



Mayo County Council Arts Service Decade of Centenaries Artist Residency Residency - €15,000 (to include all fees and related artwork costs)

WHAT IS THE DECADE OF CENTENARIES?

The Decade of Centenaries was initiated in 2012 with a focus on the many significant centenaries occurring over the period 2012–2023. The Centenaries Programme complements the on-going programme of annual State commemorations with special commemorative events on the centenary of key historical events.

The aim of the State centenary commemoration programme for the years from 2021 – 2023 is to ensure that this complex period in our history, including the Struggle for Independence, the Civil War, the Foundation of the State and Partition, is remembered appropriately, proportionately, respectfully and with sensitivity. A specific key objective of the initiative is to promote a deeper understanding of the significant events that took place during this period and recognise that the shared historical experience of those years gave rise to very different narratives and memories.

Further information on the Decade of Centenaries programme [here](#).

Artist Brief

To commemorate the Decade of the Centenaries, Mayo County Council Arts Service invites submissions for a special residency working with the Jackie Clarke Collection's artefacts relating to events of this period in Irish history including the Struggle for Independence, the Civil War, the Foundation of the State and Partition.



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Aim

The aim of this commission is to enable the artist to research and develop new work sensitive to the historical context of the period, in response to the Decade of Centenaries commemoration programme by working with the Jackie Clarke Collection. This commission will provide one artist with an opportunity for a six-month residency, based in Ballina. It will provide an opportunity to highlight the unique, nationally significant resource that the Jackie Clarke Collection represents.

Community Engagement

It is intended that local people and communities will be involved throughout the process to promote a deeper understanding of the events that took place and to share individual narratives. Creative consultation, interviews, collaboration on research etc., will all be considered suitable forms of engagement. The artist will receive support in identifying, contacting and working with suitable local groups/ communities. Please note that all community engagement activity must be carried out in accordance with [Government Safety Guidelines](#) in relation to Covid 19. The artist will follow public health advice, including advice on social distancing.

Residency:

The residency process and new artwork created during the six-month period should culminate in a publicly accessible artwork, or series of artworks, related to the Jackie Clarke collection. The format of this outcome is flexible and all artforms will be considered. For example, the residency outcome could manifest as a series of temporary artworks or events, a publication, film, permanent visual art installation, performance etc. Artists applying should be aware, that only Jackie's collection is displayed in the house, but other facilities exist for visual exhibition in Ballina. If the residency culminates in a performance (music/ dance/ theatre) this should have a showing at the Jackie Clarke Repository, Garden or Seomra in addition to other, larger spaces in accordance with Covid 19 safety guidelines.

Applications

Applications for the residency should give a clear indication of the proposed process, timescale, community involvement, budget breakdown and proposed outcome(s) and how these would be experienced by, or presented to, the public and documented as a permanent record. Applicants should demonstrate their knowledge and specific interest in this period of Irish History and how it relates to their practice.



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Residency Management

Mayo County Council Arts Office will manage this residency and, in collaboration with local partners, can provide working spaces in Ballina. If studio space is required, the arts office will be able to assist in finding a suitable space.

Time Commitment

The artist would be expected to dedicate 3 days per week to the project over a 6-month period. Artists from outside of Mayo are welcome to apply for the residency but must spend the minimum time in the area each week and engage with local people throughout the residency where possible and in accordance with Government Covid 19 safety guidelines.

Engagement with the Jackie Clarke Collection

At least one full day workshop with the artist will be facilitated by the Jackie Clarke Collection staff. This will provide the artist with the opportunity to be immersed in materials relevant to the chosen theme in relation to the [Decade of Centenaries](#). Furthermore, the artist will have access to digital files of the relevant materials.

