

POST-PRIMARY  
**ARTS & EDUCATION**  
IN GALWAY CITY & COUNTY

# POST-PRIMARY ARTS & EDUCATION IN GALWAY CITY & COUNTY

Welcome to the Galway Art in Schools Programme.

Over the last number of years many of Galway's leading arts groups have designed and produced a myriad of exciting arts projects for the schools and young people of Galway. In this folder you will find profiles and details of arts organisations in Galway which have developed wonderful arts in schools packages for Galway City and County.

The Galway Art in Schools Programme is being co-ordinated by the Arts Offices for Galway County Council and Galway City Council as a structured approach to the provision of a quality arts experience for both students and teachers.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the participating organisations, the Arts Council and the Galway Education Centre.

Please contact the relevant organisations within the pack for further information in relation to each the programmes which interest you.

For more general information in relation to the package please contact the County or City Arts Offices.

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# ARTSPACE STUDIOS

<i>Artform</i> <b>Visual Arts</b>
<i>Name of Organisation</i> <b>Artspace Studios Ltd.</b>
<i>Contact Person</i> <b>Gerard Ward / Mark Kelly</b>
<i>Address</i> <b>7/8 Addley Park, Liosban, Tuam Rd, Galway</b>
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**Artspace Studios** was established in 1986 with the aim of providing affordable studio space, and backup services, for established and emerging professional artists working in the West of Ireland.

It aims to provide career and educational opportunities for artists by organising exhibitions, exchange programmes, residencies and through established contacts and networking.

Through its involvement in community and school projects it aims to bring an appreciation and understanding of the visual arts to younger children, and to improve public awareness of the benefits and enjoyment to be derived from participation in the visual arts.

## What can Artspace offer?

Artspace Studios can offer Post-primary schools classes and workshops, by qualified tutors, in various visual art forms, such as:

- **Painting, oil and watercolour**
- **Printing: Monoprint, Drypoint, Linocut, etc.**
- **Architectural model building**
- **Art History, slide show and talks**
- **Photography from pinhole to digital**
- **Artist in Residence**

Artspace Studios can provide materials for all classes and workshops and it can offer its services to schools in Galway City and County.

Please feel free to contact Artspace Studios should you have any queries.

Artform	Film
Name of Organisation	Cinemobile
Contact Person	Dee Quinn/Goretti O'Brien
Address	Cluain Mhuire, Monivea Rd, Galway
Phone	091 751 629 Fax 091 770 948
Email	cinemobile@oceanfree.net
Website	www.cinemobile.net



**Cinemobile**, Ireland's travelling cinema, is a large truck, which transforms in less than an hour into a 100-seater state of the art cinema.

Cinemobile has spent the past three years touring to towns and communities without access to cinema throughout the entire island. Spending two days in each location, Cinemobile screens three films each day with programmes varying in range from short films and animation to feature films. During the course of each day Cinemobile screens primarily to children and young people.

Since its inception it has toured to Galway City, Clifden, Oughterard, Gort, Spiddal, Glenamaddy, Loughrea, Ballinasloe and Tuam. Cinemobile is always seeking new locations and schools, the size of the town or village does not matter, an eager audience the requirement!



### What can Cinemobile offer?

Prior to its visit Cinemobile notifies schools of its intended tour dates and programme by post. It has compiled a list of secondary school curriculum-based titles, which it circulates to all schools in advance of its visit. Schools are then invited to choose which title they would like to see and at what time.

Essentially Cinemobile asks the schools to programme the venue as they wish. In some instances where a school does not have a full house for a screening, Cinemobile invites other schools to attend the screening.

All schools are welcome to request titles of their choice. The Cinemobile team strive to meet all requests made. Its secondary schools titles changes from year to year. Two weeks before its visit to a location it follows up on its earlier schools mailing with a phone call or a visit from the Audience Development Officer to remind schools of its imminent arrival and invite them to book a time slot and title.

### What must a participating school provide?

In some instances Cinemobile parks in a central location within a town, schools will then have to walk/bus to this central location. In the case of large schools wishing to attend several screenings in one day Cinemobile will park on the school grounds if suitable parking is available. A large flat space of 20m x 20m is required as a parking space along with good access (wide gate etc). Schools are asked to remember that there are no toilet facilities in the Cinemobile. Cost per pupil is €4 and teachers are free. Cinemobile is wheelchair accessible.

Cinemobile invites requests from all schools. It will incorporate their request into our tour.

Schools are welcome to contact Cinemobile year round.



