

Dublin Arts & Human Rights FESTIVAL



In Partnership with Amnesty International, Fighting Words, ICCL, NWCI, Trócaire, Poetry Ireland

Connecting Citizens to the Arts, Human Rights, Climate Justice and Gender Equality

Dublin Arts and Human Rights Festival 2021

Hope, Courage, Resilience: The Story Continues

Friday 15 – Sunday 24 October 2021

10 Days of Arts and Human Rights

Smashing Times and Front Line Defenders in partnership with Amnesty International, Fighting Words, Irish Council for Civil Liberties, National Women's Council of Ireland, Trócaire, and Poetry Ireland will implement the 2021 Dublin Arts and Human Rights Festival to showcase and highlight the extraordinary work of human rights defenders in Ireland and around the world, past and present, and the role of the arts and artists in promoting human rights today. The festival will run for ten days from Friday 15 October to Sunday 24 October 2021. The artistic curator for the festival is Mary Moynihan, Artistic Director, Smashing Times and the human rights curator is Laura O'Leary, Front Line Defenders.

This year's festival will contain both online and in-person events in line with current Covid-19 guidelines, and will facilitate the opportunity to share, celebrate, remember, explore, provoke and promote the arts for human rights. Join us as we bring together artists, activists, citizens, families, communities and all those interested in using the arts to celebrate and promote human rights and equality for all. The theme of this year's festival is Hope, Courage and Resilience: The Story Continues, celebrating human rights and linking the arts to civil society, active citizenship and politics through a series of inter-disciplinary performances, film screenings, documentaries, theatre, music, dance, visual and digital art, poetry, literature, historical memory, discussions and arts-based workshops, featuring Irish and international artists and guest speakers celebrating and promoting dignity and respect for all people equally.

Over ten days, the festival brings audiences a mix of artworks that include the very best performances, vibrant dance acts, live music, visual art exhibitions and family fun, combined with stimulating

discussion and debate. An assortment of workshops in performance, music, and song-writing are available for all ages as a part of this unique and vibrant festival of culture, arts and equality. The festival is a collaborative partnership showcasing world-class programming and presenting new and diverse artists and acts, with something for everyone to enjoy. Join us for a celebration of the arts and human rights – a festival not to be missed. The festival will bear witness and remember the past, explore the present and celebrate the future linked to equality and rights for all, highlighting the role artists can play in a new society.

Events will take place online and in person. Site specific shows featuring theatre, poetry, literature, song, music and dance presented alongside digital/film projections onto the building walls of Rathfarnham Castle and creative pop-up installation in the grounds of Rathfarnham Castle; Live performances of theatre, dance and music will be presented on the rooftop garden of the Chester Beatty Library; an exhibition of visual artworks and film art pieces will be presented at dlr Mill Theatre Gallery Space; and a discussion on human rights, poetry and the environment will be held at the NUI Galway Human Rights Centre.

Key events include:

State of the Art: Nation State as Both Violator and Protector of Human Rights Visual Art Exhibition

This exhibition showcases artworks created by artists from across the island of Ireland who have worked together on the State of the Art: Nation State as Both Violator and Protector of Human Rights project. Presented in the dlr Mill Theatre, Dundrum. Supported by the Arts Council. Hosted by Smashing Times, in partnership with the Mill Theatre. Artwork by Dr Sinead McCann, Hina Khan, Amna Walayat, Noelle McAlinden. 15 – 24 October.

The Art of W/Rights: A Literary Carnival of Arts and Rights

A series of new artworks will be presented in Rathfarnham Castle Park to create a ‘gathering space’ to celebrate stories of care and compassion and to act as a catalyst to generate creative conversations on visions of a better world. Artworks will include large-scale projections on the walls of Rathfarnham Castle, as well as performances on the grounds. We are holding an open call asking members of the public to tell us who has inspired you, a person from the past or present who has inspired or shaped you in some way and who has promoted equality, compassion and rights in your life and the lives of others. [Submit here](#). A selection of 100 of these stories and poems will be displayed in a ‘digital book’ online via the Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality gallery and digital arts platform, set up to promote the arts for equality, human rights and diversity and supported by The Arts Council. Presented by Smashing Times, in partnership with Rathfarnham Castle and Pearse Museum, 23 – 24 October.

