



8 December 2009

Councillor William Humphrey, Chair
Development Committee
Belfast City Council
3rd Floor, Adelaide Exchange
24-26 Adelaide Street
Belfast
BT2 8GD

Dear Councillor Humphrey,

The Culture Night Belfast Committee would like to express its' appreciation for the funding received in 2009 to organise Belfast's inaugural Culture Night. Held on the 25th of September, Culture Night attracted 15,000 enthusiastic visitors to the Cathedral Quarter. Participating organisations and businesses contributed 100 interesting and unusual activities, and the Culture Night organisers animated the streets and public squares.

In addition to funding from Belfast City Council and the Arts Council, Culture Night attracted over 7K in sponsorship and advertising from local businesses in the short run-up to the event, and succeeded in bringing a real 'buzz' to the Cathedral Quarter.

"Never before have I seen the area around Cotton Court so vibrant, so full of creative, diverse, enchanting activity...the atmosphere was electric, and in one night our exhibition had audience figures that far exceeded any previous monthly audience figures, a testament indeed to the scale and success of the evening." *Craft NI*

"Best night out in Belfast ever" *Duke of York*

"The owner of the Tivoli Barber Shop, Eddie Mc Glinchey, said he had not seen so many people on the street since he was a little boy." *Forum for Alternative Belfast*

"A night when many citizens of Belfast experienced for the first time the history, music and tranquillity of Belfast Cathedral. The quietness of this holy place in the midst of the CN noise and excitement led many to stay longer and feel the uniqueness of the Cathedral." *Belfast Cathedral*

We are eager to build on the success of the first year and hope to develop Culture Night Belfast to include other areas of the city in years three and beyond. The Culture Night Committee requests £25,000 towards the organisation of Culture Night Belfast 2010. A decision early in 2010 will enable us to take advantage of opportunities for international marketing and improve our overall event planning and management.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sean Kelly, Chair
Culture Night Belfast

15 Church Street • Belfast BT1 1PG • tel: +44 07501469009 • www.culturenightbelfast.com

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