## CONTEMPO STRING QUARTET GALWAY ENSEMBLE IN RESIDENCE

Artform	Classical Music
Name of Organisation	ConTempo String Quartet, Galway Ensemble in Residence
Contact Person	Pádraig Ó Duinnín
Address	55 Corrib Village, Newcastle, Galway
Phone	091 586 706 Fax 091 586 707
Email	galwayensemble@eircom.net
Website	www.galwayensemble.ie



The **ConTempo String Quartet, Galway Ensemble in Residence** introduce and develop an appreciation of classical music for those who would not have previously had exposure to the genre. For pupils that study music either through the curriculum or privately, the quartet offers tuition, guidance and inspiration. Whether the pupils study music or not, the quartet offer the rare and exciting experience of live classical music performed in the classroom by some of Europe's finest musicians.

### What can ConTempo offer?

At present, the Quartet is involved in a collaborative schools project with the Galway Education Centre. The project offers the experience of classical music to pupils with all levels of musical experience in four schools throughout the county (2 primary and 2 post-primary). The quartet will visit each school on six separate occasions during this time. Outside of this project there would be limited time and resources to visit schools on a once-off basis at least until the projects' completion in June.

In addition to the schools project from January to June, the ConTempo Quartet offer hour-long workshops to primary and second level schools on an individual basis at any time during the academic year. Classes with pupils of all ages can take part. Normally groups are limited to 30 pupils only but if a performance as opposed to a workshop is required, then larger groups of pupils can be catered for.

### What must a participating school provide?

Schools would be expected to dedicate a teacher to be present throughout the quartet's visit to the school to assist with discipline, advise on varying abilities and needs of pupils etc. Furthermore, the teacher would be required to spend a small amount of time preparing the class that will take part in the visit with resource materials sent from the Ensemble in Residence office beforehand.

Generally, no school within the county boundary of Galway is ruled out from receiving a visit from the ConTempo. For the Schools Project currently underway schools were selected on a lottery basis after fulfilling some basic criteria (class size, age range, availability of teacher etc.)

Expressions of interest from schools, interested in participating, can be sent to ConTempo String Quartet, Galway Ensemble in Residence on an on-going basis.



# CUPS AND CROWNS EDUCATIONAL THEATRE COMPANY

Artform	Drama
Name of Organisation	Cups and Crowns Educational Theatre Company
Contact Person	Fiona McDonagh
Address	2 Rinn, Carraroe, Co na Gaillimhe
Phone	087 776 9825
Email	cupsandcrowns@eircom.net

Cups and Crowns, through the provision of drama workshops, aims to teach young people the fundamentals of drama and to actively involve them in artistic experiences. Cups and Crowns is committed to creating an environment where individuals have the freedom to explore their imagination, while developing their creativity and expression.



## What can Cups and Crowns offer?

- Individual drama workshop or a series of tailored drama workshops, through English and Irish
- Workshops that promote a deeper understanding of curriculum literature
- Exploration of social issues through drama
- Drama-in-Education training to teachers
- Age specific productions performed by Cups and Crowns followed by workshops and discussion
- Drama as a tool for language learning

## What must a participating school provide?

- Enthusiasm (students and teachers)
- Active participation (students)
- A suitable space i.e. a classroom or a hall
- The presence of a teacher

Expressions of interest from schools interested in participating can be sent to Cups and Crowns Educational Theatre Company on an on-going basis.



# FIBÍN

Artform	Puppet theatre and drama
Name of Organisation	Fibín Teo.
Contact Person	Darach Ó Tuairisg
Address	Leithrinn, Indreabhán, Co na Gaillimhe
Phone	091 505 926/087 286 9925
Email	fibin@eircom.net
Website	www.fibin.com



*Fibín: An explosion of joy and happiness*

Fibín is a theatre company founded in the Gaeltacht, operational throughout Ireland and the world, dedicated to the provision of high quality drama for children in Irish. It aims to provide employment in the field of the arts within the Gaeltacht through the development of skills in acting, puppeteering, set design, writing etc. It aspires to reawaken an interest in Irish language drama and tap into the rich folklore, culture and tradition of Ireland through the use of innovative and exciting methods of production, direction and action. Fibín offers a combination of drama on the big stage, which tours the country and children's festivals, smaller productions that can be brought around to schools and on a more intimate level and workshops which are available in the classroom.

## What can Fibín offer?

### Teachers

Fibín can fulfil many cross-curricular objectives in arts and drama through offering workshops for teachers about how to make puppets and the use of puppeteering as a teaching aid.

### Pupils

Drama workshops using puppets, demonstrating to children how to use and make puppets.

## What must a participating school provide?

Workshops can take place in a classroom or hall with a maximum of 30 children at any one time.

A list of the materials necessary for any particular workshops will be available from Fibín.

Schools are selected being open-minded to innovative methods of exploring arts and drama.

Expressions of interest from schools interested in participating can be sent to Fibín on an on-going basis.



