

Clan News & Opportunities · October '08

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of our information, we strongly advise subscribers to verify all details to their own satisfaction with regard to opportunities.

Hoping that you find this information service useful,

Regards
Siobhán Mulcahy
County Arts Officer

For more events and opportunities, please see:

- **Co. Clare news:** www.clarefocus.ie
- *Events in Glór are listed on their website at:*
http://www.glor.ie/What's%20On/_reset.htm
- **Library events are listed at:**
http://www.clarelibrary.ie/eolas/library/events/library_events.htm
- **Arts Jobs;** www.creativecareers.ie
- **National and international opportunities/ jobs/ commissions etc. are available at:**
<http://www.artslistings.com/magazine/index.html#opportunities>
compiled by the Arts Councils of Ireland and Northern Ireland

X-PO AT THE CROSSROADS

For almost a year now the decommissioned Kilnaboy post office has had a new purpose and new lease of life. Renamed X-PO, the old building has seen a concentrated burst of artistic and community activity unique in a small rural community. Driven by the vision and energy of Dromoher artist Deirdre O'Mahony, as part of her doctoral thesis at the University of Brighton, the X-PO has drawn many people in, curious to see what kind of a thing this X-PO arts project might be way out in the rural west.

Local people initially embraced the project through the first archive exhibition: a tribute to a great local character, genuine gentleman and postmaster of many years, Mattie Rynne. There followed exhibitions, talks and presentations dealing with the changing environment, changing farm life and changing rural social circumstances that mirrored events and concerns in countless other rural parishes.

Local interest groups took ownership of the X-PO idea through local history and mapping projects. They used X-PO computer resources to scan and reprint old photographs gathered in the community for a community archive. They also used the building as a meeting place and a base. The Macra na Fierme also found a home there. Health and Beauty and Set Dancing evenings were arranged.

Visitors from all over the world signed the visitors book. Passing tourists, academics and students from the Burren School of Art, conference delegates and summer scholars all came to look and left with a glimpse of Ireland past, present and future that they could have found absolutely nowhere else.

And now?

Now ... the reins pass from a single artist to the **X-PO** Community. Action Groups have been set up to work on Funding, Culture, Local History and Education. The 'Team X-PO' Management and Co-ordination Group has been set up to continue the work Deirdre started: to continue to build social and artistic networks locally and globally: to adapt the basic shape of the X-PO to its new circumstances.

What that shape will turn out to be is not yet clear. Commitment, participation, interest and circumstance will all play their part.

Over the past year valuable friends and partnerships have been made for the X-PO those relationships will carry into the future.

At present the necessary structures are being put in place so that funds and grants can be applied for, exhibitions and events can be organised and the place kept open.

On September 19th the first of a weekly Friday Tea and Coffee morning took place. Currently there is a new photography and film exhibition: X-PO Retrospective – the beginnings. This exhibition features large-scale photographs taken by Deirdre O'Mahony when she first started to work on the project nearly a year ago.

There will also be showing a film by Ennistymon filmmaker Fergus Tighe who has documented the X-PO from the early days. Clubs and gatherings started on Monday 22nd September and features a Singers and Players Club, Set Dancing, Local History and Mapping, Drawing for Portfolio, Health and Beauty, Music.

X-PO would like to thank everyone who has helped, sponsored or aided us in any way. X-PO would especially like to thank those who have participated in the many events over the past year.

Contact: XPO on 086 0872983 or Team XPO for availabilities and times.

Youth Arts Development Award

The National Youth Council of Ireland is seeking applications for this scheme. The aim of the Youth Arts Development Award is to encourage the formation of partnerships between relevant agencies and organisations at a local level, and to work towards integrated development of long-term youth arts programmes on a specific geographical area.

Awards of between €5,000 and €20,000 will be awarded to successful applicants.

Applications are invited from local youth organisations, or a consortium of organisations with one or more of the following

- Community Development Organisation
- Local Authority
- Arts Organisation
- Educational Institution (second or third level)
- Business Corporation
- Other

Contact: emmet@nyci.ie

www.youth.ie/what_s_new/artist_in_youth_work_residency_sheme

Workshops / Studio Spaces / Learning Opportunities

Festivals Training

AOIFE and **Fáilte Ireland** will be holding a second training initiative over the next few weeks for all types of festivals.

There will be all-day workshops, with group exercises and interaction between all participants. It is only available on a “*first come, first served*” basis. Only pre-paid bookings will be accepted, and payments by credit card are accepted.

There will be a seminar held in Cork on the 22 of October, in the Clarion Hotel in Lapps Quay. On the day, there will be:

- A “Welcome and Introduction”, to get to know more about the other festivals participating.
- A Regional Tourism and Perspectives Update from Fáilte Ireland.
- A workshop on “building your audience” and how to market directly to them.
- A workshop on assessing your committee’s strengths and weaknesses quickly.
- A workshop from Fáilte Ireland for helpful tips on funding applications.
- A workshop on maximizing your revenues and understanding cost controls to make sure your festival stays in the black.
- A “Questions and Answers” time, and also a review of the day’s topics.

The cost will be €35 for any **AOIFE** member, and for non-members it will be €60. For two delegates, a discount of €20 will be given. For three delegates, a discount of €30 will be given. This payment includes a lunch.

European Media Art:

All types of artists (Dance, Digital, Media, Net art, Video, etc) in Europe are invited to apply for the European Media Art Network Research Residency. EMAN, teamed with the European Union Culture 2007-2013, will give 16 production awards in the form of 2-month residencies at one of their partner organizations, including Impakt (Netherlands), Werkleitz Gesellschaft (Germany), Interspace (Bulgaria) and Vivid (UK).

Residents will receive a grant of €2,000, free accommodation, up to €250 travel expenses, access to technical facilities and media labs, an individual exhibition, and participation in a group exhibition in Halle, Germany.

To apply, please download an application form from:

www.vivid.org.uk/files/emare_2009_-_application_form.pdf

www.werkleitz.de/emare

The deadline is 20 of October, 2008.

More information on the work of the Arts Office *is available at:*

<http://www.clarelibrary.ie/arts.htm>

- **Clare news and events** *available at:* www.clarefocus.ie
- *Events in Glór are listed on their website at:* <http://www.glor.ie/whatson.asp>
- **Library events** *are listed at:*
http://www.clarelibrary.ie/eolas/library/events/library_events.htm

County Clare Arts Service

<http://www.clarelibrary.ie/arts.htm>