



MAKING GREAT ART ACCESSIBLE TO ALL



Arts Council of Northern Ireland

The Arts in your Constituency

A Digest

April 2017

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A small
investment
in the ARTS
yields BIG
returns for
EVERYONE

Introduction

Welcome to the Arts Council's constituency digest, informing MLAs about achievements in the arts in their constituencies.

The arts have the power to **bring people and communities closer together** and to enrich everyone's lives. We want your constituents to benefit fully from the social, cultural and economic contribution that our artists and arts organisations are making across all sectors of society, including our schools, healthcare environments and local communities.


Each constituency section includes:

- a case study highlighting just one of the ways the arts are contributing to people's wellbeing in your constituency
- a number of key arts organisations working in your area
- useful contact information

Read as a whole, the individual constituency case studies combine to form a snapshot of the many ways in which the arts are contributing to improving the lives of people and communities across Northern Ireland, from West Belfast's Spanner in the Works raising awareness about human trafficking, to Sticky Fingers Arts working with vulnerable and isolated children in Newry and Armagh.

**The Arts: bringing
people and communities
closer together**

Boosting employment and the local economy



Uilleann pipe-maker, Martin Preshaw, awarded the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship in recognition of his craft. Photo: Donal McCann

Who we are and what we do

The Arts Council is the funding and development agency for the arts in Northern Ireland. We are an NDPB within the Department for Communities. Our investment reaches all parts of society, including community and voluntary groups. The Arts Council invests c.£19m in the arts each year through our Exchequer fund (c.£10m) and National Lottery fund (c.£9m). **79% of our investment goes to the most deprived areas of Northern Ireland, helping to deliver social change and build a strong and shared community.**

We want to ensure that everyone, including the most marginalised and disadvantaged groups in society, can share in the inspiring, uplifting and transformative experiences that are made possible through public funding of the arts.

Our vision is to place the arts at the heart of our social, economic and creative lives. The public funding we invest ensures that **great art is accessible to everyone.**

How you can help your constituents

Please help spread the word. The Arts Council offers a wide range of funding opportunities and advice to individuals and organisations, including community and voluntary organisations, to help more people become involved in arts and culture. Grants range from the big (venues, organisations, etc.) to the small, with grants ranging from £500 to under £10k available to help community groups include arts in their programming.

Please support local arts activity. Artists and arts organisations value the support of their local political representatives and appreciate the endorsement that your support adds to the profile of their work. They will always be happy to accommodate you on a visit to their project or performance and will welcome the opportunity to discuss their work with you.

Putting us on the world map for all the right reasons



Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply for funding?

The Arts Council offers a range of grant programmes that you can apply to for funding. Some programmes are specifically for organisations and others are for individual artists. For full information on all the programmes that we offer, the criteria for each programme, application deadlines and how to apply, visit the Funding pages of our website, www.artscouncil-ni.org

When can I apply?

Most grant programmes take place in funding rounds with specific dates when we will accept applications. Some programmes are open all year round. For information on funding deadlines, visit the Funding pages of our website.

How long will it take to reach a decision?

This may vary with each programme, although we would generally aim to make a decision on applications from individuals and organisations within three months.

Where can I get help with my application?

The guidance notes for each programme provide information on the assessment criteria, eligibility and application process. Our Arts Development Officers can also offer advice and assistance before you submit an application. Contact details are available in the About Us section of our website, or you can contact the switchboard and you will be directed to the most appropriate person.

How do I complain to the Arts Council?

The Arts Council has a Service Charter which outlines the standard of service our clients should expect from us. We operate a Service Complaints Procedure to handle general complaints about our service. In addition, we operate a Funding Review Procedure for those who want to appeal a decision about a grant application. These documents are available on the website.

Useful Contacts at the Arts Council:

The full list of Arts Development Officers is available at www.artscouncil-ni.org

Arts Council

E: info@artscouncil-ni.org

W: www.artscouncil-ni.org

Bringing people and communities closer together

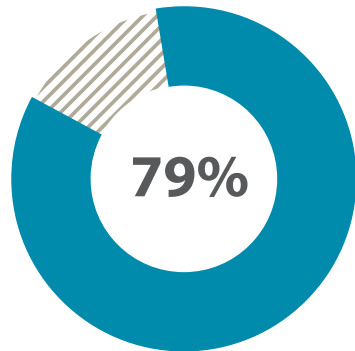
Fact file on the arts

The arts bring people and communities closer together

In addition to their intrinsic value, the arts have a wider impact on our economy, health, wellbeing and education. Participation in the arts can help build cohesive communities, make communities feel safer and reduce social exclusion and isolation. The economy is bolstered by the Creative Industries and by visitors engaging in arts and culture and creative interventions can have a positive impact on specific health conditions such as dementia, Parkinson's and depression.

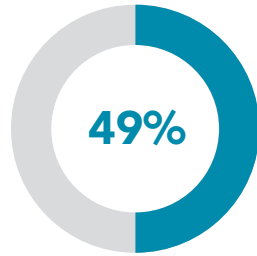
The arts give a voice to vulnerable people and marginalised communities

Arts and culture are prime catalysts in social, creative and economic regeneration.

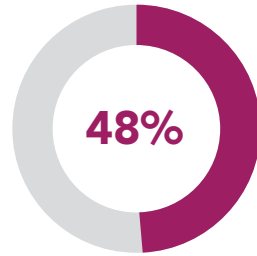


79% of Arts Council investment goes to the most deprived areas of Northern Ireland, helping to deliver social change, economic prosperity and build a strong and shared community

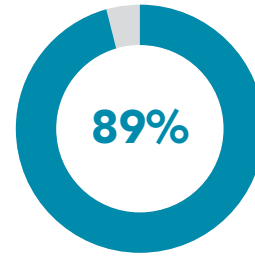
Community Engagement across NI:



49% of the work of our Regularly Funded Organisations is Education and Outreach

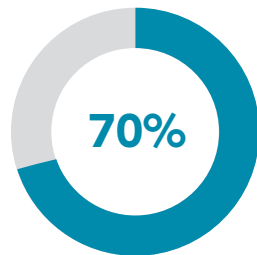


48% of the Education and Outreach work is delivered in NI's most deprived areas

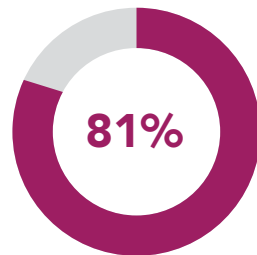


89% delivered within NI's most deprived areas is in Neighbourhood Renewal areas

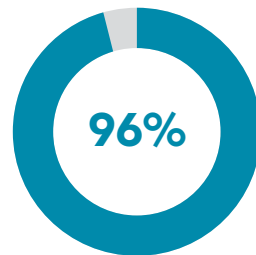
The public support the arts across NI:



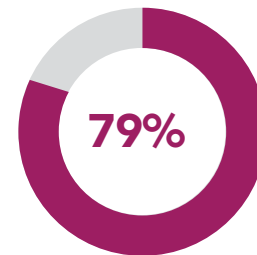
70% of people living in the most deprived areas engage in the arts



81% of the public believe the arts enrich the quality of our lives



96% of young people engage in the arts



79% of adults engage in the arts

Rural engagement now exceeds urban engagement in the arts

Partnerships with central and local government:

The Arts Council has a strong track record of working with Government and its institutions to advance shared agendas and maximise resources. The following list summarises key ways in which the Arts Council works with government and its Departments to support the priority outcomes of economic advancement, tackling disadvantage and improving citizen's wellbeing:

- Partnering the Education Authority and Strategic Investment Board (tasked with delivery of the Executives Urban Villages Initiative) to pilot a Creative Schools Scheme.
- Supporting Local Authorities in the delivery of Community Development Plans through the Challenge Fund.
- Partnering Public Health Agency in the design and delivery of the Young People and Wellbeing Arts Programme, targeted at the most vulnerable young people in Northern Ireland.
- Strengthening the creative economy by delivering 200 targeted programmes encouraging innovation through export in partnership with the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI), Invest NI.

- In collaboration with a consortium including SEUPB, the NI Executive (formerly OFMdfM), Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE), Department of Social Development (DSD), delivering the peace and reconciliation programme, Building Peace through the Arts - Re-imagining Communities Programme.

Arts organisations support the work of government partners across departments, helping them to achieve their objectives in:

- Social and economic regeneration
- Reconciliation
- Tourism
- Creative Industries
- Education
- Health

Major Arts Council initiatives that support arts organisations to deliver change at the heart of society, include:

Building Peace through the Arts; Re-imagining Communities Programme

Arts-led community regeneration programme operating in economically disadvantaged and marginalised communities throughout Northern Ireland and the border areas of the Republic.

- Neighbourhoods have challenged sectarian and racist attitudes by engaging artists to work with local people to develop public art that promotes peace and reconciliation.
- 20,000 people have embraced change and, through the arts, realised new potential for their communities.
- Partnership programme with Arts Council, SEUPB and various government departments and district councils.