# GALWAY ARTS CENTRE

<b>Artform</b> Visual Arts and Literature
<b>Name of Organisation</b> Galway Arts Centre
<b>Contact Person</b> Michael Dempsey (Visual Arts)/ Maura Kennedy (Literature)
<b>Address</b> 47 Dominick Street, Galway City, Galway
<b>Phone</b> 091 565 886
<b>Email</b> michael@galwayartscentre.ie/ maura@galwayartscentre.ie
<b>Website</b> www.galwayartscentre.ie



In developing the Galway Arts Centre's philosophy and approaches to working with children and teachers, in both English and Irish language schools, throughout primary and secondary education, it aims to develop programmes for teachers interested in using contemporary art and literature as source in classroom based projects within the new national curriculum.

## What can Galway Arts Centre offer?

**Visual Art:** Through its "resource room" teachers are encouraged to use the information and resources available and advice on planning teaching sessions in the gallery is given, enabling a better link with a school group's visit to the art centre, to the work they are doing in the classroom.

**Literature:** Galway Arts Centre's Literature Programme includes the Cúirt International Festival of Literature which offers the Cúirt Writers-in-Schools Scheme to transition year students in Galway City and County.

Examples of projects undertaken by the Galway Arts Centre:

### Placing Art in Schools

The outreach exhibition programme invites each exhibiting Artist at the Galway Arts Centre to loan a piece of work that relates to the exhibition, to be exhibited in a school, for the duration of the exhibition.

### City-Link: A mapping project

The Galway Arts Centre works with schools who are eager to engage more with the visual arts using new media in the classroom. The project aims to provide Transition Year pupils with the chance to develop the skills to acquire and exchange information on their environment with other similar projects in schools in Europe. It involves pupils ranging in ages from 15 to 17 years of age. Their resulting creations are exhibited where possible in a public space in the community.

### Cúirt Writers-in-Schools Scheme

Students are given the opportunity to take part in a creative writing workshop, ending with a public reading of their work during the Cúirt Festival (19-24 April 2005). The workshops will take place once a week for six weeks in Galway Arts Centre February-March 2005; the deadline for applications is Monday January 10 2005.

## What must a participating school provide?

- Commitment
- Enthusiasm from teachers
- Creative use of resources

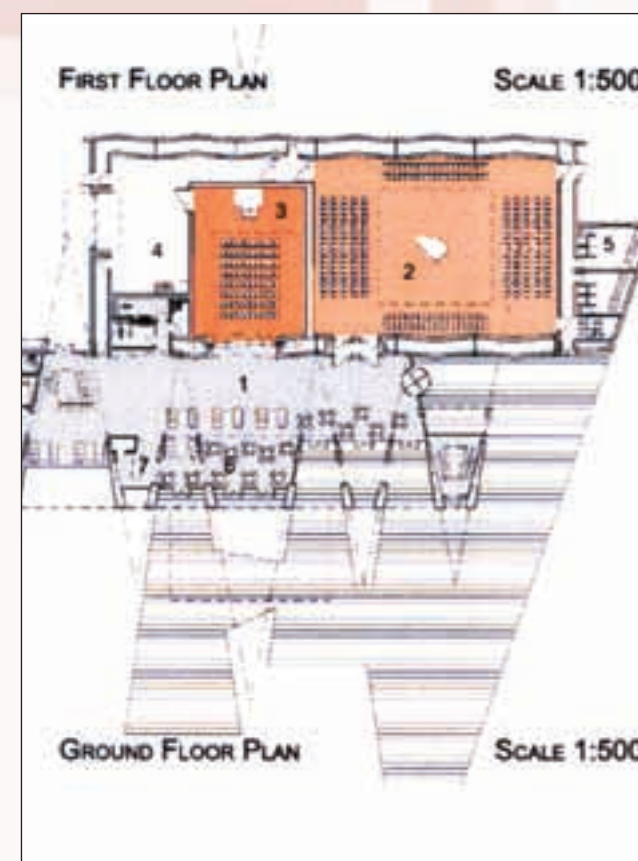
Schools are selected with funding, commitment, theme, and location in mind.

Expressions of interest from schools, interested in participating can be sent to Galway Arts Centre on an on-going basis.

# Architect in Residence

<b>Artform</b> Architecture
<b>Name of Organisation</b> Galway City Council/ Galway County Council
<b>Contact Person</b> James Harrold, City Arts Officer/ Marilyn Gaughan, County Arts Officer
<b>Address</b> City Hall, College Road, Galway/ Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway
<b>Phone</b> City Arts Office 091 536546/ County Arts Office 091 746 875
<b>Email</b> jharrold@galwaycity.ie/artsoffice@galwaycoco.ie
<b>Website</b> www.galwaycity.ie/www.galwaycoco.ie

The Architect in Residence Project aims actively to engage young people in meaningful architectural practice, while encouraging creativity and enriching their participation in the arts, focusing on architecture and the built environment.



