



Comhairle Contae Mhaigh Eo
Mayo County Council

Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017–2022



Mayo County Council - Writer in Residence Brief

About:

This Residency is a partnership between Mayo County Council's Arts Service, Mayo County Council's Library Service and the Heinrich Böll Cottage Achill, with funding from Creative Ireland. The Residency aligns to the Creative Ireland Programme Pillar – Enabling Creativity in Every Community.

The total budget of the Residency is €15,000 and this includes the writers fee, travel and accommodation costs and a programme budget. The Residency will adhere to relevant health guidelines and may be rolled out online/in person or a blended approach (depending on restriction levels and how the successful applicant envisages delivering the Residency). This is an open competition and the successful Writer will be selected based on their submission.

Aim of Residency

The aim of the Residency is two-fold.

- 1: To provide the opportunity for the writer to concentrate on their own work.
- 2: The Residency will have a strong emphasis on community engagement and enabling creativity in the community.

Who can apply

This is an open call to writers of all genres, (fiction, poetry, creative non-fiction (e.g. memoir and essays), graphic novels, children's poetry and fiction, screenwriting, playwriting, literary criticism and contemporary literary biography/autobiography). This definition specifically excludes writing in areas such as journalism, religious writing, professional, instructional and academic writing. This Residency supports writing in the English and Irish languages and is open to those residing in Ireland.

In your application please detail how the residency will benefit your own practice.

Overview of Residency

- Timescale of the Residency is June 2021 to December 2021.
- Use of Mayo County Library Facilities by Writer.
- Community Engagement with Mayo groups and writers.
- Two weeks in the Heinrich Böll Cottage, Achill (2021).

Community Engagement

Mayo County Council Arts Service and Mayo County Library Service requires community engagement as part of this Residency. The Writer may for example engage with Writers Groups in Mayo, with local schools, community groups and more specifically with people interested in writing themselves. This may be subject to adjustment when following public health guidance. The Residency will require

flexible hours including evenings. Engagement could take the form of readings, workshops and mentoring. This is not an exhaustive list and each applicant should detail their own approach to the Residency.

Mayo County Council Arts Service and Mayo County Library Service can support the Writer in identifying, contacting and working with suitable local groups/ communities. This community engagement does not necessarily have to be through traditional workshop methods: creative consultation, interviews, collaboration on research etc., will all be considered suitable forms of engagement.

The successful writer should consider programming engagement activities in each of the four Mayo Municipal Districts (<https://www.mayo.ie/municipal-districts> and <https://www.mayo.ie/en-ie/your-council/governance-and-democracy/municipal-districts/md-map>) Applicants should bear in mind the current Covid-19 pandemic and the potential impact on the Residency should public health restrictions continue further into the year. A proposed response should allow for how the public engagement aspect can be developed in creative and adaptive ways. Community engagement should also detail how the residency aligns to the Creative Ireland Programme Pillar – Enabling Creativity in Every Community.

In your application please detail your approach to Community Engagement.

Residency Timeline & Time Commitment

Residency Announced	Friday 19 th of March 2021
Residency closing date for application	Friday 30 th of April 2021 by 12 noon
Panel to go through applications and decide on successful candidate	May 2021
Successful resident announced	May 2021
Residency to start	June 2021
Residency to be completed	End of December 2021
Heinrich Böll Cottage, Achill: 2 weeks	Agreed time between Writer and Heinrich Böll Cottage, Achill in 2021.

Time Commitment

The Residency will be on a part-time basis, ideally located in Mayo. A minimum of 26 weeks at 10 hours per week is required to include all aspects of the Residency.

In your application please outline how you would use the above time (bearing in mind that the residency will run from June 2021 and December 2021).

Budget and Residency Outcome

The total budget for the Residency is €15,000. An agreed payment plan will be put in place.

The breakdown of the budget is as follows:

Writers Fee	€10,000
Accommodation & Travel	€1,000
Programme budget	€4,000

Writers Fee:

In line with the Arts Council's *Paying The Artist*, Mayo Arts Service has ringfenced €10,000 for the Writers fee. Further information on the policy here:

[http://www.artscouncil.ie/uploadedFiles/Main_Site/Content/About_Us/Paying%20the%20Artist%20\(Single%20Page%20-%20EN\).pdf](http://www.artscouncil.ie/uploadedFiles/Main_Site/Content/About_Us/Paying%20the%20Artist%20(Single%20Page%20-%20EN).pdf) The Writers fee is fully inclusive of agreed workshops and public encounters and press activity related to the residency.

