

Bealtaine Touring Award 2024

Deadline 5pm, Monday 20th
November 2023

Information for applicants

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.

Specifically, our Arts programme aims to support and provide resources for artists, arts participants/audiences and arts organisations. We do this through our annual Bealtaine Festival, which is Ireland's national festival celebrating the arts and creativity as we age, and our Resource and Development Programme.

Bealtaine Festival

Bealtaine is Ireland's national festival which celebrates the arts and creativity as we age. The festival is run by Age & Opportunity, the leading national development organisation working to enable the best possible quality of life

for all of us as we age. Bealtaine is at the centre of Age & Opportunity's Arts programme and will celebrate its 29th year in 2024. Next year, we will begin a new 3 year theme of *Lust for Life* – celebrating our emergence from the Covid-19 pandemic and the joy of connection that the arts can bring between generations, families and friends. The theme also references Iggy Pop's iconic punk-era song giving the theme different layers of interpretation (joy, energy, pop culture, subversion, etc.).

Bealtaine Touring Award

The call for performing arts tours in 2024 invites artists and producers to submit proposals for consideration by Age & Opportunity. Age & Opportunity will provide a platform for presenting the tour during the Bealtaine Festival in the month of May along with some financial support (see below). The producer/artist will be responsible for all aspects of the production and tour, with Age & Opportunity as a co-producer. The tour must happen during the month of May 2024 (but may have additional dates outside of this period) and have at least three shows/performances.

The aim of the award is to encourage and nurture creative work by and for older people which is ambitious and innovative and takes place across Ireland. We are particularly eager to receive applications for work that is radical, challenging, humorous or offbeat. We also wish to bring a broader range of festival events to our Bealtaine participants and audiences. We also especially invite work that is cross-disciplinary.

We especially invite artists from marginalised or underrepresented communities to apply.

Call for Applications

Age & Opportunity's Arts Programme invites applications from performing artists and producers for an award for work which will tour during May 2024, as part of the Bealtaine Festival.

Age & Opportunity invites applications whereby the following parameters will apply:

The artist/producer will:

- Produce all aspects of the production and tour (including providing evidence of insurance and risk assessments);
- Credit Age & Opportunity and the Bealtaine Festival as a co-producer on the tour on all promotional materials and funding applications;
- Commit to the timeframe of May 2024 for the tour;
- Provide key assets to the Age & Opportunity Bealtaine Festival team within an agreed timeline, e.g.: publicity materials, production shots, as well as making key personnel available for PR opportunities.

Age & Opportunity will:

- Provide a platform for the tour through the Bealtaine Festival;
- Provide PR support through the Bealtaine Festival, (the tour will need to also have its own PR plan);
- Issue two payments totalling €5000: one payment on award of contract and one on completion.

Application Process & selection criteria

Those wishing to apply for the tour award should submit their completed application form in Word or PDF, and any supporting documentation should be sent as separate files.

Applications will be assessed according to the following criteria and applicants should pay special attention to these when completing the application form:

- Work which clearly resonates with Bealtaine's mission and/or target audience;
- Track record of relevant personnel;
- New work / work which has not toured previously, (remounted work may be considered in some circumstances);
- High artistic merit;
- Clearly achievable in the timeframe outlined.

Applications should be submitted to the Arts Administrator, Jessica Burton-Restrick, arts@ageandopportunity.ie no later than **5pm, Monday 20th November, 2023.**

Assessment

Please note, applications will be assessed by an Age & Opportunity appointed panel.

- Applicants will be assessed on the selection criteria and the questions answered on the application form
- Incomplete applications will be disqualified

Any queries relating to the Bealtaine Tour may be directed to Jessica Burton-Restrick as above by email, including requests for assistance with filling out the application form.

We aim to communicate final decisions by the end of November 2023. Should a large volume of applicants be received, this timeline may be adjusted to provide additional time to review all applications. All applicants will be kept notified of any changes or updates.

Equality, Human Rights, and Diversity

Please note that Age & Opportunity welcomes applications from all communities, and particularly encourages artists from underrepresented communities to apply.

In line with the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty, and in line with our core funders, Age & Opportunity is committed to ensuring that it takes positive policy measures and commitments to promote equality of opportunity for all those living in Ireland, regardless of their gender, sexual orientation, civil or family status, religion, age, disability, race or membership of the Traveller Community. Furthermore, Age & Opportunity notes the ground of socioeconomic background as a further basis for which equality of opportunity must be guaranteed.

As such, Age & Opportunity is committed to increasing the diversity and inclusion of our work.

More Information

Age & Opportunity

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.

We work with local communities and organisations across the country to run a range of programmes and activities in three key areas:

- **Age & Opportunity Arts** provides opportunities for us to engage more in arts and cultural events and initiatives
- **Age & Opportunity Active** is designed to get us more active and participate in recreational sport and physical activity
- **Age & Opportunity Engage** offers a range of workshops and learning initiatives for our own personal development as well as opportunities for us to play an active role in our community.

Age & Opportunity **Arts** is our dedicated arts and culture programme running throughout the year in local communities all over Ireland. We host a range of different creative initiatives including the annual Bealtaine Festival which takes place throughout the month of May, and is delivered in partnership with communities and organisations nationwide and year round resource and development initiatives designed to support artists, arts participants and arts organisations. Bealtaine is Ireland's national festival, which uniquely celebrates the arts and creativity as we age.