20,000

people have embraced change and, through the arts, realised new potential for their communities.

Arts & Older People Programme

Strengthening the voice of older people by using the arts as a tool to address age-relevant concerns such as poverty, isolation, loneliness and wellbeing.

- 19,000 older participants have engaged in arts activities promoting active ageing and positive health and wellbeing for older people living in disadvantaged and harder-to-reach communities across Northern Ireland.
- Leading to positive changes in participants' physical and mental health.
- Partnership programme with Arts Council, PHA and Baring Foundation

19,000

older participants have engaged in arts activities promoting active ageing and positive health and wellbeing for older people living in disadvantaged and harder-to-reach communities across Northern Ireland.

Young People & Wellbeing Arts Programme

New arts initiative contributing to improving health and wellbeing and supporting help-seeking behaviour, by engaging young people in custom-made creative activities. This is a three-year programme jointly funded by the Arts Council and the Public Health Agency, with a total programme budget of £600,000. Links to the NI Executive's Protect Life, A Shared Vision document, part of the NI Suicide Prevention Strategy.

engaging
young people
in custom-made creative activities

Intercultural Arts Programme

Promoting cultural diversity and understanding by bringing our diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds together through shared creative activities.

- Exploring and celebrating each other's cultural identity and heritage.
- 3,500 people from marginalised and harder-to-reach communities participated.
- 5,000 people attended events.

3,500

3,500 people from marginalised and harder-to-reach communities participated.

Derry Legacy Fund

Arts Council and Derry City and Strabane District Council established a three-year, £900,000 fund in 2013 to enhance the arts and cultural programming of venues and organisations in the region and to build on the achievements of UK City of Culture. Projects challenged social exclusion by targeting harder-to-reach groups and communities not traditionally associated with the arts. Thirty-five projects covered a wide range of activities, from festivals such as the City of Derry International Choral Festival, a programme of LGBTQ theatre, to a year of high-quality international exhibitions.

£900,000

fund in 2013 to enhance the arts and cultural programming of venues and organisations in the region and to build on the achievements of UK City of Culture

Creative and Cultural Belfast Fund

£900,000 programme partnership between the Arts Council and Belfast City Council, promoting community engagement and social inclusion through the arts. Community groups worked with some of the city's best arts organisations to tell their stories through theatre, music and film. Seven free, landmark events took place between 2015 and 2016.

SEVEN FREE

landmark events took place between 2015 and 2016.

Local Government Challenge Fund

The Arts Council is challenging local authorities to increase their investment in the arts with the offer to double their investment with match funding. The Local Government Challenge Fund is offering £15 million to help councils embed arts policy and programming in the development of Community Plans and their emerging themes, including economic regeneration, community relations, social cohesion, tourism and health. Mid-Ulster has been a key beneficiary with the opening of the Seamus Heaney Homeplace in 2016.

£1.5m

to help councils embed arts policy and programming in the development of Community Plans and their emerging themes.

Capital infrastructure

The Arts Council has invested more than £70m of capital funding to establish dedicated cultural facilities in towns and cities across Northern Ireland. This has significantly increased access to the arts across Northern Ireland, as there is now an arts venue within 20 miles of every citizen.

£70m

The Arts Council has invested more than £70m of capital funding to establish dedicated cultural facilities in towns and cities across Northern Ireland.

Creating
a place
where we
all want to
live, work
and play

Creating a
place where
we all want to
live, work and
play



Talented 11-year-old singer Garbhan McEnoy in Northern Ireland Opera's production of Benjamin Britten's *The Turn of The Screw*

Belfast East

Replay Theatre Company makes innovative theatre for everyone under the age of 19, from the tiniest babies to the oldest teenagers, for children and young people with Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD), for school groups, for families, for festivals. It provides developmental workshops for those who work with children with PMLD, inspiring and embedding new creative strategies in the classroom. As one teacher commented on the experience: "To see a pupil who would normally be so shy that they would cry with unknown people, form bonds and relationships with the actors was inspiring. He found his voice and has been using it ever since!"

www.replaytheatrecompany.org

Community Engagement is integral to the arts and is one of the areas in which Northern Ireland arts often lead the way. All arts organisations supported by the Arts Council are actively engaged in developing and delivering education and outreach programmes. This is a condition of their grant. The arts give a voice to vulnerable people and disadvantaged and marginalised communities. They are prime catalysts in social, creative and economic regeneration.



Arts Resources in Belfast East

This is a small sample of the range of arts resources available in your constituency and of the opportunities they provide for your constituents to get involved in the arts.

Strand Arts Centre

Formerly the Strand Cinema, now developing a wider role as a community hub, providing cinema, live theatre, music and heritage tours.
www.strandartscentre.com

Eastside Arts

An initiative by EastSide Partnership to develop a wide range of arts activity and creativity across east Belfast. Flagship events are the annual EastSide Arts Festival, Woodstock R&B Festival and CS Lewis Festival.
www.eastbelfastpartnership.org

Terra Nova Productions

Professional theatre company focusing on intercultural collaborative work with people from different cultures.
www.terrano productions.net

Panarts

Runs the annual Belfast Nashville Songwriters' Festival and creates showcase opportunities for local music talent in Nashville, Tennessee.
www.belfastnashville.com

NI Piping and Drumming School

Courses and tuition for students of all ages from 7-70 regardless of musical background experience.
www.nipds.org

Creative Exchange Artist Studios

Artist-led initiative providing essential workspace for visual artists at all stages of their careers.
www.creativeexchange.org.uk/

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Janice Smith,
Tourism, Culture and Arts Officer, Belfast City Council.

T: 028 9050 0512

E: smithj2@belfastcity.gov.uk



Local musicians get opportunity to perform for millions of Americans at televised Panarts' Belfast Nashville Festival.
www.belfastnashville.com

Strengthening the voice of minority communities



Belfast North

Cahoots NI is a professional children's touring theatre company which uses magic and illusion as an essential ingredient in the art of entertaining. Their interactive show, *Lights, Camera, Math 'a' Magic*, uses magic techniques based on maths to make learning maths fun. It links to the NI Curriculum at Key Stage 2, with educational benefits for mathematics and numeracy, language and literacy. The show has engaged with 33,000 primary school children. A workbook showing how the tricks are done using mathematical calculations has been developed as a classroom tool and continues to increase pupils' interest in maths. As one teacher reported, "Pupils who had had no interest at all in numbers were asking if they could do the tricks and where they could get more ideas".

www.cahootsni.com

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Case Study: Cahoots NI

Arts Resources in Belfast North

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Duncairn Centre for Culture and Arts

Purpose-built arts and cultural venue that establishes a shared space for the local community to access an arts and cultural programme of the highest quality.

www.theduncairn.com

Young at Art

Inspirational arts experiences for children and young people, including the annual Belfast International Children's Festival.

www.youngatart.co.uk

Belfast Community Circus School

Circus training and performing opportunities for all ages and abilities.

www.belfastcircus.org

Arts and Disability Forum

Promotes disabled and deaf people's active involvement in the arts.

www.adf.ie

Oh Yeah Music Centre

Music hub and talent development resource for young bands and music makers, with rehearsal space, live venue, recording studio and workshop spaces.

www.ohyeahbelfast.com

Community Arts Partnership

One of the largest community arts organisations on these islands. Develops community arts practice and collaborations between community groups and the arts.

www.comartspartner.org

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Janice Smith, Tourism, Culture and Arts Officer,
Belfast City Council.

T: 028 9050 0512

E: smithj2@belfastcity.gov.uk



DU Dance, teaching dance to young people as a tool for personal and social development. www.dudancenl.com

Providing the lifeblood of the creative industries



Belfast South

Arts Care is an arts and health organisation working with the Health and Social Care Trusts throughout NI. Arts Care introduced Clown Doctors to Northern Ireland in 2005 and, since then, they have been bringing relief to thousands of profoundly disabled, seriously ill and life-limited children in hospitals, hospices and health care settings across Northern Ireland. The Clown Doctors are a professionally-trained part of the care team, working alongside clinical and nursing staff, hospital play specialists and family members, helping sick children to cope with the range of emotions they may experience whilst in hospital, such as fear, anxiety, loneliness and boredom.

www.artscare.co.uk

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Case Study: Arts Care

Arts Resources in Belfast South

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Streetwise Community Circus

One of NI's leading providers of carnival and street shows and circus training workshops for people of all ages and abilities.
www.sccni.co.uk

Lyric Theatre

Award-winning theatre with an extensive Community Engagement Programme, making a unique contribution to the community as the only full-time producing theatre in NI.
www.lyrictheatre.co.uk

Open Arts

Bringing people with and without disabilities together in high-quality arts activities, including the inclusive Open Arts Community Choir.
www.openartsni.org/

Wheelworks

Youth arts organisation working with thousands of disadvantaged young people aged 4 - 25 across Northern Ireland, delivered in young people's community centres and on board the ArtCart, Europe's only mobile arts vehicle.
www.wheelworks.org.uk

Youth Action Northern Ireland

Provides a high-quality performing arts programme for young people, particularly from areas of social deprivation, connecting arts to youth work and vice versa.
www.youthaction.org

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Janice Smith, Tourism, Culture and Arts Officer,
Belfast City Council.