Accommodation & Travel budget:

Depending on the proposal from the Writer and the relevant health guidelines in place during the delivery of the Residency, €1,000 had been secured for the Writers travel and accommodation (the writer manages this spend and keeps a detailed record of same). If travel and accommodation is not a requirement, this can be added to the programme budget.

Programme budget:

The successful recipient determines the content of the programme. Some associated costs with the programme budget could include the following areas: technical and third-party fees associated with creating a blog or podcasts, fees for other professional writers engaged, workshop/reading room rental fees, documentation of the Residency and Residency outcomes* etc. This is not an exhaustive list and the programme budget may be used for other areas as outlined in the submitted application. (*Please see Residency Outcomes below). Some form of documentation of the Residency is a requirement.

Residency Outcomes:

The partners providing this opportunity are keen that there is a legacy from the Residency. The Residency process and new work created during the Residency could culminate in publicly accessible work. The format of this outcome is flexible, and all forms will be considered. Any Residency outcome costs should come from the programme budget. The culmination of the Residency should be outlined as envisaged by the Writer and could for example be a publication/blog/ a series of podcasts etc. Please note this list is not an exhaustive list.

In your application please detail how you envisage using the overall budget, including projected/ possible outcomes from the Residency.

Heinrich Böll Cottage, Achill

The successful writer can avail of a 2 week stay at the Heinrich Böll Cottage, Achill. Dates to be agreed in advance between the successful Writer and Heinrich Böll Cottage, Achill in 2021 (dates are subject to availability and relevant health restrictions). Accommodation costs for this two-week stay are covered by the Heinrich Böll as partners in this Residency.

In your application please detail what you would work on during your time in the Heinrich Böll Cottage, Achill and how this would benefit your practice.

Mayo County Library Service

Mayo County Library has an extensive branch network stretching from Belmullet in the north of the County to Ballinrobe in the south. The partnership with Mayo County Library Service deepens the Residency through each librarian's local knowledge of their community and their existing networks. Restrictions allowing, Mayo libraries serve as potential reading/meeting spaces

www.mayo.ie/library

In your application please detail how you would envisage the best use of Mayo County Library Service facilities (subject to their availability and relevant health restrictions).

Management

Mayo County Council Arts Service will manage this Residency and will be the first point of contact for the selected Writer.

Application Process

Applications must include the following:

- Writers CV (max of 3 pages) and relevant examples of previous work and links (please only submit a maximum of 10 pages of writing). Description and examples of previous public engagement work.
- Detail on Writers approach to the Residency and concepts/ideas you may work on during this time period (max of 2 pages).
- Outline of Writers timescale, which must take place between June 2021 and December 2021.
- Outline of how the €15,000 budget will be spent.
- Detail on how the Writer proposes to engage with the local community in each of the four Municipal Districts and align to the Creative Ireland Programme Pillar – Enabling Creativity in Every Community.
- Detail on possible/proposed outcome of Residency.
- Detail on how the writer would use their time at the Heinrich Böll Cottage.
- Detail on how the Writer envisages use of Mayo County Library facilities.

Submissions in writing by email only to mayoarts@mayococo.ie with Writer in Residence in the subject bar. Postal submissions will not be accepted.

Deadline for submissions is:

12 noon, Friday 30th April 2021, [please ensure you receive an e-mail from the Arts Service acknowledging receipt of your application]. Late applications will not be accepted.

Selection Process

All applications will be subject to the following selection criteria and marking scheme:

Previous experience / demonstrate ability to carry out the Residency and realise quality outcome/s	20 marks
Benefit of Residency to Writers own practice	20 marks
Approach to use of the overall budget of €15,000 including possible/proposed outcomes from the Residency.	20 marks
Approach to community engagement Alignment to the Creative Ireland Programme Pillar – Enabling Creativity in Every Community.	20 marks
Approach to use of Mayo County Library Services	5 marks
Approach to use of Heinrich Böll Cottage	5 marks
Clarity and practicality of the proposal	10 marks
Total marks	100 marks

Selection Panel

Expert Writer, Mayo County Council's Library Service and Heinrich Böll Cottage representation.

Shortlisting

Applicants may be short-listed based on their submissions and short-listed applicants may be invited for interview; this will be subject to restrictions around Covid-19 and is likely to be online.

Selection

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

Important Notes for 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 the Protection and Welfare of Children, awarded recipient working with children must have a child protection policy, proper procedures and a children's safeguarding statement in place.

