

Age & Opportunity

Arts Programme Volunteer

Bealtaine Festival

Age & Opportunity is the national organisation that provides a range of opportunities for older people who want to get more involved in arts and culture, sport and physical activity, civic engagement and personal development.

Our vision is an Ireland where all older people can be more active, more visible, more creative, more connected, more confident, more often. Our mission is to enable the best possible quality of life for us all as we age.

Our Arts Programme provides opportunities for older people to be more creative more often, to create meaningful participation and representation for all older people in cultural and creative life and to demonstrate and celebrate how our creative potential can improve with age. Our Programme is based on our annual Bealtaine Festival in May and year round resource and development initiatives designed to support artists, arts participants and arts organisations. Our work is primarily funded by the HSE, the Arts Council of Ireland and Sport Ireland.

Our Arts Programme is looking for a volunteer to be part of our Bealtaine Festival Team 2021/2022. The volunteer will play an important role in supporting the 2022 Festival through supporting our Dawn and Dusk Chorus initiative.

The Dawn & Dusk Chorus

The Dawn & Dusk Chorus is a nationwide event with choirs all over the country taking part each May. In 2010, we initiated a partnership with Sing Ireland and Active Retirement Ireland designed to grow the event even further by bringing choirs, active retirement groups and older people together across Ireland to sing at dawn in a scenic location. In 2020 and 2021, due to the pandemic, we presented a virtual Dawn chorus events with our flagship choir. In 2022, we plan to return safely to in person events and encourage choirs all around the country to once again plan their own event.

The role of our Arts Programme Volunteer

- Encouraging local choirs to organise and participate in Dawn/Dusk Chorus events nationwide.
- Supporting local Dawn/Dusk Chorus events with information on holding an event and promoting an event.
- Creating a database and an archive of all Dawn Chorus events, details of same and contact details for those involved.

- Assisting with the social media campaign drawn up by the Festival Team, and overseen by the Communications Manager, in particular, Facebook and Twitter in relation to all Dawn Chorus events and supporting local events with local PR (this may include supplying information rather than posting on our channels).
- Supporting the festival's principal flagship Dawn/Dusk Chorus event as required.
- Liaising with music organisations nationwide who support and contribute to the Dawn Chorus.
- To follow the procedures outlined in Age & Opportunity's Policies and Procedures manual.

Reasons to volunteer

- Utilise your skills as well as learn and develop new skills.
- Interact and network with a wide variety of people.
- Travel to and attend events in consultation with the festival team (and subject to Government Health guidelines).
- Widen your professional network including the opportunity to work with Sing Ireland.
- Learn about the challenges and opportunities in growing older.

How to apply

Email your CV and cover letter, stating why you are interested in being an Arts Programme Bealtaine Volunteer, to Margaret.roe@ageandopportunity.ie
 (Or by post to Margaret Roe, HR Manager, Age & Opportunity, Marino Institute of Education, Griffith Avenue, Dublin 9), to **by 12 noon, Wednesday 24th November 2021.**

Interviews will be held via Zoom on the afternoon of Wednesday 8th December 2021, although every attempt will be made to accommodate applicants who can't make it on that date.

Requirements

- A third level qualification or equivalent experience that relates to one of the following: Event Management; Arts Administration; Arts Management; Cultural Policy; Music; Festivals; the Arts; Heritage or Charity Sector.
- Excellent communication and organisation skills.
- Experience with MS Office, online conferencing software (Zoom or similar).
- Commitment to the vision and mission of Age & Opportunity and our Arts Programme.
- Ability to work as part of a team, a friendly open manner.
- An understanding of the arts sector and/or not-for-profit sector in Ireland.
- Personally focused to ensure delivery of high standards of work.
- Capacity to work from home, including use of a laptop or computer and internet access.

Time Commitment:

4-8 hours per week between January 2022 and the end of May 2022 but may commence earlier depending on the availability of the volunteer.

Location:

Working from home with occasional requirement for attendance at in-person meetings and events, depending on public health restrictions.

Attendance at any Bealtaine performances/events will be free and vouched travel expenses will be covered.