T: 028 9050 0512

E: smithj2@belfastcity.gov.uk



Streetwise Community Circus working with people with learning difficulties and mental health issues

Providing one of our most defining assets



Playwright Jimmy McAleavy, winner of an Arts Council Major Individual Artist Award in recognition of his contribution to creative life in Northern Ireland.

Photo: Brian Morrison

Belfast West

Spanner in the Works Theatre Company tours rural and urban communities with challenging productions that deal openly with the difficult, sometimes controversial or taboo social concerns affecting life in NI. The theatre company specialises in working with women, young people and groups with mental and physical difficulties. Recent plays have included, 'Diablo' which addressed human trafficking in NI and which played at the Lyric Theatre and Edinburgh Fringe; and 'Beat It', a partnership with PSNI, local schools, NSPCC, Travellers Support Groups and Woman's Aid to encourage teenagers to think about healthy and unhealthy relationships.

www.spannerintheworks.org

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Case Study: Spanner in the Works

Arts Resources in Belfast West

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Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich

Irish language arts and cultural centre showcasing and developing cultural Irish Gaelic traditions. with gallery, theatre, restaurant and café.

www.culturlann.ie

Aisling Ghéar Theatre Company

Irish language theatre company and resident theatre company at Cultúrlann McAdam Ó Fiaich.

www.aislingghear.com

Féile an Phobail

Community arts organisation promoting Irish and international culture and renowned for its annual, inclusive, multi-arts August Féile.

www.feilebelfast.com

Beat Carnival

Carnival arts organisation training artists and encouraging community participation through workshops and training programmes for all ages in drumming, costume design, dance and puppetry.

www.beatcarnival.com

Andersonstown Traditional & Contemporary Music School

Community-based organisation providing opportunities for everyone to participate in music classes and develop skills in Irish traditional instruments and repertoire.

www.andersonstownmusicschool.com

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:


Janice Smith, Tourism, Culture and Arts Officer,
Belfast City Council.

T: 028 9050 0512

E: smithj2@belfastcity.gov.uk



Andersonstown Community Theatre is a cross-community drama group engaging older people in the arts



Making everyone's
lives more
colourful, inspiring
and meaningful

East Antrim

Mid and East Antrim Agewell Partnership

(MEAAP) improves the lives of older people aged 60 years and over, living in the Ballymena, Larne and Carrickfergus areas. MEAAP received funding through the Arts Council's Arts & Older People programme to run a year-long series of creative workshops for older people. Their 'Helping Older People Enjoy (HOPE) Art Project' engaged ten older people groups in rural and urban areas across Mid and East Antrim and involved the participation of more than 130 older people in workshops in music, quilting, storytelling and silk painting, led by professional artists. The project, which was shaped in consultation with the participants, addressed social issues facing older people, including combatting isolation and loneliness, and had a particular focus on health issues such as dementia. The project, which brought people together in a common purpose and helped to raise participants' levels of self-esteem, culminated with the HOPE ART showcase exhibition of participants' achievements at The Braid Arts Centre.

www.meaap.co.uk

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Arts Resources in East Antrim

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Theatre at the Mill

Based at Mossley Mill, Newtownabbey, 400-seat professional theatre opened in 2010, offering top quality live performances with a wide programme of touring productions, musicals, dance, drama, comedy, concerts, family shows and workshops. Fully licensed bar and restaurant facilities.
www.theatreatthemill.com

Larne Museum & Arts Centre

Historic building providing a programme of temporary art exhibitions, including work by local artists and schools. Theatre programme is delivered at the McNeill Theatre.
www.larnemuseumandartscentre.co.uk

McNeill Theatre

Multi-purpose 274-seater theatre space in Larne Leisure Centre, offering a programme of ballet, musicals, plays, variety shows and concerts. The theatre plays host to the annual Larne Amateur Drama Festival.
www.larnemuseumandartscentre.co.uk

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Rosalind Lowry,
Mid & East Antrim Borough Council
T: 028 2563 5020
E: rosalind.lowry@midandeastantrim.gov.uk

Bernard Clarkson,
Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council.
T: 028 9034 0266
E: Bernard.clarkson@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk



Comedy of Errors: The Musical. Local production at the Theatre at the Mill, Newtownabbey



Promoting
equality
and social
inclusion

East Londonderry

Big Telly Theatre Company is the longest-established professional theatre company in NI, with a reputation for innovation built on distinctive productions which tour nationally and internationally. Highly audience focused, Big Telly delivers original work which has popular appeal, is action-based and pushes the boundaries of traditional theatre. It concentrates on the visual potential of theatre through fusion with other art forms such as dance, music, circus, magic and film to create a unique sense of spectacle. Big Telly supports the skills development of teachers, actors and community groups, as well as running the Spring Chickens programme for older people. A recent educational project, 'Operation CARnage', addressed anti-social use of the roads and the underlying issues that lead to risk taking behaviour amongst young men. The theatre piece was performed in six different locations in the borough and engaged over 2000 school pupils in post-performance discussion. One pupil remarked of the experience, "I found the assembly to be so effective, I was really shocked when I saw the Police Officers arrive; the acting was so real. It was the best road safety assembly I've seen and I liked the way we as pupils were involved."

www.big-telly.com

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Case Study: Big Telly Theatre Company

Arts Resources in East Londonderry

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Flowerfield Arts Centre, Portstewart

State-of-the-art facility with teaching spaces, art galleries and a 150-seater auditorium, providing concerts, exhibitions, classes and a centre for craft development. www.flowerfield.org

Riverside Theatre, Coleraine

Provides drama, variety, light entertainment, music, schools' and educational productions, community and amateur presentations, and outreach programme including youth theatre, acting summer school, workshops and talks. www.riversidetheatre.org.uk

Roe Valley Arts & Cultural Centre, Limavady

Provides a cultural programme of activities throughout the year, including national and international theatre, music, visual arts and heritage exhibitions, film and engaging creative learning opportunities. Places an emphasis on exploring, celebrating and showcasing local stories reflecting the rich cultural diversity of the borough. www.roevalleyarts.com

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Elaine Gaston, Causeway Coast & Glens District Council

T: 028 2076 2225

E: elaine.gaston@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk



Art classes at Flowerfield Arts Centre

Creating shared experiences for everyone to enjoy

Fermanagh & South Tyrone

Dylan Quinn Dance Theatre creates dance and physical theatre based on topical social, political and cultural issues such as identity and human trafficking. Its aim is to increase access for people to high-quality professional and community dance. The Dance Theatre is involved in a large number of shared educational projects involving young people from schools in Fermanagh and organises weekly community dance workshops in and around Enniskillen for children, adults, older people and adults with learning difficulties. The workshops provide a platform for people to come together, socialise and explore styles of dance in a relaxed, informal environment.

www.dylanquinndance.com

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Arts Resources in Fermanagh & South Tyrone

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Ardhowen Theatre

Theatre with a 290-seat auditorium providing a year-round programme of performances, including schools and community events, plus wide range of workshops and classes.

www.ardhowen.com

Dungannon Silver Band

Respected ensemble which aims to bring world class brass musicians into the community and to raise awareness and encourage participation in this music for all sections of the community.

Fermanagh Arts Festival

Festival of live entertainment and visual arts in October featuring local artists and performers and providing a platform for young talent from Fermanagh.

www.flive.org.uk

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Pauline Clarke,
Fermanagh and Omagh District Council Arts & Culture Officer.

T: 028 8224 7831

E: Pauline.clarke@fermanaghomagh.com

Leagh Wright,
Mid Ulster District Council Culture & Arts Officer.