The selected applicant will be required to provide an up-to-date **tax clearance certification** and their own **public liability insurance**.

Freedom of Information:

The provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1997-2003 apply to Westmeath County Council. Applicants should state if any of the information supplied by them is confidential or sensitive and should not be disclosed to a request for information under the aforementioned Act. Applicants should state why they consider the information to be confidential or commercially sensitive.

GDPR Information supplied in the application will be used only for the purpose of the application itself, and will only be used by Mayo Arts Service for the purposes of administering and managing this particular Residency, including the selection process. You may withdraw your consent to the retention of the information relating to your application at any point by sending an email to mayoarts@mayococo.ie

For further information:

Orlagh Heverin, Assistant Arts Officer, Mayo Arts Service, E: mayoarts@mayococo.ie T: + 353 (0)94 90 64367 (Wednesday through Friday)

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

Deadline for submissions is: 12 noon, Friday 30th April 2021



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Information on Partners

Mayo Arts Service: Mayo County Council Arts Service is a functional unit within the County Council structure. Through the Arts Service, support is provided to artists, writers, musicians, dramatists, dancers, community arts workers and arts organisations working in Mayo. The Arts Service responds to identified needs of those who make and present art, together with those who are involved in the numerous other capacities within the arts sector. Services are delivered based on the principles of quality, access, inclusion and long-term value. Mayo Arts Service has a strong history of literature provision and development, including the former Force 12 Writers Festival in Belmullet and Poetry Day Ireland as well as a series of residencies which included writers such as Dermot Healy, Michael Gorman, Val Mulkearns, Richard Murphy, Neill Donnelly, Ré O’Laighlais, Máire Holmes, Paddy Bushe, John Breen, Éilís Ní Dhuibhne, Nuala Ní Dhomhnaill, Biddy Jenkinson, Eoghan Mac Giolla Bhríde, Manchán Magan, Diarmuid de Faoite and John F. Deane.

<https://www.mayo.ie/arts>

Creative Ireland: is a high-level, high-ambition, all government initiative to mainstream creativity in the life of the nation so that in our personal lives and in our institutions, we can realise our full creative potential. A culture-based programme designed to promote individual, community and national wellbeing, the core proposition is that participation in cultural activity drives personal and collective creativity, with significant implications for individual and societal wellbeing and achievement. Creative Ireland is the main mechanism for the delivery of *Culture 2025 / Éire Ildánach* which states that arts, heritage and culture are intrinsic to the Irish State, acknowledges the need to increase access to, and participation in, the arts, boost our creative industries, and preserve our heritage with a particular focus on language, landscape and the environment.

Creative Ireland is underpinned by the following key values:

- The intrinsic value of our culture and heritage
- The value of culture to our lives and our communities
- The right of everyone to participate in the cultural life of the nation
- The importance of the Irish language, our cultural heritage, folklore, games, music and the uniqueness of our Gaeltacht areas
- The value of cultural diversity, informed by the many traditions and social backgrounds now in Ireland
- The value of culture as a means of fostering a more sustainable future for Ireland, including through economic and social policy
- The value of culture in presenting Ireland to the world.

This opportunity is supported by Creative Ireland Mayo and the Arts Council and is delivered in partnership by Mayo County Council Arts and Library Services and the Heinrich Böll Cottage.

Useful Creative Ireland links:

The Mayo Culture and Creativity Strategy 2018-2022 can be found here:

<https://www.creativeireland.gov.ie/app/uploads/2019/12/Mayo.pdf>

Further information on Creative Ireland can be found here: <https://creative.ireland.ie/>

The Heinrich Böll Cottage: is based in Dugort Achill has been in use as a Residency for artists and writers since 1992. This has been organised by a local voluntary association, in conjunction with Mayo County Council, The Arts Council of Ireland, the local community, and the family of Heinrich Böll. <http://heinrichboellcottage.com/>

Mayo County Library Service: is delivered through a network of 14 branches throughout the county. Services include: lending, reference and study services, local history and genealogy, a musical instrument lending scheme, book clubs, an online eBook and audio book service, online newspapers and magazines, online courses, an extensive cultural programme which includes readings, exhibitions, author visits and lectures, a healthy reading service, reading and literacy support for children, free wifi and internet.

The library can support the Writer in Residence though providing support and information; venues for meetings, readings and talks, publicity for events: access to materials; including the writer in library events and initiatives and any other relevant support as required www.mayo.ie/library
A full list of branches is available here <https://www.mayo.ie/library/using-your-library/find-a-branch>