



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 2012–2016. 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 the following events of this period in Irish history; Irish War of Independence, Truce, and Civil War.

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. 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, workshops, 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, a temporary visual art installation, performance etc. The culminating work of the residency may be shown at the Jackie Clarke House, 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 engagement, 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.

Residency Management

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

Time Commitment

The artist would be expected to commit 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 engage with local people throughout the residency where appropriate and in accordance with Government Covid 19 safety guidelines.

Engagement with the Jackie Clarke Collection

Due to current restrictions, the Jackie Clarke Collection is closed to the public. As such, the team at the Collection will make a video of the relevant artefacts available to artists intending to apply for the opportunity. The video will be available on request from the Jackie Clarke Collection from March 04th. Artists should contact clarkecollection@mayococo.ie to request the video.

Mayo County Council Arts Service will arrange an online workshop relating to the video, providing further information on the artefacts and a Q & A session for artists. Artists will need to register for this workshop at mayoarts@mayococo.ie.

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.

There will be other commemoration events, exhibitions and commissions taking place in the county during 2021 which this residency will compliment. Other proposed activities include:

- The history of Mayo County Council in War of Independence – Publication
- The Decade of Centenaries Grant Scheme for communities to commemorate events that occurred locally.
- A Mayo History Podcast

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.

Timescale

Applications Open	Monday 01 st March 2021
Video of the Collection Materials available	From Thursday March 04 th .
On-line Q&A Meeting Registration at mayoarts@mayococo.ie	Tuesday March 16 th at 3.30pm
Applications Close	Thursday 15 th April 2021
Selection Panel Meet	Week of April 19 th
Interviews (if required)	Artists will be notified of dates directly
Successful Artist informed	Week of 3 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. Where circumstances determine, short-listing and interviews may be organised to assist in selecting the most suitable artist and artists will be notified of dates for interview (if necessary).

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

Access to the Collection:

Due to current restrictions, the Jackie Clarke Collection is closed to the public. As such, the team at the Collection will make a video of the relevant artefacts available to artists intending to apply for the opportunity. 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 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 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 for more information.