and cultural partnerships in Ireland; [Fundit.ie](#) our crowdfunding website; our annual CEO Forum in association with PwC; and [New Stream](#) our arts fundraising capacity-building programme.

Our corporate network ranges across the business sectors from local family-run companies, SMEs, universities, semi-state companies to FDIs and corporate foundations. Our arts affiliate base extends from individual artists to the National Cultural Institutions, and includes all art forms. We have approximately 300 members and affiliates.

To see a list of our members or to become a member, visit businessstoarts.ie/membership.