## What can the Architect in Residence offer?

The Architect in Residence will work with secondary school students, exploring the role, function and potential of Architecture in their area.

This is the first project of its nature in Galway and aims to increase appreciation of and engagement with the architectural heritage and urban landscape of Galway City and County.

The Architect in Residence will visit the school and work with the students on developing a specific project relative to the local area. The project will result in an exhibition at the end of the academic year. The project will be documented throughout the year.

## What must a participating school provide?

Good commitment. This is a year-long project. The selected schools will be asked to supply some materials in relation to the project. As this is a pilot project, exact project outline will be determined when the schools are selected.

Expressions of interest from schools interested in participating can be sent to Galway County Council before the 20th October 2004.



# Galway Film Centre

Artform	Film
Name of Organisation	Galway Film Centre
Contact Person	Tracy Geraghty/Orlagh Heverin
Address	Cluain Mhuire, Monivea Road, Galway
Phone	091 770 748 Fax 091 770 746
Email	info@galwayfilmcentre.ie
Website	www.galwayfilmcentre.ie



The Galway Film Centre is dedicated to the development of film as an artistic medium in the West of Ireland. The Centre seeks to improve public access to filmmaking and provide greater understanding of the filmmaking process through interaction between schools and community groups with filmmakers. The Centre supports filmmakers through the provision of education, training, equipment, facilities and training.

## What can Galway Film Centre offer?

### Flying Film Squads

Make your own film. A series of practical workshops whereby participants are taken through the fundamental principles and practicalities of making a short film under the guidance of professional film-makers. (Cost: can be tailored)

### Schools Workshops/Masterclasses

One-off workshops/masterclasses with professional filmmakers on specific aspects of filmmaking eg. camera, scriptwriting, editing. (Cost: depending on activity)

### Educational/Curriculum Talks

Film is now part of the English syllabus. Bring film screenings to life with film analysis and discussion from a professional film-maker.

### Animation Workshops

Create your own animated short film with the help of a professional animator with ease and simplicity on the unique 'animation lunchbox' - a self-contained animation production unit. A fun, quick for students to explore creative story-telling and visual images. (Cost: nominal charge)

## What must a participating school provide?

The Centre will provide all equipment required for the activities. Schools will be required to liaise directly with the Centre in order to build a programme which will specifically meet their needs and requirements.

On Flying Film Squads, the input and full commitment of students and involvement of teachers and parents is essential. The Film Squads are time and labour intensive - at least 6 days. Whilst hard work, the Film Squads are its most popular and rewarding activity.

All schools have access to Galway Film Centre's education activities.

Schools may apply at any time throughout the year. However a two-month lead-in time to the Flying Film Squads is necessary in order to devise and plan your specific programme.



# Galway Youth Theatre

Artform	Theatre
Name of Organisation	Galway Youth Theatre
Contact Person	Andrew Flynn/Sonja Brodie
Address	Galway Arts Centre, 47 Dominick Street, Galway
Phone	091 566 313/ 565 886 Fax 091 568 642
Email	gyt@eircom.net
Website	www.galwayartscentre.ie



Galway Youth Theatre's Outreach projects operate on three distinct levels:

### Artistically

- Provides young people with the experiences of devising, scripting and performing theatrical works
- The drama workshop programme provides the necessary expertise with which these objectives can be successfully achieved

### Socially

- Creates an environment in which members can express and communicate ideas
- Encourages interaction from members across the wide social, economic and geographical spectrum.

### Educationally

- Offers young people a drama workshop programme that allows them to acquire a variety of drama skills facilitated by theatre professionals through weekly workshop sessions, leading to showcasing their work publicly.
- Operates in an environment where access to drama is limited or non-existent.

## What can GYT offer?

### Shakespeare in Schools

For many young people Shakespeare is their first (and often only) encounter with theatre. Shakespeare, like all theatre, should be performed, yet young people are seldom given an opportunity to examine his work through this medium. It is with this in mind that Galway Youth Theatre has devised a new educational project - Shakespeare in Schools. It is a practical workshop-based project facilitated by acclaimed actor and director Rod Goodall.

- This is an experimental project that aims to provide young people with a new and exciting experience of Shakespeare and theatre
- The workshop will explore the text as a performance art
- The project will bring the text to life and lift it from the realm of studied literature
- A long-term aim of the project is to prompt debate on how Shakespeare and theatre are being studied within the educational syllabus

The project is being aimed at post-primary schools. It is primarily for Transition Year students, as they will have more affordable time. The project could be taken by any of the post-primary school classes. Only twenty participants can avail of the 1-hour workshop.

