

Be Part of Our Vision for the Arts in Galway

OPEN CALL FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS





Beautiful Apocalypse Miriam de Búrca / Photography: Tom Flanagan



Photography: Tom Flanagan

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in joining the Board of Directors of Galway Arts Centre.

Galway Arts Centre is seeking expressions of interest from new voluntary Board members who can bring skills, experience, perspectives and networks to support the organisation at a significant moment in its development.

Established in 1982, Galway Arts Centre is one of Ireland's leading multidisciplinary arts centres. We provide year-round access to the arts through programmes in visual art, literature, theatre, youth arts, festivals, music, performance, public engagement and professional development. We work with artists to create, challenge and connect audiences to exceptional local, national and international art that inspires new ideas and ways of thinking about our world.

As Galway Arts Centre enters a new phase of strategic, organisational and capital development, we are seeking Board members who can help guide, support and advocate for the organisation as it continues to evolve as a vital cultural institution for Galway, the West of Ireland and the wider arts sector.

We particularly welcome applications from people with diverse backgrounds, lived experiences, perspectives and expertise, including those who are currently underrepresented on boards and in cultural leadership.

The deadline for expressions of interest is **18 September**.

ABOUT GALWAY ARTS CENTRE

Galway Arts Centre is a not-for-profit multidisciplinary arts organisation based in Galway city. Our work spans visual arts, theatre, literature, youth arts, public programmes, festivals, residencies, artist development and community engagement.

The organisation currently operates across a number of important cultural spaces and programmes, including 47 Dominick Street, Nuns Island Theatre, Galway Youth Theatre, Red Bird Youth Collective and Cúirt International Festival of Literature. Galway Arts Centre plays a central role in supporting artists, audiences, young people, communities and cultural partners across Galway city and beyond.

Galway Arts Centre is governed by a voluntary Board of Directors and is committed to good governance, transparency, accountability and the Charities Regulator Governance Code. Galway Arts Centre is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee.

More information on Galway Arts Centre's governance, strategic plan and policies is available on the Galway Arts Centre website, including:

[Galway Arts Centre Board and Governance](#)

[Galway Arts Centre Strategic Plan 2020-2025](#)

[Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Policy 2025-2027](#)

[Galway Arts Centre Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy](#)

[Galway Arts Centre Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan 2024-2026](#)

[Galway Arts Centre Environmental Policy and Climate Action Plan 2025-2027](#)

[Galway Arts Centre Health and Safety Statement of Intent](#)
[Galway Arts Centre Health and Safety Statement](#)

[Galway Arts Centre Data Protection Policy](#)

OUR BOARD AND TEAM

Galway Arts Centre CLG is governed by a voluntary Board of Directors, who provide strategic oversight and support the organisation's governance, accountability and long-term development. The Board works closely with the Director and Curator, senior staff and wider team to support Galway Arts Centre's artistic, strategic and operational work across its programmes, venues and partnerships.

Further information on Galway Arts Centre's Board, governance, company information and organisational policies is available here:

[Galway Arts Centre Board and Governance](#)

You can also find out more about Galway Arts Centre's staff team here:

[Galway Arts Centre Our Team](#)

one of
Ireland's leading
multidisciplinary
arts centres



Whistling in the Dark Ruby Wallis / Photography: Tom Flanagan



OUR VISION AND VALUES

Galway Arts Centre works with artists, audiences, young people and communities to create space for artistic excellence, experimentation, critical thinking and public engagement. Our work is shaped by a commitment to:

ARTISTIC AMBITION & EXPERIMENTATION

We support artists to develop, test and present ambitious work across disciplines, creating opportunities for new ideas, practices and forms of cultural expression.

ACCESS, INCLUSION & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

We are committed to widening access to the arts and creating welcoming, inclusive spaces for artists, audiences, participants and communities.

YOUTH ARTS & CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT

Galway Arts Centre actively supports children and young people across Galway city and county through Galway Youth Theatre, Red Bird Youth Collective and our Youth Council. We approach every child and young person as an early stage artist, empowering them to develop creative thinking, confidence and a lifelong interest in the arts.

PARTNERSHIP & COLLABORATION

We work in partnership with artists, cultural organisations, funders, civic bodies, educational institutions and communities to support a strong and connected cultural ecology.

EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

We are committed to embedding equity, diversity and inclusion across our organisation, programmes, policies and working practices.

SUSTAINABILITY & RESPONSIBILITY

We recognise the responsibility of cultural organisations to respond to the climate crisis and to embed more sustainable ways of working across our operations and programmes.

CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE & CIVIC IMPACT

Galway Arts Centre is committed to the long-term development of cultural infrastructure in Galway, supporting artists and audiences through a dynamic, multi-venue arts centre model.



Magdalena Hylak, Dance Artist in Residence
Photography: Tom Flanagan

WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Galway Arts Centre is seeking new voluntary Board members who can bring relevant skills, insight, experience and commitment to the organisation.