Jackie Clarke Collection

Jackie Clarke (1927 – 2000) was a Ballina businessman and a genius collector of Irish Historical material. In 2005, his widow, Mrs Anne Clarke, in accordance with her late husband's wishes, gifted his collection to Mayo County Council, on condition that it remains permanently in Ballina. It is now available publicly, for the people of Ballina, Mayo and Ireland, at the former provincial bank building, Pearse Street, Ballina, opened in 2013. www.clarkecollection.ie

The material spans 400 years. The earliest item dates from 1617. It comprises many rare and important books on the history of Ireland, manuscripts, photographs, legal papers, pamphlets, hand-bills, newspapers (including a third edition of what is described as 'the first newspaper' the Oxford Gazette dated December 1665), news-sheets, circulars, reports, political autograph books, letters, periodicals, cartoons, maps, minute books, theses, articles and proclamations. The library also contains many volumes and manuscripts in the Irish language.

As we mark the centenary of the founding of the state, 2016–2023, this repository of Irish material will become a site of central importance as documents in this collection will shed new light on these past events.



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There are several other commemoration events, exhibitions and commissions in the county during 2021 which this residency will compliment. Other activities include:

- A publication -The history of Mayo County Council in War of Independence
- Decade of Centenaries Grant scheme
- Mayo History Podcast
- Decade of Commemorations website

Budget

The full budget for the residency is a maximum of €15,000. It is assumed €10,000 will be allocated as artist's fee and must include all travel and accommodation/living costs.

The remaining €5,000 should cover all materials costs, engagement and consultation activities and final product/event/publication.

This initiative is supported by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media under the Community Strand of the Decade of Centenaries Programme

Timescale

Applications Open	Monday 01 st March 2021
Applications Close	Thursday 15 th April 2021
Interviews	Thursday 29 th April 2021
Successful Artist informed	Week of 03 rd May 2021
Residency begins	May 2021 (date to be agreed with artist)
Residency finishes	November 2021 (date to be agreed with artist)
Artwork launched	December (to be agreed by artist & partners)

Competition Process

This is an open competition. Artists working in all artforms are welcome to apply and will be selected based on their submission. Where circumstances determine, short-listing and interviews may be organised to assist in selecting the most suitable artist. The date for interviews will be Thursday 29th April 2021.

Submissions must contain:

- Textual description outlining the approach to the residency
- drawings or alternative visual expressions to communicate the content of the project.
- Outline costing
- Outline timescale



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- CV and relevant examples of previous work
- Artistic Merit and Quality of the concept/approach

Site Visit:

Due to current Covid 19 restrictions, the Jackie Clarke Collection remains closed until further notice from Government. A video tour of the space will be made available to interested artists. All questions regarding the collection should be directed to clarkecollection@mayococo.ie

Selection criteria:

- Approach to community engagement
- Relevance to social, physical and cultural/thematic context of project
- Previous experience / demonstrate ability to carry out the residency and realise quality outcome/s
- Value for money
- Clarity and practicality of the proposal

Selection Panel:

Relevant Arts Expertise, Mayo County Council, Jackie Clarke Collection and local community representation.

Submission Process

Submissions by email only to: mayoarts@mayococo.ie

Please ensure large files (over 10mb) are submitted via a zip file, WeTransfer or similar method.

For further information:

Katriona Gillespie, E: kgillespie@mayococo.ie T: 09490 64666

Selection: Mayo County Council retains the right not to commission if a selection is not recommended by the judging panel.

Deadline for submissions is: 1pm, Thursday 15th April 2021

Important Notes to Applicants

Garda Vetting and Child Protection: It is a legal requirement that all persons working with children, young people and vulnerable people are subject to Garda Vetting. In accordance with national child protection policy, Children First National Guidelines for



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the Protection and Welfare of Children, awarded recipients working with children must have a child protection policy, proper procedures and a children's safeguarding statement in place. See [Tusla.ie](https://www.tusla.ie) for more information.

The selected applicant may be required to provide an up-to-date tax clearance certification and public liability insurance

The successful applicant must adhere to ongoing government advice on COVID 19 health guidelines. See [Gov.ie](https://www.gov.ie) for more information



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