### Introductory Workshops in Drama

GYT also facilitate workshops that introduce participants to the basic skills of drama. These workshops are aimed at schools with no strong tradition in theatre. The programme helps students and teachers to explore group creativity and provide a safe environment to practice the skills of drama.

## What must a participating school provide?

Galway Youth Theatre always expects the school to participate in the workshops or projects. The workshops are aimed to help teachers to learn as well as students. Their participation can ensure that the work started can continue to develop in the school.

No materials are required but it does expect a large and safe space to facilitate the workshops and that teachers are present at all times during the workshops. There are numerous costs to establish and run these projects. It would like the school (where possible) to help meet the costs of the programmes. This can be discussed between GYT and the interested schools.

Expressions of interest from schools, interested in participating can be sent to Galway Youth Theatre on an on-going basis.



## Junior Galway Film Fleadh



The Junior Film Fleadh is an annual film festival for young people up to the age of eighteen. The JGFF was founded in 1995 aiming to address young people as a distinctive cinema-going audience and to encourage young people to become involved in film as an art form through screenings, filmmaking projects and related activities.

To date the festival has run for four days each November. This year, by way of celebrating the tenth Junior Film Fleadh, we aim to extend the festival to five days.

Festival dates will be confirmed in June 2004.

With twelve or more feature film screenings over the course of the festival, a large section of the programme is dedicated to screening films of particular interest to secondary school groups (e.g. screenings of Shakespeare adaptations, German and French language films, screen adaptations of syllabus-related novels and films specifically on the English and Media Studies syllabi). Introductions, talks and study guides accompany a number of these screenings.

We screen contemporary world cinema and classic films specifically made about and for young people. We screen the completed films from the Young Film Makers Projects and a number of other short films made by young people from all over Ireland in one gala afternoon screening. We provide teacher training workshops relating to some specific festival screenings and more general workshops on teaching film in the classroom.

If you furnish us with contact details we will put you on our mailing list and keep you updated on this year's festival.

Artform	Film
Name of Organisation	Junior Galway Film Fleadh
Contact Person	Sadie Mackey
Address	Cluain Mhuire, Monivea Road, Galway
Phone	091 771 726 Fax 091 735 831
Email	juniorfilmfleadh@iol.ie
Website	www.juniorfilmfleadh.com

### What can Junior Galway Film Fleadh offer?

**Young Film Makers Project**  
The Young Film Makers Project was set-up in 1999 and since then seventeen short films have been produced with school groups in Galway City and County.

Under the guidance of a JFF filmmaking tutor, Transition Year groups and, in exceptional cases, other school groups have the opportunity to make a short film using up-to-date digital video equipment. The film is then screened at the next Junior Film Fleadh\*.

Two projects are held in the last school term of each year and two in the first term of the next year. We are now looking for schools interested in September 2004 and the Summer term 2005.

The overall cost to the JGFF of each project is in excess of €3000. Participating schools will be asked for a €200 contribution to the project.

### What must a participating school provide?

Interested schools should e-mail or write to us with their contact details. A visit by the JFF tutor to meet the teacher will be arranged and the group size, dedication/interest of the teacher involved, the term timetable and the interest of the group is noted. The tutor and Festival Coordinator then decide on what schools will be chosen. Generally, schools who have not participated in the scheme previously are given priority.

\*A more detailed outline of the workshops is available on request.



## Macnas

Artform	Various
Name of Organisation	Macnas
Contact Person	Dave Donovan/Derval Byrne
Address	Black Box, Dyke Road, Galway
Phone	Black Box 091 561 462 Workshop 091 568 896
Email	commun@macnas.com or thefield@macnas.com
Website	www.macnas.com

Macnas' main body of work consists of making and staging large scale spectacles. Central to these is the involvement of community participants. Members of the community are invited into the Macnas workshop to make, rehearse and perform these events

Macnas' work in second-level schools consists of the hosting of work placements for Transition Year, Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme and Youthreach students. During their time in Macnas students participate in the on-going work of Macnas.



### What can Macnas offer?

Students on placement have in the past participated in mask making and performance, puppet making and manipulation, prop making, fabric printing and painting, woodwork, performance; participated in school visits and participated in Macnas events and on occasion students have contributed to the on-going maintenance of the workshop.

There are usually a number of students from several different schools and other educational institutions in Macnas at the same time. This has sometimes included students from overseas. Macnas encourages students to mix and support each other during their placements so as to get the best out of it.

All students are supervised by Macnas arts workers while on placement. Students are therefore able to draw on the experience of this group throughout the duration of their placement. As Macnas operates an open door policy as regards the workshop it is often the case that students on placement can benefit from the experience of other artists and practitioners who drop by.

### What must a participating school provide?

Much of the work carried out by Macnas involves clay, plaster, paint and various adhesives so it is advisable to wear old clothes in the workshops. Macnas does provide overalls and other protective equipment e.g. dust masks and gloves.

