



## **Tender for Services**

### **Youth Arts Now Researcher and Conference Coordinator**

#### **What is Youth Arts Now?**

Youth Arts Now is an initiative by Waterford Youth Arts which aims to support the research and future development of youth arts practice in Ireland.

Youth Arts Now is a call to youth arts practitioners, youth arts groups, youthworkers, youth organisations, leaders and stakeholders to develop a national policy for youth arts in Ireland, a strategy that will support the development of sustainable funding for youth arts.

Youth Arts Now will raise the profile of the youth arts sector and establish an effective network for lobbying and mutual support of youth arts practitioners and organisations.

Youth Arts Now is a working group consisting of staff and management committee members from Waterford Youth Arts. This research and development role is funded through an Arts Council Grant to Waterford City and County Council Arts Office under the Collaboration Scheme (Research and Development phase) and is partnered with Creative Waterford and the local authority Arts Officers from Carlow, Kilkenny and Wexford. Collectively, the partners have committed resources to enable a specified fixed term role of Researcher / Conference Coordinator.

#### **Researcher and Conference Coordinator – role**

##### **Term and Details:**

The role of Researcher / Conference Coordinator will start on August 16th 2021 and finish on Feb. 15th 2022.

The person will be employed by Waterford Youth Arts CLG.

The contract is specified, fixed term contract for services. Candidates will be self-employed and expected to provide evidence of tax compliance etc.

The researcher is expected to work from home and together with Waterford Youth Arts agree a schedule for regular meetings, communication support, hours of work, targets, etc.

The worker will report to Waterford Youth Arts with updates on ongoing work and plans etc.

Waterford Youth Arts staff will support, offer feedback and advice to the role.

The worker will attend any relevant meetings of the Youth Arts Now network online and also South East Axis meetings (Arts officers from South East)

The worker will help facilitate with WYA action research in each of the four Counties with young people where they will look at the future of youth arts in Ireland through creative methods.

On Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 the researcher will present findings in a final report to WYA and partners and participate in report and review meetings up to Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> 2022

The worker will present findings to a gathering of national stakeholders via zoom on the week of 8<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2022.

### **Services required:**

Waterford Youth Arts seeks tenders from a suitably qualified and experienced individual to research and collect data in support of the future development of a youth arts network in Ireland. This role requires desk research to review and assess data from Ireland and International good practice in the area of youth arts development and support. The role requires a self-motivated individual who is familiar with the relevant funders, agencies and organisations and gain accurate data and research as a result.

### **Background**

Informed by the findings of an initial three month research and data collection project in 2020 resourced collectively by the Arts Officers of Waterford, Kilkenny, Carlow, Wexford Councils and Creative Waterford. This proposal is a practical research project which will combine data collection and analysis of youth arts supports and models at present in Ireland. It will look at a couple of international models that could be adapted in Ireland. It will assemble proposals and good models to influence national policy in Ireland. It will facilitate practical research in the 4 Counties to enable a youth voice into the final research project. It will create an online event in Feb. 2022 aimed at Stakeholders to look at how youth arts can be coordinated, supported and developed in Ireland.

In tandem to all of this we also focus on the South East and develop practical collaborations and good models of youth arts working together. It will look at youth arts work and in a post pandemic world look at how programmes and lessons can be learned for the future.

### **Aims of Research**

To support the research and future development of youth arts policy and practice in Ireland by:

1. Researching and disseminating best practice models of youth arts practice which have the propensity to inform funding models and youth arts policies
2. Identifying strategies that could support the development of sustainable funding for youth arts and support policy development
3. Raising the profile and the importance of the youth arts sector through an online conference in Feb. 2022 which will also celebrate youth arts and the youth voice through pre-recorded inputs
4. Establishing an effective network for professional development and mutual support for youth arts practitioners which will develop recommendations for youth arts professional training.

### **Methods of research**

- A. Detailed analysis of youth arts policy, funding and practice in Ireland
- B. Detailed analysis of youth arts practitioner networks internationally
- C. Interrogate unique models and interventions in the youth arts field in Ireland incl. Music Generation, Local Creative Youth Partnerships, Waterford Youth Arts and Fighting Words.

D. Bimonthly focus groups with Youth Arts Practitioners network

E. Series of preparatory focus groups and workshopped activities with Young People to support the research project

**Tenders must be received not later than 5:00pm on Weds. 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

Submissions and queries must be emailed to Ollie Breslin (Artistic Director) Waterford Youth Arts. Email [ollie@waterfordyoutharts.com](mailto:ollie@waterfordyoutharts.com)

Please submit the following in your submission:

- Up to date CV. (Maximum 2 pages)
- Cover letter outlining your suitability for the position
- Details of relevant work experience
- An academic or employer reference from a similar or relevant role.

**Remuneration:**

The worker will receive €17.5K and can be paid in stage payments to be agreed with WYA and to be paid in full by the 28th February 2022..

**Experience required for the post:**

- Knowledge and experience of the youth work and arts sector.
- Previous experience of research and data collection.
- Previous experience of self-directed/ independent research.

**Terms and conditions**

- The appointment will be on the basis of a fixed-term, all-inclusive Contract for Services issued by Waterford Youth Arts
- The contractor shall be an independent service provider and not the employee of the Client.
- Canvassing will automatically disqualify applicants. Waterford Youth Arts reserve the right to **(1)** contract direct from submissions received, or **(2)** to compile a shortlist of applicants to call to interview, or **(3)** not to award the contract.

**General**

Prior to appointment of contract, the following will be required:

**Tax** A valid Tax Clearance Certificate for the duration of the contract.

It will be a condition of award of this contract and any subsequent contract that the successful tenderer comply with all EU and national tax laws. Tenderers are referred to the Irish Revenue web site <http://www.revenue.ie>

**NOTE: This Research and Development project was funded through support from the Arts Council's Collaboration Project**



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