

Report to Arts, Culture, Leisure and Recreation SPC 19th September 2022 Item No. 6

MANAGEMENT UPDATE

1. STRATEGY AND POLICY

ARTS OFFICE

Arts Grants review interim findings presented to ACAG September 5th. Arts Grants will be unaltered (apart from pilot initiatives) in 2023 to allow for a year of consultation with stakeholders and Elected Members. An Interim Arts Plan will publish in draft form at the next SPC in November.

2. INFORMATION RELEVANT TO SPC

ARTS OFFICE

Creative Ireland have secured a new 5 year programme with Government and will present this on September 13th. New developments at Sean Moore Road and in Dublin 8 have presented Arts infrastructure proposals to the Area Office Arts Office and the Development Department.

EVENTS

Improvement Works to City Centre Event Spaces

Smithfield Square

New lights have been installed and currently being commissioned on Smithfield Square. The new energy efficient system contains 48no LED fixtures with RGBW (red/green/blue/white) colour mixing. Power consumption ranges from 1800w (standard white) - 2400w depending on the colour mix chosen, and replaces the original lighting power consumption of 14,400w

Meeting House Square

Dublin City Council were successful in obtaining a grant of €80,000 for a new digital projector from Dept of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, to be installed in Meeting House Square.

Bram Stoker Festival Update 28th - 31st Oct

Bram Stoker Festival will return to Dublin City Centre with a programme designed for Dubliners of all ages. The festival will make digital and social assets available to city centre businesses and will promote activities designed to attract Bram Stoker Festival attendees via its channels. A major programme highlight will be Borealis, a free spectacle taking place in the Upper Courtyard of Dublin Castle across all four nights of the festival that will create an aurora borealis over spectator's heads - projected attendance is approx 35,000+ people. For the first time, the festival will introduce relaxed performances catering for people with sensory issues (at Borealis). Thanks to its continued popularity and demand, Stokerland, a free, family-friendly pop-up fun park in St. Patrick's Park, returns in 2022 and for the first time will run over three days instead of two (projected attendance of 25,000+). The remaining programme incorporates music, theatre, walking tours (of the city and in the National Gallery of Ireland), comedy, panel discussions and talks, audio experiences to enjoy at home, a live podcast event called Motherfoclóir which will focus on the Irish language and a promotional and editorial partnership with RTE Culture. The full programme will be announced in early October and the Festival will be launched by the Lord Mayor in Dublin Castle on Friday October 28th.

Smithfield Sessions 12th-13th November

The Smithfield Sessions is a new free to attend music event coming to Smithfield Square in November 2022. The Sessions founded by Dublin City Council's Events Section and presented in association with First Music Contact (FMC), Improvised Music Company (IMC), Contemporary Music Centre (CMC) and Music Network will provide a platform for young emerging artists in various musical genres including Jazz, Rock and Classical music and will seek to support the great wealth of musical talent the City has to offer. The Sessions will also feature free educational musical workshops which will focus on introducing music to younger audiences.

LIBRARIES

The Lord Mayor's Certificate in Local History Studies and the Lord Mayor's Certificate in Oral History return this year. Part of Dublin City Council's commitment to life-long learning, participants on the course will learn how to research local history and conduct oral history projects in a lively and accessible manner. Commencing in October, classes will be held on Tuesday evenings in Pearse Street Library and Archive. The closing date for applications is 5 pm on Monday 15th September. More details on the library blog

The **Dublin Festival of History** will run from 26 September - 16 October. A special taster event with bestselling author Robert Harris will take place on Wednesday 7th September at 7pm at St Ann's Church Dawson Street. The author will discuss his new novel *Act of Oblivion* with Professor Micheál Ó Siochrú, Trinity College Dublin. Admission free, booking essential. The full programme is available here: <u>Dublin Festival of History</u>

Age Friendly Initiatives: The Central Library will host an open day on Sept 21st to promote digital clinics which are designed to help people navigate different technologies, from smart phones to websites and apps.

Sustainability workshops

The *Make a Change Sustainable Living Series* will take place each Saturday morning at the Central Library in September. Sessions will include Eco Crafts for adults, Sustainable Living workshops, Clutter Free Living, Hip to Square Crochet.

Raheny library is celebrating 50 years of service to the community this year. An event to celebrate will take place on Saturday 10th September at 2.30 pm

Construction work on the new Public Library in Finglas will commence in September.

HUGH LANE GALLERY

Hugh Lane Gallery is open and welcoming visitors to our range of vibrant exhibitions while adhering fully to Covid guidelines. Gallery visitor numbers are back to 100% of pre-Covid figures.

Current Exhibitions

Current Exhibitions are listed on: http://www.hughlane.ie

Education

http://www.hughlane.ie/lectures/forthcoming-lectures

https://twitter.com/TheHughLane

https://www.instagram.com/thehughlane/

https://www.facebook.com/thehughlane/