Placements are largely self selecting. The school or student makes the approach to Macnas regarding work placements. Macnas requires written notice from the schools for students seeking work experience. This should arrive at least three weeks before the intended dates for the placement. Macnas also requires details of insurance cover for the student while on placement.

On completion of a placement Macnas asks the student to fill in a brief questionnaire regarding their experience. This information is very useful for Macnas in terms of feedback and for the development of its on-going placement programme.

There is no closing date for work placements as Macnas host placements throughout the year.





## Music for Galway

<b>Artform Music</b>
<b>Name of Organisation</b> Music for Galway
<b>Contact Person</b> Jane O’Leary/Anna Lardi Fogarty
<b>Address</b> c/o GMT, Cluain Mhuire, Monivea Rd, Galway
<b>Phone/Fax</b> 091 705 962
<b>Email</b> info@musicforgalway.ie
<b>Website</b> www.musicforgalway.ie



**Music for Galway** was founded in 1981 to provide audiences in Galway City and County with the opportunity to enjoy a wealth of music throughout the year. An annual season of concerts runs from September to May, bringing music and musicians from around the world to Galway.



### What can Music for Galway offer?

Music for Galway can send composers or performers to schools where they do workshops on composing or performing and talk about their lives and work. This often leads to a better understanding of classical music, breaks down boundaries and overcomes certain reluctances that many teenagers have.

Meeting composers and performers within the music programme is also very beneficial, as the chance of dealing with such highly skilled professionals proves to be very inspiring to the music students.

### What must a participating school provide?

This can vary from school to school and from visitor to visitor. In some cases the artist can tailor the nature of the visit to the abilities or preferences of the school.

At times a class room suffices. Sometimes a piano or a CD player may be required. It really depends on who will be coming.

So far Music for Galway has selected schools in Galway and surroundings that it knew. However, it would be very pleased to make new contacts.

Music for Galway’s programme for 2004/05 will be out by the end of September. Schools that are interested should contact Music for Galway as soon as possible after that.



## The National Chamber Choir



**The National Chamber Choir** is one of Ireland’s premier chamber music ensembles. In May 2002 the Choir welcomed Cologne based conductor, Celso Antunes to the group as its new Artistic Director and Chief Conductor. The 17 singers that make up this highly motivated professional choir are some of the finest young voices in the country. The group has received high praise both at home and abroad for the beauty and warmth of its sound and the vivacity of its performance. The Choir gives upwards of 60 live concerts a year, including a Summer and Winter series at the National Gallery in Dublin and two Irish tours each year. Internationally, the choir has toured in Brazil, Spain and Sweden and forthcoming engagements include concerts in the Czech Republic and Poland.

<b>Artform Music</b>
<b>Name of Organisation</b> The National Chamber Choir
<b>Contact Person</b> David Darcy
<b>Address</b> Dublin City University, Glasnevin, Dublin 9
<b>Phone</b> 01 700 5665 <b>Fax</b> 01 700 5603
<b>Email</b> national.chamber.choir@dcu.ie
<b>Website</b> www.nationalchamberchoir.com

### What can The National Chamber Choir offer?

“Composition Workshops” is a two year project comprising a variety of events including:

- An introduction to composing for choir with the National Chamber Choir and a series of visits to each school by professional composers and singers from the National Chamber Choir
- In the second year there are recording sessions where composers act as producers for a recording of their piece, and a gala concert featuring a selection of all the pieces composed over the two years.
- Composers who complete the project receive a Certificate of Achievement and a recording of each piece is presented. There are special awards made for the most promising individual composer and the most original group composition.

*“This is a wonderfully imaginative project, helping young people to write for choirs; all the works (at the Gala Concert) were fascinating and quite a number truly excellent.”* Ian Fox, Sunday Tribune

### What must a participating school provide?

The students would need to travel to Dublin once at the beginning of the project for the introductory session, and once in the second year for the Gala Concert. If the NCC is touring in the school’s area, the recording sessions take place locally, if not, they take place in Dublin. The in-school sessions should take place where possible in a room with access to a keyboard. Access to music notation computer software, though not essential, is an advantage. Teachers should be present at all the sessions and help, monitor and encourage the students’ progress in between the sessions.

The project is open to all schools offering Music as a Leaving Cert. subject. It is particularly useful for students with an interest in singing and for students taking Composing as a Higher Elective for the Leaving Certificate. The teacher should be willing to lead the project in the school. Schools apply in writing via a standard application form. This is available on the NCC website, and is sent out to all Post Primary schools in September each year.

Applications should be made to the National Chamber Choir by early September 2004.



