

AN MUNIA TOBER

Project Title

Traveller tales

Purpose of Lead Applicant

'To achieve a situation where Travellers in Belfast have access to all services that meet their social economic and cultural needs are included as equal citizens in a new multi cultural society'

- To increase the level and capacity of Traveller community participation at decision-making level and in the development of policies and services which have a positive effect on everyday life for Travellers.
- To ensure that An Munia Tober delivers a broad range of services that develops Traveller inclusion in all aspects of social, education and economic needs.
- To raise awareness of the culture, circumstances and aspirations of Travellers and to address issues of discrimination and racism as well as to promote relations between Travellers and the settled community.
- That An Munia Tober works collectively with other Traveller organisations to ensure that all forums and initiatives address Traveller issues and achieve a positive outcome for Travellers.

Other Partners

Partner 1: Crescent Arts Centre

Partner 2: St Mary's Primary School

Stated Targeted Wards

Glen Road_1,2,3; Upper Springfield_1,2,3; Whiterock_1,2,3

Dates

September 2011 – March 2012

Recommendation

Development and Outreach is open to collaborative partnerships of community organisations and arts/heritage organisations. St Mary's Primary School is not constituted as a community organisation, and this application is therefore considered ineligible.

ARTS CARE

Project Title

Sculptural Dance

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Arts Care's mission is to enable people in health and social care to transform their lives through participation in creative activities. In partnership with Health and Social Care Trusts, Arts Care engages a team of artists-in-residence, clown doctors and project artists who facilitate and co-ordinate participatory workshops and performances with service users, staff and visitors. Those who participate have the opportunity to experiment with forms of expression which may not normally be available to them. This process of involvement in arts activities leads to increased communication skills and improved quality of life.

Other Partners

Partner 1: Cedar Foundation
Partner 2: Montague Day Centre

Stated Targeted Wards

Beechmount_1,2,3; Clonard_1,2; Falls Park_1,2,3; Musgrave_1; Upper Malone_2; Upper Springfield_1,2,3; Whiterock_1,2,3

Dates

May 2011 – April 2012

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

Sculptural Dance will create a kinetic artwork at the entrance to Musgrave Park Hospital (MPH). Its primary aim is to form a partnership between Arts Care, the Regional Acquired Brain Injury Unit at MPH and two community groups, namely the Cedar Foundation and the Montague Day Centre. This is an eligibility criterion for Development and Outreach, rather than a primary aim of the programme. Overall, the project was not considered a good fit with Development and Outreach as the focus is on the end-product, rather than the process.

The Arts Care sculptor will work collaboratively with a group accessing clinical treatment at MPH and with participants from Cedar and Montague. The project will follow on from and develop the theme of Movement identified through previous work at MPH.

The timescale for the programme is clearly defined in the application, and there is an emphasis on the quality of the end product throughout, with 79 per cent of the budget to be spent on materials and fabrication. However, there will only be eight workshops in total, and there is some discrepancy as to the actual number of participants to be involved. Tangible and intangible benefits are not concise and will be difficult to measure.

Leadership

The proposal is backed by research, demonstrating need and demand for the project. Individuals directly involved in the workshops will develop their understanding of the creative process from conception through to realisation. This would include a great number of people from Belfast who may not otherwise access the arts.

Arts Care is requesting £10,124 from Development and Outreach, which is 100 per cent of projected costs. There is little evidence of additionality to Arts Care's core programme, however.

Participation is given as 250. However, based on 8 workshops of 12 participants, this is more likely to be a minimum of 12 and maximum of 96. Audiences is given at 1,000 per day, which is based on footfall through the hospital.

Good Relations

The artwork will showcase the participant groups' artistic skills. It will also enhance the skills of those involved in making the artwork, including older citizens in a disadvantaged area and individuals with disabilities. The group work will address social isolation among the members of the three groups.

Staff from each of the community organisations will be encouraged to participate in workshops, which will develop their skills in group facilitation. However, this is stated as an aspiration in the application.

Place

The Arts Care sculptor will work collaboratively with the local community groups. The end product will physically enhance the hospital site, helping to promote it as a welcoming space, and site mock-ups have been included in the application.

Management

Management and governance is strong. Appropriate policies are in place and up to date. Progress will be monitored against timescales and financial targets. The monitoring and evaluation is standard; more detailed feedback could be obtained. Marketing strategies are average and could be further developed. Financial management is sound.

Recommendation

This project is to erect a piece of public art and is not considered a good fit with Development and Outreach. Arts Care is not recommended for funding on this occasion.

ARTS FOR ALL

Project Title

Urban Diversity

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Arts for All aims to promote, develop, encourage and stimulate arts activity throughout North Belfast.

Arts for All have four main objectives:

- Encourage and stimulate the artistic creativity of people from North Belfast

- Encourage appreciation and participation in community arts
- Provide or secure advice, training and information on all aspects of the arts
- Promote and conduct research that will benefit the arts in North Belfast

They strive to achieve aims via practical workshops for community groups, churches, youth groups, and schools and through partnerships.