T: 03000 132132

E: leagh.wright@midulster.org



Building Peace through the Arts - Re-imagining Communities sculpture in Lisnaskea

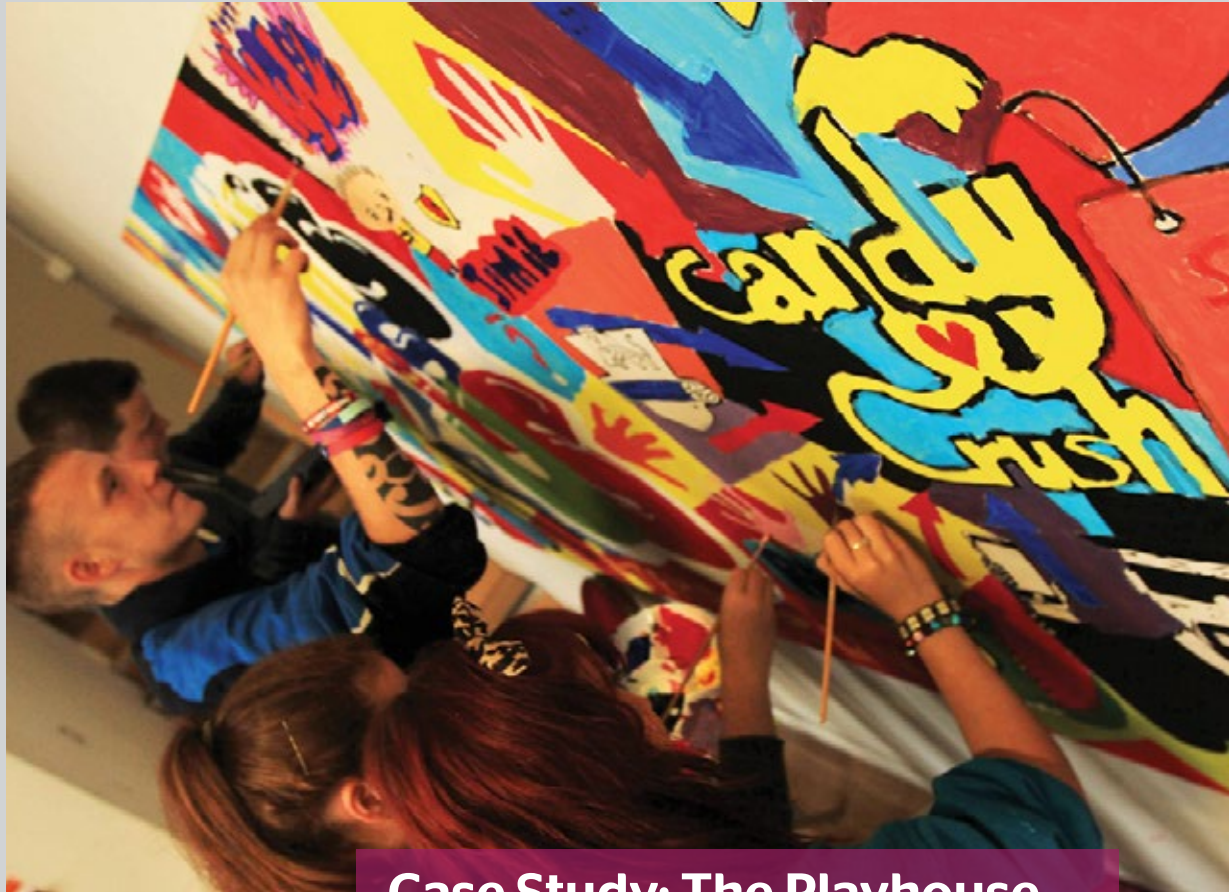
Helping us to find creative solutions to the legacies of our past

Foyle

The Playhouse in Derry City is a leading multi-disciplinary community art resource and a commissioning venue, producing and touring theatre. It runs a large selection of socially engaged arts programmes, providing opportunities, training, guidance and experience for all types of artistic individuals and creative communities. It works in some of the most divided and deprived neighbourhoods, using arts activity to promote healing, understanding, reconciliation and transformation between our communities. The Street Talk project, for example, is contributing to improved relations between young people and local PSNI by bringing the two groups together through shared creative activities.

www.derryplayhouse.co.uk

Community Engagement is integral to the arts and is one of the areas in which Northern Ireland arts often lead the way. All arts organisations supported by the Arts Council are actively engaged in developing and delivering education and outreach programmes. The arts give a voice to vulnerable people and disadvantaged and marginalised communities. They are prime catalysts in social, creative and economic regeneration.



Case Study: The Playhouse

Arts Resources in Foyle

This is a small sample of the range of arts resources available in your constituency and of the opportunities they provide for your constituents to get involved in the arts.

Cultúrlann Uí Chanáin

Irish language arts and cultural centre with theatre, gallery, workshop spaces and cafe.
<http://culturlann-doire.ie/>

Waterside Theatre

Provides quality arts and entertainment plus extensive arts education programme for all ages and abilities.
www.watersidetheatre.com

Nerve Centre

NI's leading creative media arts centre, providing a creative outlet for youth culture.
www.nervecentre.org

Verbal Arts Centre

Inclusive facility promoting the written and spoken word through publishing, digital storytelling, reader development, festivals and event, and oral history and archive.
<http://theverbal.co>

Millennium Forum

One of Northern Ireland's largest theatre and conference centres. Extensive education and outreach programme, working with schools in the WELB and NEELB areas.
www.millenniumforum.co.uk

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Brendan McMenamin,
Derry City & Strabane District Council Arts
Officer.

T: 028 7136 5151

E: Brendan.mcmenamin@derrystرابane.com



Sole Purpose Productions uses drama to explore social issues including relationship abuse amongst teenagers

Building our creative industries



Lagan Valley

Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association NI

oversees pipe band competition in NI and represents 70 pipe bands and 3,000 individual members. In 2015 the RSPBANI and the Irish Pipe Band Association jointly hosted the 70th All-Ireland Pipe Band Championships in Omagh. The competition provided a platform for the best bands and Drum Majors from the island of Ireland to come together and compete for the coveted All Ireland Pipe Band Champions title. Audiences enjoyed high-quality music from 2,500 bands personnel and 36 Drum Majors. The title was won by world-renowned European Champions, Lisburn-based Field Marshal Montgomery Pipe Band.

www.rspbani.org

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Case Study: Royal Scottish Pipe Band Association NI

Arts Resources in Lagan Valley

This is a small sample of the range of arts resources available in your constituency and of the opportunities they provide for your constituents to get involved in the arts.

Island Arts Centre

Every year hundreds of musicians and artists perform to 280,000 visitors, making this one of NI's most popular cultural destinations. Galleries, theatre space, sculpture trail, café and bar facilities, workshop and conference facilities. Provides a year-round programme of classes and workshops, including visual and verbal arts, community arts, performing arts and a full education programme that actively encourages people of all abilities to explore and preserve our arts heritage.

www.islandartscentre.com

Community Circus Lisburn

Youth circus for all young people aged 8+, based at the Island Arts Centre, providing training and opportunities to perform at various events, including the Mayor's Carnival Parade.

www.islandartscentre.com

R-Space Gallery, Lisburn

Contemporary visual art and craft gallery, commissioning exhibitions and providing support to local artists. Delivers excellent outreach and educational activities for local schools, colleges, community groups and disability groups.

www.rspacegallery.com

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Siobhan McCormick,
Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council Arts Service
Manager.

T: 028 9250 9250

E: Siobhan.mccormick@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk



Clay printing workshop at the R-Space Gallery



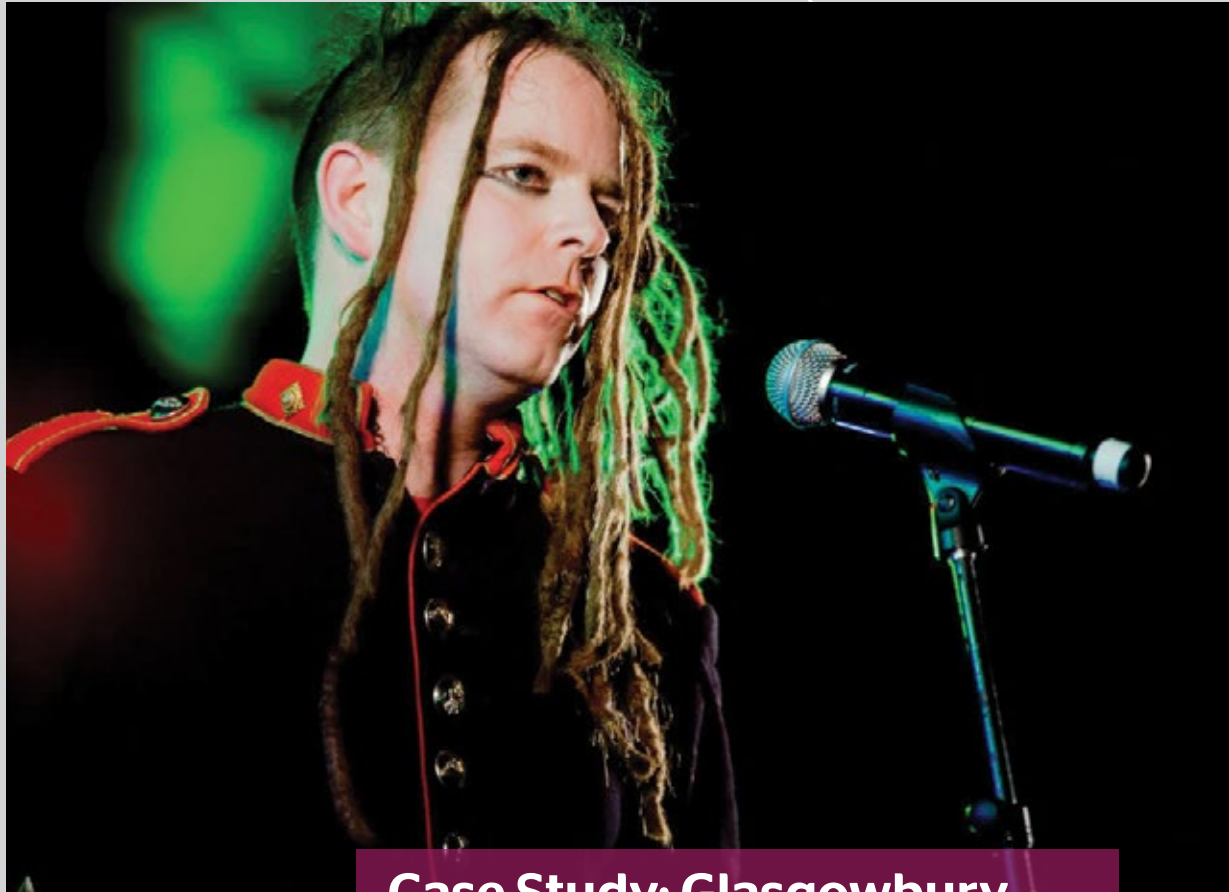
Catalysts for social and economic regeneration