## Writers in Schools, Poetry Ireland

<b>Artform</b> Literature & Storytelling
<b>Name of Organisation</b> Writers in Schools, Poetry Ireland
<b>Contact Person</b> Jane O'Hanlon/Anna Boner
<b>Address</b> 120 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2
<b>Phone</b> Jane O'Hanlon 01 457 8605 or Anna Boner 01 475 8601 Fax 01 478 0205
<b>Email</b> Jane O'Hanlon education@poetryireland.ie or Anna Boner writersinschools@poetryireland.ie
<b>Website</b> www.poetryireland.ie



The aim of the **Writers in Schools Scheme** is to enable interaction between writers/storytellers, and students and teachers, and to introduce students and teachers to the rich variety of writers/storytellers living and working in Ireland today.

### What can Writers in Schools, Poetry Ireland offer?

The Writers in Schools Scheme part-funds visits by writers/storytellers to primary and secondary schools throughout the Republic of Ireland. Visit formats range from a talk, or reading, to a workshop, or storytelling session, and schools can choose from over 200 artists. Writers in Schools Residencies was set up to enhance work already being carried out through the Writers in Schools Scheme and to develop approaches, which enable the participants to explore the world of the imagination over a longer period of time, in the company of an experienced writer. Residencies consist of a short residency by a writer/storyteller working closely with one teacher and one class group.

### What must a participating school provide?

Schools must contact and organise arrangements with the writer/storyteller prior to application. Teachers should discuss the visit(s) with the writer/storyteller before it takes place. Schools are expected to complete a short evaluation form after the visit(s) has happened.

Every primary and secondary school in the Republic is entitled to apply for Writers in Schools Scheme visit. For budgetary reasons however, Writers in Schools may not be able to accede to all requests, therefore it is advisable to apply as early as possible. Writers in Schools Residencies are selected on a case by case analysis based on the rationale of the application, and needs and wants of the individual school.

Expression of interest from schools interested in participating can be sent to Writers in Schools, Poetry Ireland on an on-going basis.



## Taibhdhearc na Gaillimhe

<b>Artform</b> Theatre
<b>Name of Organisation</b> Taibhdhearc na Gaillimhe, Amharclann Náisiúnta na Gaeilge
<b>Contact Person</b> Bridget Bhreathnach
<b>Address</b> Middle Street, Galway
<b>Phone</b> 091 562 024 Fax 091 563 195
<b>Email</b> eolas@antaibhdhearc.com
<b>Website</b> www.antaibhdhearc.com

**Taibhdhearc na Gaillimhe**, is Ireland's national Irish language theatre company. Its main aim is the development and promotion of Irish language theatre throughout the country. It is a professional theatre company and produces five full length plays each year and runs a biennial season of short works - Scáilí Samhna & Fuadar Feabhra - to encourage up and coming talent.

Central to Taibhdhearc na Gaillimhe's vision is the provision of quality theatre for young people and providing opportunities for young people to develop their interest in theatre and to introduce them to the theatre as an artform and social activity. Please note that all of our programmes and classes are through Irish.

### What can an Taibhdhearc offer?

#### Na Crosáin – Taibhdhearc na Gaillimhe's youth theatre outreach programme

Established in 2003 Na Crosáin is a workshop based course in all aspects of theatre aimed at giving young people the chance to develop their interest in theatre through the medium of the Irish language.

Each course runs over a 15 week period and caters for two age groups on an alternate basis. The first semester runs from September to December and is called Ardán, this course is for people in the 16 - 18 year old age bracket - the second is called Dordán, catering for the 13 - 15 year old age bracket and this course runs from January to May. There are 20 places available both in Galway, in An Taibhdhearc Theatre each Saturday morning from 10am to 12 pm and in Ros a Mhíl on Friday evenings from 6pm to 8pm.

Directed by Marc Mac Lochlainn, founder of the educational theatre company Branar Drámaíocht, the course gives students a basic understanding of all elements of theatre. Guest teachers also give classes in their various areas of expertise and students get the opportunity to put these skills to practical use at the end of the course by staging their own show on the Taibhdhearc stage.

An Taibhdhearc is delighted with the success of Na Crosáin which is still in its infancy and looks forward to further developments in the years to come. Enthusiasm and a good level of conversational Irish are the only requirements for entry which is on an interview basis.

### What must a participating school provide?

On-site workshops have an associated per student cost which is established on consultation with the school.

Na Crosáin is held outside of school hours and there is a per student cost of €75 for the 15 week course.

Schools are chosen on an enquiry and consultative basis for on-site workshops.