We are particularly interested in hearing from people with experience in one or more of the following areas:

- Arts management and cultural leadership
- Arts policy, public policy or cultural strategy
- Fundraising, philanthropy, sponsorship or income generation
- Capital development, buildings, architecture, heritage or infrastructure projects
- Multi-venue cultural infrastructure, cultural campus development or arts centre management
- Strategic planning and organisational development
- Equity, diversity and inclusion
- Youth arts, arts education or creative learning
- Governance, charity compliance or risk management

- Financial oversight, business planning or enterprise development
- Communications, advocacy, public affairs or stakeholder engagement
- Environmental sustainability and climate action
- Community engagement, access or socially engaged practice

There is no requirement to have previous Board experience. We welcome expressions of interest from people who may be considering a Board role for the first time and we will provide appropriate induction and support.

We are especially interested in candidates who can bring diverse perspectives, lived experience, regional, national or international networks, and a strong commitment to the role of the arts in civic life.

Galway Arts Centre plays a central role in supporting artists, audiences, young people, communities and cultural partners across Galway city and beyond



Róis Disquiet Nights / Photography: Tom Flanagan



Animal Farm Galway Youth Theatre / Photography: Declan Colohan



Above: *Druthaibs Ball*

Right: *Pride March Performance Event*

Array Collective

Photography: Tom Flanagan



DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Galway Arts Centre is committed to being an inclusive organisation across our Board, staff, artists, programme contributors, participants, partners and audiences.

We welcome applications from people of all backgrounds and particularly encourage expressions of interest from people who are currently underrepresented in cultural governance and leadership, including disabled people, people from racialised and minority ethnic backgrounds, members of the Traveller community, LGBTQIA+ people, people from working-class backgrounds, younger people, older people, and people with lived experience of discrimination or exclusion.

We recognise that people bring expertise in many different ways, including through professional experience, lived experience, voluntary work, community leadership, creative practice and advocacy.



Our work spans visual arts,
theatre, literature, youth
arts, public programmes,
festivals, residencies,
artist development and
community engagement.



Top: ATU Master of Arts in Creative Practice Group Exhibition, Taïm Haimet, Artist in Residence 24-25

Above: *Druthaibs Ball*, Array Collective / Photography: Tom Flanagan

ROLE OF THE BOARD

The Board of Galway Arts Centre is collectively responsible for the governance, strategic direction and long-term sustainability of the organisation.

Board members work closely with the Director, senior team and fellow Board members to ensure that Galway Arts Centre is professionally run, financially responsible, legally compliant and able to deliver on its mission.

The Board's responsibilities include:

- Supporting the development and delivery of Galway Arts Centre's vision, mission and strategy
- Ensuring good governance and compliance with charity and company law
- Providing oversight of financial management, risk and organisational sustainability
- Supporting the organisation's capital development and infrastructure ambitions
- Acting as advocates and ambassadors for Galway Arts Centre
- Supporting fundraising, partnership development and stakeholder engagement
- Ensuring that equity, diversity, inclusion, safeguarding and environmental responsibility are embedded in the organisation's work
- Supporting the Director and senior team through constructive challenge, advice and guidance
- Ensuring Galway Arts Centre remains accountable to artists, audiences, participants, funders, partners and the wider public

Board members are expected to act in the best interests of Galway arts centre and to uphold the organisation's values, charitable purpose and responsibilities.





TIME COMMITMENT

Board appointments are voluntary and unpaid, in line with charity governance. Reasonable expenses can be reimbursed where required.

Board members are expected to attend regular Board meetings, which are conducted online, with occasional hybrid meetings in Galway city centre. The board meets between six and eight times per year including the annual general meeting in June. Board members may also be invited to participate in subcommittees or working groups, depending on their area of expertise and the needs of the organisation.

Board members are encouraged to attend exhibition openings, events, performances and public programmes throughout the year where possible. You may also benefit from complimentary tickets to some paid shows during the year.

We understand that people have different work, access, caring and personal commitments, and we will aim to support participation in a flexible and inclusive way.



From top L-R: Cúirt International Festival of Literature / Photography: Emilija Jefremova
The Air We Share, Group Exhibition / Photography: Mark Stedman
usual and generous ways Group Exhibition, Gallery Lates Launch / Photography: Boyd Challenger



HOW TO APPLY

To express your interest, please send:

A current CV or short biography.

A covering letter of no more than two pages outlining your interest in Galway Arts Centre, the experience or perspective you would bring, and why you would like to join the Board.

We are also happy to accept video or audio expressions of interest. These should be no longer than three minutes and should be accompanied by a CV or short biography.

Please send expressions of interest to:

opportunities@galwayartscentre.ie

Please include **Board Expression of Interest** in the subject line.

The deadline for applications is **18 September**.

If you would like an informal conversation about the role before applying, please contact our chairperson Dr John Caulfield at john@galwayartscentre.ie

Galway Arts Centre welcomes expressions of interest from people with a wide range of skills, experiences and perspectives. We are committed to making this process as accessible as possible. Please let us know if you require any access support or alternative formats.



Top: *A Sphere Of Water Orbiting A Star* The Otolith Group / Photography: Tom Flanagan
Above: *Beasts of the Modern Age* Red Bird Youth Collective / Photography: Emma Zukovic