Mid Ulster

Glasgowbury is a creative hub that promotes community participation in music. It delivers music, creative industry and digital technology programmes to meet the needs of children, adults and older people, working with 960 participants on a weekly basis and 2500 audiences annually. A comprehensive programme of educational projects includes the 'Rural Key' weekly music lessons and monthly showcases for participants who lack access and resources, to talent development; and the 'Small but Massive Lives and Communities' programme, which offers music, dance crafts and digital training for young children and older people, including those with additional education needs. Glasgowbury delivers programmes in schools and a recent initiative, partnering with a local mental health charity, used music activity to improve the confidence and motivation of young people in the community affected by mental illness and suicide.

www.glasgowbury.com

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Case Study: Glasgowbury

Arts Resources in Mid Ulster

This is a small sample of the range of arts resources available in your constituency and of the opportunities they provide for your constituents to get involved in the arts.

Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre

The hub of arts, drama, music, theatre and dance in Mid Ulster, providing high-quality performances and an arts and cultural participatory programme.

www.burnavon.com

Beam Creative Network

Provides arts programmes and activities that enable individuals and communities to explore a wide range of social and life issues such as anti-bullying, conflict resolution and cultural diversity. Delivers arts and drama programmes for Education Boards, Peace III, Councils, Department of Justice, DOE, PSNI, Community Groups, Youth Groups and Health Boards.

www.beamcreativenetwork.com

Bardic Theatre

Professional community theatre nurturing local performers, writers and stage crews, with an intergenerational community hub providing training for up-and-coming artists.

www.bardictheatre.com

Seamus Heaney HomePlace

New £4m visitors centre in Bellaghy, dedicated to the life and work of the poet and Nobel laureate Seamus Heaney and aiming to attract 35,000 visitors a year. Opened September 2016.

www.seamusheaneyhome.com

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Leah Wright,
Mid Ulster District Council,

T: 03000 132 132

E: leah.wright@midulstercouncil.org



Seamus Heaney HomePlace interpretative centre, Bellaghy



Promoting
our distinctive
cultures in
affirmative and
inclusive ways

The Yardmen, Ross Wilson, Building Peace through the Arts; Re-imagining Communities Programme.

Newry & Armagh

Sticky Fingers Arts in Newry is a leader in the field of children's art. It devises and delivers high-quality participatory events for young children, families, carers, teachers and childcare professionals. It also delivers accredited training courses in Developing Creativity in Early Years for childcare professionals. The Sticky Fingers 'Children's Art House' is a free drop-in centre with a programme of arts activities and workshops to inspire children's imaginations. The annual International Children's Festival introduces young people in Newry and Mourne to the highest quality children's arts available at home and abroad. Sticky Fingers maintains a focus on vulnerable and isolated young people, with partnership programmes with the Traveller community, Sure Start, Autism Ireland and Cedar foundation.

<http://stickyfingersarts.co.uk>

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Case Study: Sticky Fingers Arts

Arts Resources in Newry & Armagh

This is a small sample of the range of arts resources available in your constituency and of the opportunities they provide for your constituents to get involved in the arts.

Market Place Theatre & Arts Centre, Armagh

Purpose-built venue presenting the best in arts and entertainment at affordable prices and running a programme of arts classes and workshops.

www.marketplacearmagh.com

Newry Arts Centre

Two galleries, 110-seater auditorium, rehearsal room, dance studio, workshop for construction of set and scenery, cafe, arts studio, dark room, meeting rooms, exhibition space.

T: 028 3031 3180

Drake Music Project NI

Enables physically disabled adults and children, and those with learning difficulties to independently compose and perform their own music using the latest technology and specially designed or adapted instruments.

www.drakemusicni.com

Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann

With hundreds of local branches around the world, this is the largest group involved in the preservation and promotion of Irish traditional music, dance and language.

<https://comhaltas.ie>

Armagh Pipers Club

Performs a key role in the traditional arts sector, promoting access to high-quality music tuition, year round audience building and connecting

the local piping fraternity with international musical networks.

www.armaghpipers.com

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Jill McEneaney,
Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council,

T: 028 3752 1826,

E: jill.mceneaney@marketplacearmagh.com

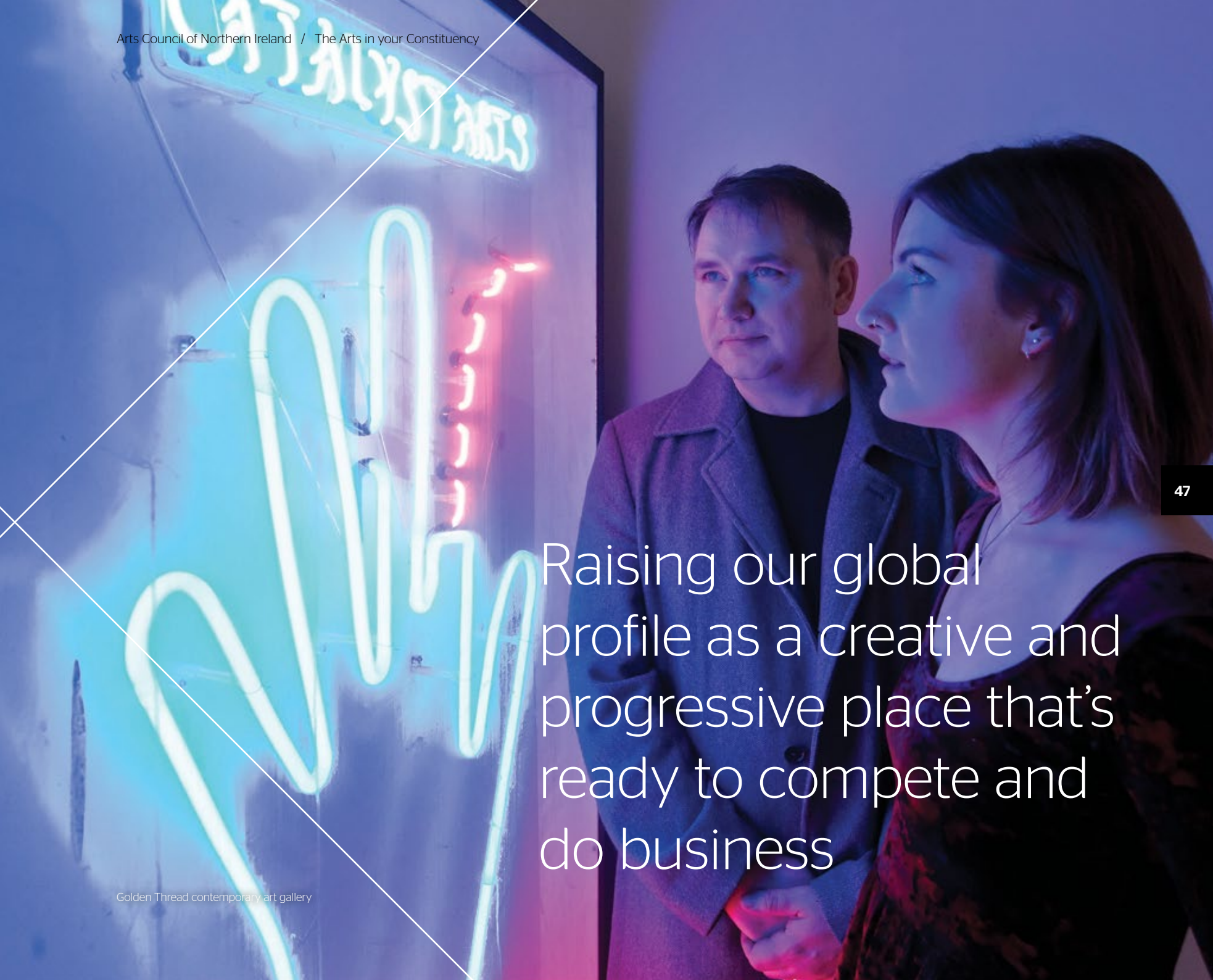
Aisleain McGill,
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council.

