

### The Rolling Programme to Support Innovation in Arts and Heritage

#### **Background**

The Rolling Programme to Support Innovation in Arts and Heritage was established by Council to assist arts and heritage organisations in Belfast to avail of opportunities which arise during the year which benefit their organisation and / or people living in, working in, or visiting Belfast, including opportunities that present themselves after the closing date of Belfast City Council's Culture and Arts Annual Funding or Multi-Annual Funding applications.

Through its Rolling Programme to Support Innovation in Arts and Heritage Belfast City Council supports high quality innovative arts and heritage development in order to develop and support Belfast as a creative and cultural centre in line with the Integrated Cultural Strategy. It offers small grants that range between £500 and £3,000 for arts or heritage organisations to develop activities, particularly those of a one-off, pilot or developmental nature, promoting sustainability and working towards security of funding for the cultural sector. It is worth noting that a small award through the Initiative can often lead to leverage of a far greater sum, enabling the staging of a large scale event as a result of Belfast City Council's investment in the project. Prime examples of this in 2008-09 include:

- Belfast Festival at Queens. An award of £2,000 representing 20% of the overall budget enabled leverage for a high profile conference exploring the work of internationally acclaimed Belfast playwright Stewart Parker .
- Happenstance Theatre Company: An award of £2, 000 from The Rolling Programme to Support Innovation in Arts and Heritage succeeded in leveraging a further £20,000 in order to enable a Northern Ireland wide tour of a play exploring the legacy and poetry of World War I accompanied by a comprehensive outreach programme in Belfast.
- The Beat Initiative: An award of £2,000 representing approximately 6% of the overall programme budget helped lever funding to launch a unique International Carnival Centre in North Belfast.

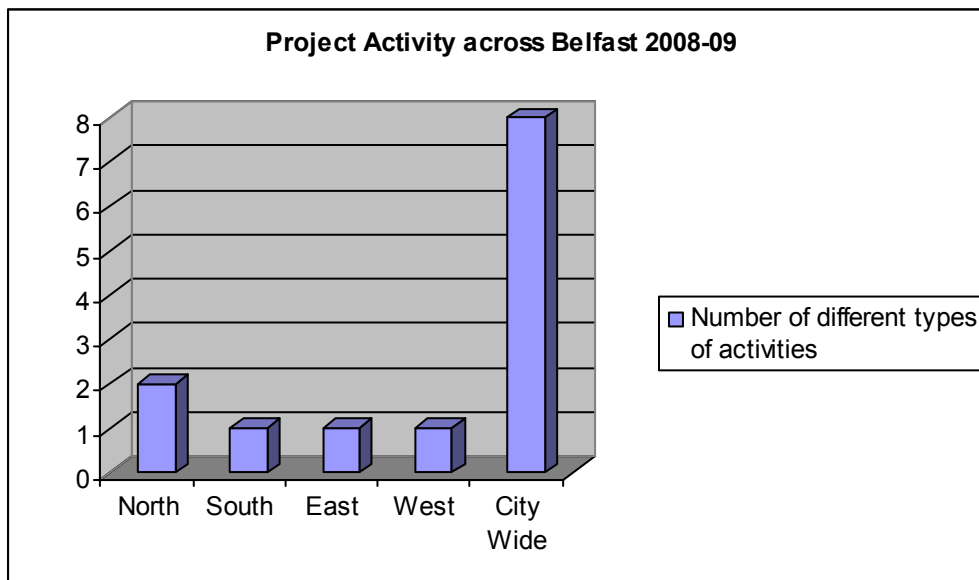
Innovation in the Arts and Heritage is a key aspect of the project activity supported through the Initiative. Each year The Rolling Programme to Support Innovation in Arts and Heritage awards grants to projects that have the potential to make a significant impact on our society but which might not have happened without this support. This demonstration of Belfast City Council's support for cultural activity enables a wealth of artistic and heritage activity to happen, promotes the growth of new organisations and builds audiences across the city. All of the project activity funded through the Initiative represent a significant contribution to the cultural infrastructure of Belfast. Through The Rolling Programme to Support Innovation in Arts and Heritage, Belfast City Council has demonstrated its commitment to events that have the potential to the profile of Belfast internationally, cultural tourism, the celebration of

diversity and good relations across the city.

- Creative Media Partnerships: In partnership with the Outburst Arts Festival were awarded £2000 to make a series of short documentaries outlining the lives of Belfast's Gay Community. The resulting product OUT:TAKES was shown to critical acclaim at the Outburst Festival in November 2008 and has been selected to take part in the 2009 Belfast Festival at Queens and the Dublin Film Festival.
- An example of how the Initiative supports innovation in Heritage is the £1500 awarded to The Friends of the Ulster Orchestra in order to create an archive of the Ulster Orchestra from its inception. The archive will go on permanent display at the Ulster Hall and have an online component that will prove an invaluable resource for generations of students of classical music as well as historians.

## 2008-09

- In 2008-09 £28,000 was designated for the Rolling Programme.
- In 2008-09 Belfast City Council has received 31 applications from 28 organisations.
- Of these 2 applications came from Heritage Organisations, with the rest representing a variety of art, community arts and community organisations.
- To date, Belfast City Council has supported 13 cultural organisations covering a diverse range of artistic and heritage disciplines, including disability arts performance, community festivals, short films dealing with Section 75 groups and specialist training with funding of £26,000.00.
- Grants from Belfast City Council's Rolling Programme to Support Innovation in Culture and Arts normally range from £250 up to £3,000.
- The main rationale for unsuccessful application was ineligibility for funding under the criteria of the initiative.