Forgotten Voices: Stories of Hope, Courage and Resilience from the Holocaust and WWII

Writer Feilim James has created a new piece of theatre, based on research into forgotten voices from the Holocaust and WWII, with visual artist and theatremaker Aine O’Hara creating a virtual background. Supported by the Europe for Citizens programme. Presented by Smashing Times, in

partnership with IFES COOP, Valencia, Spain; University of Leibniz, Hannover, Germany; and Akademia Humanistyczno-Ekonomiczna w Lodzi, Poland.

The Social Life of Misinformation: A Challenge

In the face of a global misinformation crisis, many journalists and scientists have gravitated to fact checking as a solution. Provide the correct counter-information, the theory goes, and those who follow QAnon or far-right extremists, who are spreading false information about elections, refugee populations, or COVID, will start spreading the correct information instead. This roundtable discussion will address the impact misinformation has on social media and in relation to the work of human rights defenders. Hosted online by Front Line Defenders, Tuesday 19 October, 2pm.

Disability and Defence of Human Rights

Human rights defenders across the globe can include those with disabilities, and they constitute vital voices in the defence of human rights and promotion of inclusivity, equity and justice. Speakers on this panel will share their experiences, explore how the dominant culture of ableism creates challenges, and how assumptions about disability prevents human rights defenders from being fully visible in their work. Hosted online by Front Line Defenders, Thursday 21 October, 1.30pm

For further information please contact

Freda Manweiler, Company Manger,

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FRONT LINE DEFENDERS – THE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS

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Email: info@frontlinedefenders.org

Tel: +353 1 212 3750

For more information visit <https://www.frontlinedefenders.org/>

Twitter: @FrontLineHRD

Instagram: @frontlinedefenders

The logo for the Dublin Arts & Human Rights Festival is centered on a solid red rectangular background. The text 'Dublin Arts & Human Rights' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font, with the words stacked vertically. Below this, the word 'FESTIVAL' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font, with each letter spaced out horizontally.

Dublin Arts & Human Rights FESTIVAL

Click on the image to view the Festival Trailer

Partners

The Dublin Arts and Human Rights festival 2021 is presented by Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality and Front Line Defenders in partnership with Amnesty International Ireland, Fighting Words, Irish Council for Civil Liberties (ICCL), the National Women's Council of Ireland (NWC), Poetry Ireland and Trocaire.

Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality

www.smashingtimes.ie

Coleraine House, Coleraine Street, Dublin 7

Smashing Times is an international organisation for the Arts and Human Rights. Our mission is to lead the development of the arts to promote and advance equality and human rights and to connect citizens to the arts, human rights, climate justice and gender equality, working with artists and communities to create collaborative art practice in local, national, European and international settings. The centre operates as a world class arts space and digital hub for artists, citizens, communities and the general public across Ireland, Northern Ireland and internationally. Core services consist of membership, resources, advice and the implementation of a range of innovative projects promoting professional and collaborative arts practice and a youth arts Ensemble. The centre promotes membership, networking, training, guidance, support and advocacy in relation to using high quality creative processes, collaborative arts practice, research and new digital technologies to promote equality and human rights for all.

Led by Director Mary Moynihan, the centre produces an annual and multi-annual inter-disciplinary arts programme. All artistic mediums are supported with a focus on the performing and collaborative arts including theatre, film, visual arts, dance and music. Smashing Times' vast experience conducting arts-based projects both nationally and internationally and its global reputation for excellence in relation to using professional and socially engaged arts practice to promote human rights is drawn upon in the creation of this innovative space. Through artistic endeavour, the centre promotes the cause of human rights. Our vision is a world where all people have access to the arts and the arts are open for all to enjoy, creating a fair and inclusive society where equality, human rights and diversity are fully recognized, valued and protected.