T: 028 3031 3181

E: aisleain.mcgill@newryandmourne.gov.uk



Drake Music Project NI working with children and adults with physical disabilities and learning difficulties



Raising our global profile as a creative and progressive place that's ready to compete and do business

North Antrim

A **Building Peace through the Arts - Re-imagining Communities** project in Ballymena in 2015 led to the creation of the 'Five Apples' public sculpture for the People's Park in Dunclug. Supported by the Arts Council, the Dunclug Partnership coordinated the process, employing artists to work with the local communities to develop an inspirational artwork that would connect communities, build good relations, and positively reflect community identity and aspirations. The process of engaging the public in the development of the art work is designed to instil a sense of ownership and civic pride and, importantly, to create a new shared symbol of diversity for all.

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Case Study: Re-imagining People's Park, Dunclug

Arts Resources in North Antrim

This is a small sample of the range of arts resources available in your constituency and of the opportunities they provide for your constituents to get involved in the arts.

The Braid Arts Centre, Ballymena

400-seat main theatre and 77-seat studio theatre accommodates everything from professional touring theatre to music events. Provides an arts and educational programme of classes and workshops.

www.thebraid.com

Ballymoney Arts Centre

Ballymoney Arts Centre, Museum and Tourist Information Centre holds a permanent exhibition telling the history of the local area and provides a programme of events such as talks, touring exhibitions, concerts and pantomimes.

www.ballymoney.gov.uk

Ballymoney Drama Festival

The oldest annual drama festival in Ireland, hosting plays performed by the best amateur drama companies in Northern Ireland.

www.ballymoneydramafestival.com

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Rosalind Lowry,
Mid & East Antrim Borough Council

T: 028 2563 5020

E: rosalind.lowry@midandeantrim.gov.uk

Elaine Gaston,
Causeway Coast & Glens District Council

T: 028 20762225

E: elaine.gaston@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk



Dalriada School, Ballymoney, winners of the BBC NI / Arts Council School Choir of the Year 2016



Strengthening the voice of older people

North Down

Seacourt Print Workshop is an artist print studio that caters for everyone with an interest in printmaking, from beginners to professional artists. It provides excellent facilities to explore the full range of printing techniques, as well as holding regular exhibitions, promoting local printmakers abroad, and running an international artist-in-residence exchange scheme. Community engagement is at the heart of Seacourt's work, with public classes, educational programmes in local schools and bespoke programmes for intercultural groups and people in residential and health care settings. Seacourt recently secured funding from the Esmée Fairbairn and Paul Hamlyn foundations for a two-year project called 'Interhuman', to develop and deliver printmaking workshops for eleven groups including Action Mental Health, JigsawNI and the Cedar Foundation.

www.seacourt-ni.org.uk

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Case Study: Seacourt Print Workshop, Bangor

Arts Resources in North Down

This is a small sample of the range of arts resources available in your constituency and of the opportunities they provide for your constituents to get involved in the arts.

Camerata Ireland

Internationally-renowned chamber orchestra founded by pianist Barry Douglas, bringing together the finest local musicians and creating professional opportunities for young musicians at the early stages of their careers.

www.camerata-ireland.com

Open House Festival Bangor

Multi-arts festival that utilises local venues and locations such as pubs, parks, cafes and churches, promoting Bangor as a creative town.

www.openhousefestival.com

Bangor International Choral Festival

Offers classes in youth, mixed, ladies and male voice choirs, ladies and men's Barbershop, plus Madrigal, Sacred and Light Entertainment Sections.

www.bicf.co.uk

Creative Peninsula

Annual event in August celebrating the arts and crafts of Ards and North Down, with open studios, exhibitions, workshops and talks.

www.visitardsandnorthdown.com

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Patricia Hamilton,
Ards & North Down Borough Council,

T: 028 9182 4000

E: patricia.hamilton@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk



Tim McGarry starring in Stand Up Man by local company, C21 Theatre Company



Supporting the work of government partners

South Antrim

Action Mental Health, a local charity which works to enhance the quality of life and the employability of people with mental health needs or a learning disability in Northern Ireland, received funding through the Arts Council's Arts & Older People Programme to run three AMH Men's Shed projects, in Antrim, Downpatrick and Fermanagh. Forty-five men from the Men's Shed projects, aged 60+, were brought together to discuss project themes, before each Men's Shed developed its own art project, working with a professional artist facilitator. The project culminated in a joint showcase exhibition of work by the groups. Participation in the arts projects brought the men together in a common purpose, helping to develop new skills and interests, combating social isolation and loneliness, contributing to increased social interaction, self-worth, and creating opportunities for 'active ageing'.

www.amh.org.uk

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**Case Study: Action Mental Health -
Antrim Men's Sheds**

Arts Resources in South Antrim

This is a small sample of the range of arts resources available in your constituency and of the opportunities they provide for your constituents to get involved in the arts.

Clotworthy Arts Centre

Based at Clotworthy House, Antrim Castle Gardens, the Arts Centre provides art exhibition and meeting spaces. The studio theatre is adaptable for the presentation of various art forms and has excellent acoustic and advanced lighting and sound systems. It also has a Sennheiser Infra-Red sound system for individuals with impaired hearing.

www.antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk

MADD Music

Musicians of Antrim District Development is a community music organisation providing a range of training opportunities for all ages, abilities and musical tastes. Includes instrument lessons, monthly song club and tailored music projects to a wide range of bodies, including schools, community organisations, youth groups, after schools clubs, early years bodies and voluntary bodies.

www.maddmusic.co.uk

Antrim Community Choir

An all-inclusive, all-ability, non-audition choir for adults, meeting every Wednesday at the Clotworthy Arts Centre.

www.antrimcommunitychoir.com

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Bernard Clarkson,
Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council,

T: 028 9034 0266

E: Bernard.Clarkson@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk



Antrim Community Choir is an all-inclusive, all-ability, non-audition choir accepting members aged 18 to 80+

Tackling division and promoting community cohesion

Playing Holi at ArtsEkta's Festival of Colours



South Down

Down Community Arts provides a high-quality participative arts service to people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities in the Down area. In addition to a regular programme of arts workshops - visual arts, dance, music, crafts, storytelling - it offers a tailor-made service to community groups and organisations in rural and disadvantaged communities. A recent initiative, the 'Human Touch' project, engaged older people and community groups in rural areas and areas of urban renewal in photography and poetry workshops designed to reflect the participants' responses to their changing environments. The photography was exhibited at Newcastle Library and the poetry read at Down Arts Centre. One participant said, "It really opened my eyes to things I would have never noticed before. I was looking at Ballynahinch through the eye of a photographer. I discovered wonderful places and images. I learnt so much about my own area that I didn't know".

www.downcommunityarts.org

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Case Study: Down Community Arts

Arts Resources in South Down

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Down Arts Centre

Produces a busy programme of events all year round, including exhibitions, live theatre and music events and a wide range of classes and workshops for all ages. Down Arts Centre staff also programme and run the annual Newcastle Summer Season entertainment programme.
www.downartscentre.com

Patrician Youth Centre

The main provider of arts for the children and young people of Downpatrick and its environs, helping to embed Dance, Drama, Music and Singing in the schools' curriculum and in the local community.
www.patricianyc.com

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Aisleain McGill,
Newry, Mourne & Down District Council.
T: 028 3031 3181
E: aisleain.mcgill@newryandmourne.gov.uk



Bluegrass at Down Arts Centre



Putting us on the
world map for all
the right reasons

Dan Gordon and Michael Cordon's shipbuilding tale, *The Boat Factory*, in Brussels and Edinburgh

Strangford

The Beth Johnson Foundation, a national charity dedicated to making the UK age-friendly, received funding through the Arts Council's Arts & Older People Programme to run an intergenerational arts programme engaging isolated older people with children in schools along the Ards Peninsula. Following consultation with older people in the area, six local artists worked with the groups to explore their vision of an age-friendly community. The project highlighted the rural and social isolation experienced by the older people and, through the intergenerational arts workshops, helped them to build new friendships and connections within their community. The project culminated in a showcase of the groups' work in Ards Arts Centre.

www.bjf.org.uk

Community Engagement is integral to the arts and is one of the areas in which Northern Ireland arts often lead the way. All arts organisations supported by the Arts Council are actively engaged in developing and delivering education and outreach programmes. This is a condition of their grant. The arts give a voice to vulnerable people and disadvantaged and marginalised communities. They are prime catalysts in social, creative and economic regeneration.