**8% of activity took place in East Belfast**  
**8% of activity took place in South Belfast**  
**15% of activity took place in North Belfast**  
**8% of activity took place in West Belfast**  
**61% of activity was on a citywide basis**

## Description of Project, Award Granted and Citywide Breakdown

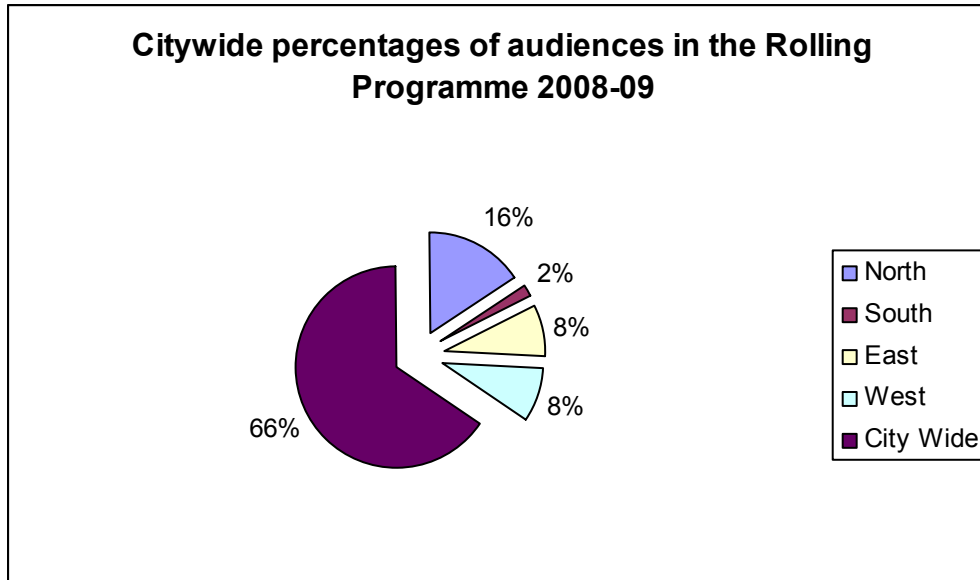
| Organisation                  | Activity   | Area     | Awarded           |
|-------------------------------|--|----------|-------------------|
| Arts Care NI                  | Specialist Training for Clown Doctors Project                                | Citywide | £1,500            |
| Bbeyond                       | Cross Cultural Visual Arts Exhibition & Outreach                             | City     | £2,000            |
| Beat Initiative               | Carnival Launch Event, Training,   | North    | £2,000            |
| Belfast Festival              | Literary Heritage Event  | South    | £2,000            |
| Creative Media Partnerships   | Development and production of 8 short films as part of the Outburst Festival | City     | £2,000            |
| East Belfast Titanic Festival | Community Festival   | East     | £2,500            |
| Féile an Phobail              | Creation of Celtic Village at Community Festival                             | West     | £2,500            |
| Friends of Ulster Orchestra   | Creation of Archive Resource   | City     | £1,500            |
| Greenshoot Productions        | Outreach package to accompany theatre production                             | North    | £2,500            |
| Happenstance Theatre Company  | Heritage related theatre performance and workshops                           | City     | £1,500            |
| Linenhall Library             | Creation of literary festival  | City     | £2,000            |
| Open Arts                     | Performance opportunity for Disability Arts Choir                            | City     | £1500             |
| Tinderbox Theatre             | Development of new theatre production  | City     | £2,500            |
| <b>Total</b>                  |  |          | <b>£26,000.00</b> |

| Area  | North   | South              | East                   | West                     | City Wide  |
|---|---|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Spend</b>  | £4,500  | £2,000             | £2,500                 | £2,500                   | £14,500  |
| <b>Activity</b>   | 2   | 1                  | 1                      | 1                        | 8  |
| <b>Percentage of activity</b>   | 15%   | 8%                 | 8%                     | 8%                       | 61%  |
| <b>Type of Activity</b>   | 1 x Carnival Event<br>1 x Theatre Performance | 1 x Drama Festival | 1 x Community Festival | 1 x Community Festival   | 1 x Professional Training;<br>3 x Theatre Performances;<br>1 x Creation of Archive<br>1 x Choral Performance;<br>1 x Literary Festival<br>1 x Film |
| <b>Participant / Audience Targets [in addition to all age range/wider audience]</b> | Children.<br>Young people                     | Artists            | Children               | Children<br>Older People | Artists<br>Children & Young People in hospitals<br>Children<br>Young People<br>Students of music<br>Disabled People<br>Gay/Lesbian people          |
| <b>Projected Audience Figures</b>   | 9450  | 1100               | 5000                   | 5000                     | 39050  |
| <b>Projected Participant Figures</b>  | 236   | 30                 | 400                    | 0                        | 193  |
| <b>Projected Artist Employed</b>  | 53  | 50                 | 5                      | 5                        | 423  |

**Totals and Percentages Citywide 2008-09**

**Audience Totals:**

**54,600**



**2008-09 Participant Totals:**

**895**