## Teatro Punto

<i>Artform</i> Theatre and Performance Art
<i>Name of Organisation</i> Teatro Punto
<i>Contact Person</i> Pat McElligott
<i>Address</i> 92 Cnoc an Oir, Letteragh, Galway
<i>Phone</i> 091 860 727
<i>Email</i> info@teatropunto.com/pat@teatropunto.com
<i>Website</i> www.teatropunto.com

**Teatro Punto** is a multicultural theatre company based in Galway City. The full-time members come from Ireland, Spain and Mallorca and the company collaborates throughout the year with actors from other European countries such as England, France, Italy and Holland. The style of Teatro Punto comes from the popular traditions of theatre with the idea of making theatre “for and with the audience”.

The company devises its own shows and uses traditional music from all over Europe and as well different languages in each show. The stories are told using a combination of movement, action and dialogue. Improvisation and direct contact with the audience are also essential factors in the performances providing immediate feedback from the audience and also bringing the audience into the story. Together all these ingredients produces a theatre style that is original and unique to Teatro Punto and is enjoyed in many countries across Europe.



### What can Teatro Punto offer?

Teatro Punto offer workshops in Theatre, Mask, Mask making, Clowning, Mime, Improvisation, Movement and Music in Theatre.

Teatro Punto has a many years experience in giving workshops and recently it has become one of the main activities of the company. The company design and run workshops for groups such as professional actors to young children and can also cater for people with special needs. As well as the specialised training that we bring to the workshops we also bring a spirit of play and celebration that comes from the Commedia dell'Arte and the Popular tradition. We use our experience gained on the stage and also from training actors: to teach and provoke the students.

Teatro Punto does not offer standard workshops. We create the workshop according to the needs of each group. We analyse the specific needs and characteristics of each group and then we create the workshop with this in mind. Having considered the requirements and characteristics of the group we meet the group at the beginning of the workshop. The final structure of the workshop will take form as we discover the dynamic of the group and also see personalities of the individuals.

### What must a participating school provide?

To hold the workshops Teatro Punto require a room or school hall to work in; all other materials will be supplied by Teatro Punto.

Teatro Punto's Workshops are open to all schools.

Expressions of interest from schools interested in participating can be sent to Teatro Punto on an on-going basis.

## Western Writers' Centre

<i>Artform</i> Literature
<i>Name of Organisation</i> Western Writers' Centre
<i>Contact Person</i> Fred Johnston
<i>Phone</i> 091 533 595
<i>Email</i> writersgalway@eircom.net

**The Western Writers' Centre** is the only writers' centre West of the Shannon. Its aims and objectives include bringing the notion and novelty of Creative Writing, prose and poetry, to everyone. It intends to target areas of socio-economic deprivation; it also engages in bringing writers' classes to centres of employment, schools, and to areas where no writers' groups currently exist. It provides a focus point for everyone in the West of Ireland interested in Creative Writing.

It will establish writers' groups in a variety of areas when requested to do so. It liaises with writers' organisations such as Poetry Ireland and the Irish Writers' Centre in Dublin. And it provides information on various points of creative access; to applying for grants, publishing, to finding an agent. It was the first arts organisation in the Galway City or County area to establish a writers' residency in a major hospital - Merlin Park. The Centre also organised a 'Poetry on the Buses' scheme in association with Bus Éireann, a first for



the Galway and West region and, indeed for the country. The Centre also runs an annual Winter literary weekend.

### What can the Western Writers' Centre offer?

The Centre would be particularly interested in working on Creative Writing projects with Transition Year students. These projects could take the form or (a) working with Active Retirement groups to bring about creative work, such as an anthology, and/or (b) working to promote anthologies or poetry and prose around the history or geography of place. The Centre would also bring in writers of note to read or advise when suitable. The Centre's founder and Manager, Fred Johnston, has worked with a similar project to (a) in Louisburg, Co Mayo. He is also the founder of the Cúirt Festival of Literature, as a poetry festival, in 1986.

### What must a participating school provide?

It is advisable that the school should have, at some curriculum level, an interest in Creative Writing and/or may have encouraged pupils in developing an interest in writing poetry or prose. It would be preferable - but not mandatory - if the interested school were to have some knowledge of the Writers in Schools Scheme or Writers in Community Scheme, and have engaged students at some level in contemporary Irish writing, either by study or by previous writers' visits. Schools should try to acquaint themselves with the idea of how an invited writer might work; the Centre can provide details of this.

The school would be expected to canvass students to gauge interest and select a group of no more than ten students to participate in a given project. The school might also suggest a Creative Writing project. The school should think also in terms of an anthology or publication to headline the given project at its conclusion.

Expression of interest from schools interested in participating can be sent to Western Writers' Centre - Ionad Scríbhneoirí Chaitlín Maude on an on-going basis.

*working* together,  
*educating* together.



COMHAIRLE CHONTAE NA GAILLIMHE  
GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL

**Marilyn Gaughan** *County Arts Officer*

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COMHAIRLE CATHRACH NA GAILLIMHE  
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