Case Study: Beth Johnson Foundation

Arts Resources in Strangford

This is a small sample of the range of arts resources available in your constituency and of the opportunities they provide for your constituents to get involved in the arts.

Ards Arts Centre

Provides art exhibitions and performances of dance, drama and music. Also a programme of art classes, workshops and festivals. The arts and cultural panel is an advisory panel of Ards & North Down Borough Council, meeting bi-monthly to plan the provision of a high-quality arts and heritage programme for the citizens of the borough.

www.ardsarts.com

Ards Guitar Festival

Popular annual guitar festival featuring all genres of music, from blues and folk to flamenco. Showcases local and international performers and provides tuition classes.

www.ardsguitarfestival.co.uk

Creative Peninsula

Annual arts event in August promoting the creativity of the area, with local crafts, exhibitions, open studios, workshops and demonstrations.

www.visitardsandnorthdown.com/creative-peninsula

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Patricia Hamilton,
Ards & North Down Borough Council

T: 028 9182 4000

E: patricia.hamilton@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk



Exhibition of local contemporary craft-design at Arts Arts Centre, Newtownards

Helping to improve confidence and communications skills

Children's literature laureate PJ Lynch at a school's workshop.
Photo: Brian Morrison



Upper Bann

The Armagh Rhymers are one of Europe's leading professional folk theatre ensembles, rooted in the old Irish Mummung traditions. They have promoted the cultural heritage and the song, music, dance and drama of ancient Ireland at festivals around the world, from Paris to Korea, and including the Smithsonian Folk Life Festival in Washington DC. They perform locally and internationally to audiences of all ages and their work addresses social need in the local community through extensive community engagement work in special needs schools, areas of social and economic deprivation, and numerous projects with health and social care authorities.

www.armaghrhymers.com

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Case Study: Armagh Rhymers

Arts Resources in Upper Bann

This is a small sample of the range of arts resources available in your constituency and of the opportunities they provide for your constituents to get involved in the arts.

Millennium Court Arts Centre, Portadown

Contemporary visual and verbal arts centre with two purpose-built galleries, a verbal art space, workshop areas and artist studios, providing a wide range of educational classes and tours for all ages and abilities.

www.millenniumcourt.org

Ulster Youth Choir

Provides young singers throughout NI with the opportunity to perform together to the highest possible standards, with training from some of the best choral and vocal practitioners plus training opportunities for schools and teachers.

www.uyc.org.uk

All Set Cross Cultural Project

Promoting participation in the cultural traditions of dance, music and song that connect NI to Scotland, celebrated in a shared cultural experience and delivered in schools throughout NI.

www.allsetcrosscultural.com

FE McWilliam Gallery and Studio, Banbridge

Gallery, sculpture garden and replica studio displaying the work of Banbridge-born FE McWilliam, one of the most important sculptors of his time.

www.femcwilliam.com

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Emma Drury,
Arts Development Officer, Armagh City,
Banbridge & Craigavon Borough Council,

T: 028 3831 1680

E: arts.development@armaghbanbridgecraigavon.gov.uk

Jackie Barker,
Millennium Court Arts Centre,

T: 028 3839 4415

E: info@millenniumcourt.org



FE McWilliam Gallery

Promoting young people's health and wellbeing



West Tyrone

Dún Uladh Cultural Heritage Centre is a unique centre established to give people access to the traditional arts, including Irish music, song, dance, drama and language. It hosts professionally-produced concerts through to free informal sessions and taster sessions, plus a summer concert series and outreach projects for older people and new communities. The centre has a strong track record of engaging new audiences and participants and reaching into new communities. A programme of music classes, seminars and workshops is welcoming to all communities, regardless of background or playing ability.

www.dunuladh.ie

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Case Study: Dún Uladh Cultural Heritage Centre

Arts Resources in West Tyrone

This is a small sample of the range of arts resources available in your constituency and of the opportunities they provide for your constituents to get involved in the arts.

Strule Arts Centre, Omagh

Purpose-built venue for theatre, music, dance and visual arts, with 384-seater auditorium, lecture theatre, dance and recording studios, restaurant, café and bar. Hosts professional as well as community, amateur and schools' productions, and offers extensive range of workshops, classes and exhibitions for the local community.

www.struleartscentre.co.uk

Alley Theatre and Conference Centre, Strabane

Purpose-built theatre complex, art gallery, tourist information centre and conference venue with 270-seater auditorium, exhibition space and recording studio. Offers range of arts workshops for all ages and abilities.

www.alley-theatre.com

Omagh Jazz and Big Band Festival

Festival at the Strule Arts Centre in February, featuring international acts and providing a platform for local bands.

www.omaghjazzandbigband.com

An Creagan, Omagh

Provides wide range of facilities and activities including workshops and creative weekends and an extensive participatory arts programme, with an arts and older people's programme delivered in care homes and older people's

groups in Omagh and Cookstown areas, a 'Men's Shed' programme, and an intercultural programme linking ethnic minority communities in the area.

www.an-creagan.com

Useful Number

For advice on what's on in the arts in your area, contact your District Council Arts Officer:

Brendan McMenamin,
Derry City & Strabane District Council,

T: 028 7125 3253

E: brendan.mcmenamin@derrystrabane.com

Pauline Clarke,
Fermanagh & Omagh District Council,

T: 028 8224 7831

E: pauline.clarke@fermanaghomagh.com



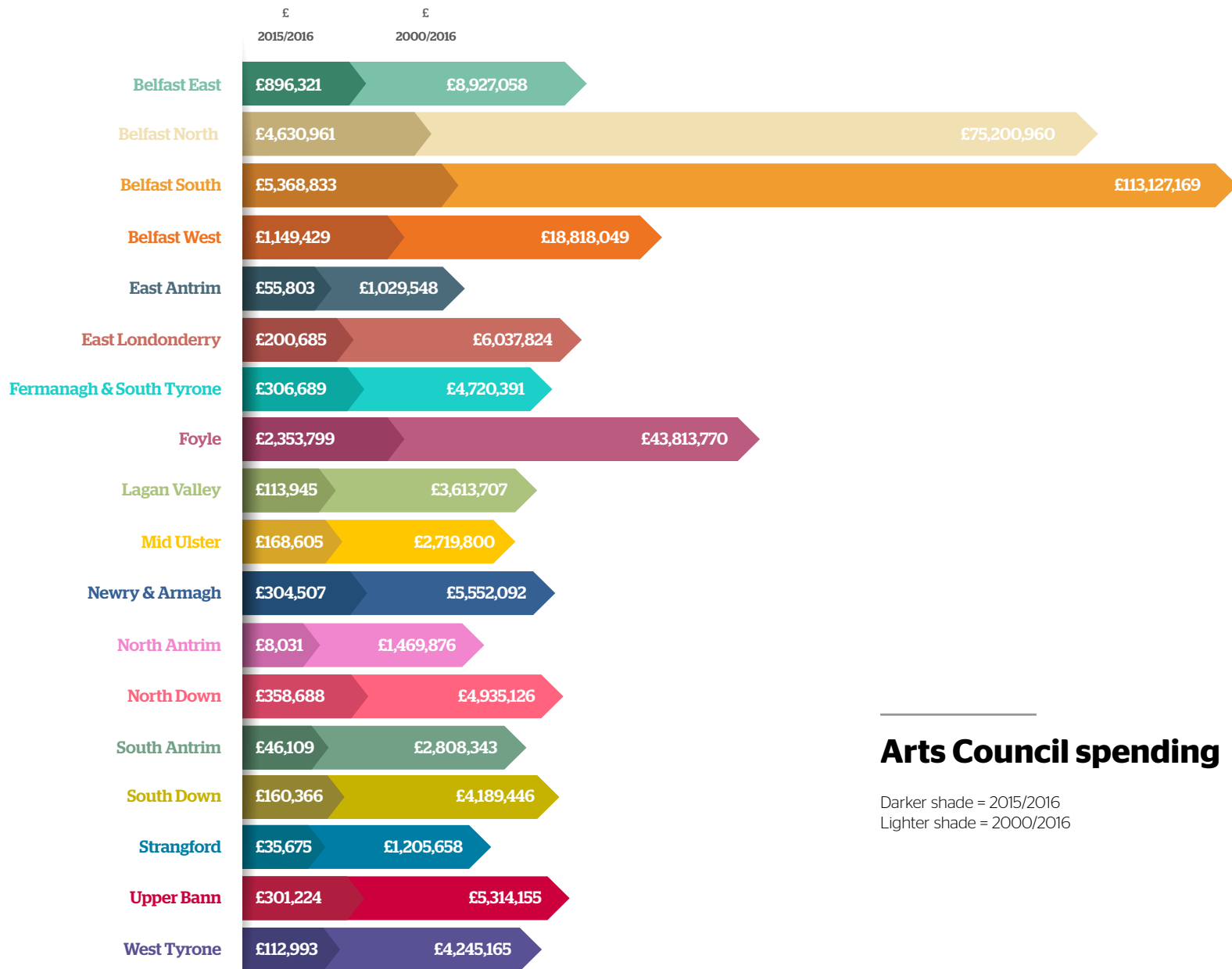
Maurice Harron's 'Let the Dance Begin', celebrating the music and dance of the Sperrins