Front Line Defenders

www.frontlinedefenders.org

Second Floor, Grattan House, Temple Road, Blackrock, Co. Dublin

Contact Person: Laura O'Leary, International Event & Promotions Officer

Front Line Defenders was founded in Dublin in 2001 with the specific aim of protecting human rights defenders (HRDs) at risk, people who work, non-violently, for any or all of the rights enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Front Line Defenders addresses the protection needs identified by human rights defenders themselves. Front Line Defenders maintains its headquarters in Dublin, an EU Office in Brussels, and regionally-based field staff in the Americas, Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

Amnesty International

www.amnesty.ie

Seán MacBride House, 48 Fleet Street, Dublin 2,

Contact Person: Kate O'Sullivan, Communications Manager

Amnesty International is a global movement of more than 7 million people who take injustice personally. We are campaigning for a world where human rights are enjoyed by all. In Ireland, our 20,000 members and supporters campaign on issues like reproductive rights, ending torture and protecting migrant and refugee rights, among others. We are independent of any political ideology, economic interest or religion. We are funded by our members and supporters.

National Women's Council of Ireland

www.nwci.ie

100 King St N, Smithfield, Dublin 7

Contact Person: Orla O'Connor, Director

The National Women's Council (NWC) is the leading national representative organisation for women and women's groups in Ireland. We are a feminist organisation, representing over 190 member groups from 5 across a diversity of backgrounds, sectors and geographical locations. Our mandate is to take action to ensure that the voices of women in all their diversity are heard. Our vision is of an Ireland and of a world where women and girls can achieve their full potential in a just and equal society.

Irish Council for Civil Liberties

www.iccl.ie

11, 34 Usher's Quay, The Liberties, Dublin 8, D08 CV6X

Contact Person: Liam Herrick, Executive Director

The Irish Council for Civil Liberties is Ireland's leading independent human rights campaigning organisation. They monitor, educate and campaign to secure human rights for everyone in Ireland. They are committed to an Ireland that is more just, more free, and where human rights and civil liberties are enjoyed by everyone. They act as an essential defender of human rights and civil liberties and as an effective champion for the advancement of justice and freedom in Irish society.

Trócaire

www.trocaire.org

Maynooth, Co. Kildare, Ireland, W23 NX63

Contact Person: Joanne McGarry

Trócaire was established in 1973. Our dual mandate is to support the most vulnerable people in the developing world, while also raising awareness of injustice and global poverty in Ireland. Trócaire works with local partners to support communities in over 20 developing countries with a focus on food and resource rights, women's empowerment and humanitarian response.

Fighting Words

www.fightingwords.ie

Behan Square, 12-16 Russell St, Northside, Dublin 1, D01 WD53

Contact Person: Colm Quearney, Development and Outreach Officer

Our aim is to help children and young people, and adults who did not have this opportunity as children, to discover and harness the power of their own imaginations and creative writing skills. At its core, Fighting Words is also about something much broader and more inclusive. It is about using the creative practice of writing and storytelling to strengthen our children and teenagers – from a wide range of backgrounds – to be resilient, creative and successful shapers of their own lives.

Poetry Ireland

www.poetryireland.ie

11 Parnell Square East, Dublin 1, D01ND60

Contact Person: Jane O'Hanlon, Education Officer

Poetry Ireland strives to achieve excellence in the reading, writing and performance of poetry in Ireland. Poetry Ireland enjoys rewarding partnerships with organisations at home and abroad. Our commitment to creating performance and publication opportunities for poets at all stages of their careers helps ensure that the best work is made available to the widest possible audience, securing a future for Irish poetry that is as celebrated as its past.



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