Distinguishing us from other places

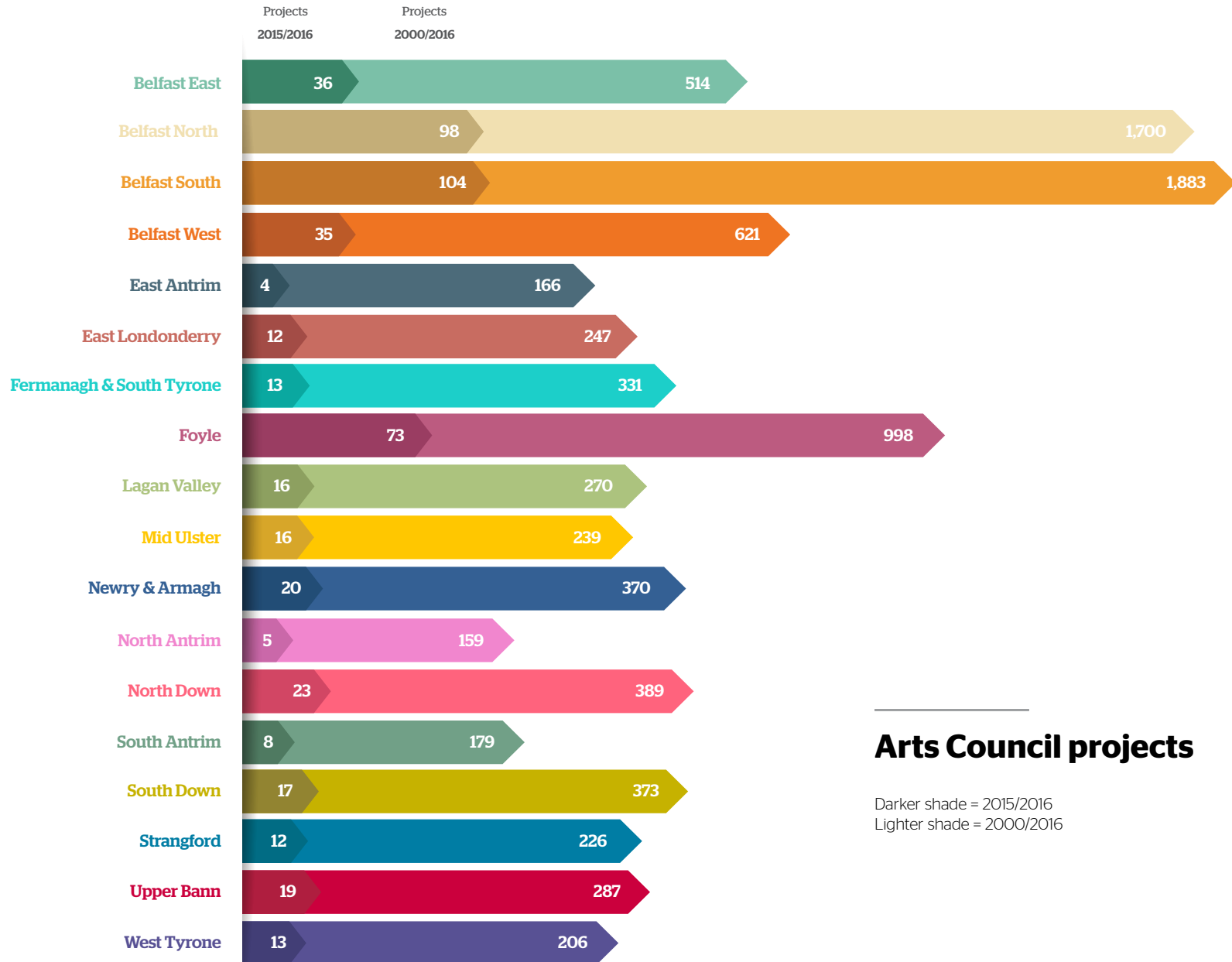
Colin Davidson. Portrait of pianist Barry Douglas

**Summary of
Arts Council
spending
in your
constituency**



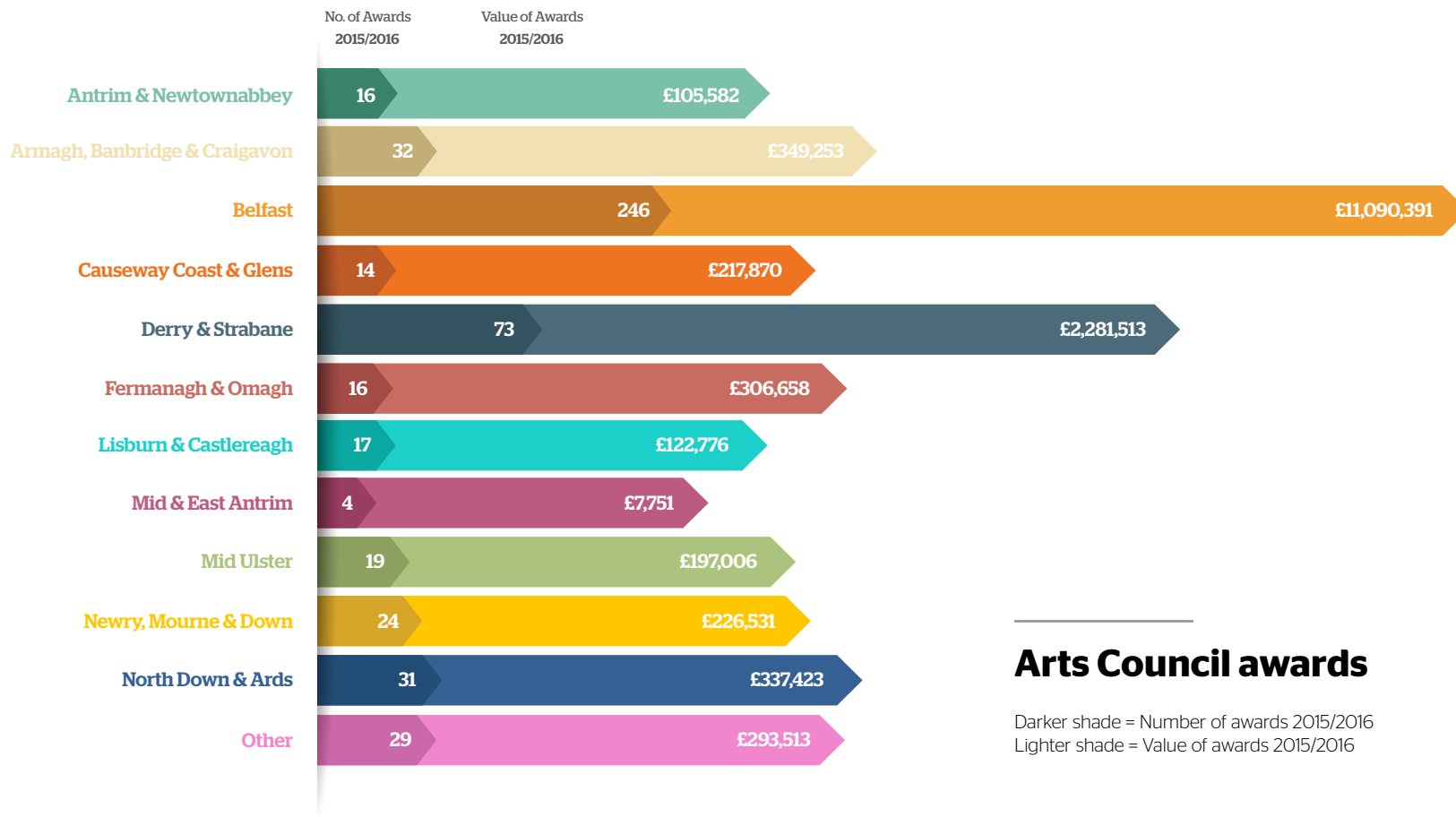
Arts Council spending

Darker shade = 2015/2016
Lighter shade = 2000/2016



Arts Council projects

Darker shade = 2015/2016
 Lighter shade = 2000/2016



Arts Council awards

Darker shade = Number of awards 2015/2016
 Lighter shade = Value of awards 2015/2016

Note on funding patterns:

Funding patterns in Belfast and Derry reflect the high concentrations of artists and arts organisations living and working in these areas, as well as the location of several major 'umbrella' arts organisations whose services extend to Northern Ireland as a whole.



LOTTERY FUNDED

Arts Council of Northern Ireland

Comhairle Ealaíon Thuaisceart Éireann
Airts Cooncil o Norlin Airlann

1 The Sidings, Antrim Road, Lisburn BT28 3AJ.

T: 028 9262 3555

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