They believe that the arts are an essential tool for community and personal development. They aim to improve access to the arts and provide greater opportunity to arts activity, and in particular in areas where there is little or no arts development.

Other Partners

Partner 1: Small Steps Adult Education Group

Partner 2: Trans Belfast

Stated Targeted Wards

Ardoyne_1,2,3; Ballysillan_1,2,3; Duncairn_1,2; New Lodge_1,2,3; Water Works_1,2,3; Woodvale_1,2,3

Dates

September 2011 – no date given

Recommendation

The scheme guidance notes state that all partners listed on page 1 of the application form must complete and sign partner forms. This application is ineligible as no partner forms were submitted. In addition, no supporting information, such as a constitution or bank statement, was received from Trans.

ARTSEKTA

Project Title

Journeys through Dance

Purpose of Lead Applicant

ArtsEkta (Ekta means bonding/uniting in the Indian language) works to enhance the practice, understanding and appreciation of ethnic arts within a contemporary artistic, social and educational context. ArtsEkta is dedicated to strengthening and deepening relationships between different cultures through a series of exciting and inspiring arts-based programmes. Their mission is:

To promote and support multicultural arts and artists in the community by sharing the value of unique cultural experiences and raising awareness and acceptance of different cultures by fostering respect for people of all backgrounds through a wide range of activities.

Other Partners

Partner 1: Dance Ihayami
Partner 2: Young Women's Group (Short Strand)
Partner 3: Women United

Stated Targeted Wards

Ardoyne_1,2,3; Ballymacarrett_1,2,3

Dates

May 2011 – April 2012

Assessment

Objectives of the Initiative

ArtsEkta will work in partnership with local communities in Belfast to deliver a programme based on dance, stories, myths and legends of South Asia. The project will build capacity and boost cultural activity.

Journeys through Dance will develop social engagement and understanding between citizens while encouraging them to be more active and have more civic pride. Valuing diversity is a core aim of the project. There is a strong cross-community and intergenerational focus.

It is not clear how ArtsEkta consulted with the community groups to establish a need.

Thirty-five participants will be involved in the project, and it is expected to reach an audience of 25,000 through promotion and collaboration with various organisations, including performance at the Belfast Mela.

Leadership

Journeys through Dance has three formal partners, including two community groups. The target areas are Ardoyne and Ballymacarrett, which are areas of social need.

ArtsEkta has requested £19,494 or 76 per cent of the project funding from Development and Outreach, which is good leverage. £1,000 will be sought through sponsorship, and the remainder will be from the Irish Youth Foundation.

Good Relations

The initiative aims to promote good relations between communities from different religious, ethnic and political backgrounds. It will provide participants with opportunities for personal development and learning, which will also increase cultural awareness. Journeys through Dance will strengthen social networks, providing further opportunities to access cultural activities.

Place

The project will take place in Botanic Gardens, Custom House Square and St George's Market. The areas targeted for recruitment will be Ardoyne and

Ballymacarrett. The project will promote social inclusion, community cohesion and the development of shared spaces.

Management and Governance

Management and governance is sound. The marketing strategy and collaboration with UTV is likely to be very effective. Evaluation and monitoring processes are also effective and should prove invaluable at the end of the programme. Appropriate policies are in place. Business and financial planning are sound.

Recommendation

ArtsEkta is recommended for funding of £11,696.

BELFAST ORANGEFEST

Project Title

Outreach Orangefest

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Orangefest is established to develop and promote the 12 July festivities in Belfast, which is one of the largest community festivals in Northern Ireland, with over 10,000 participants and up to 75,000 spectators. Orangefest aims to ensure that the festival and associated events are safe, inclusive and educational; and that they are increasingly enjoyed by people from all backgrounds. They aim to ensure that the Twelfth celebrations have a positive impact on the social and economic life of Belfast.

Other Partners

Partner 1: Small Steps
Partner 2: Arts for All
Partner 3: Ulster Scots Community Network

Stated Targeted Wards

Castleview_1,3; Shaftesbury_1,2,3; The Mount_1,2; Woodvale_1,2,3

Dates

May 2011 – March 2012

Assessment

Objectives of the Initiative

Outreach Orangefest aims to provide over 200 young people with an opportunity to engage in a programme of arts-based activities, including photography, drama and textile art.

The project will enhance and develop creative capacity in areas of weak arts infrastructure, helping to build cultural and creative confidence and foster civic pride. The programme will target communities in the Shore Road; Shankill; Sandy Row;

and Albertbridge Road. Activities will take place in primary schools and Orange Halls. While the course participants will be drawn from Protestant communities, they will target alternative audiences for their showcase in the Waterfront Hall in March 2012. Further engagement with mainstream arts and other parts of the city would have been advantageous.

Outreach Orangefest is a pilot initiative. The tangible and intangible benefits as stated in the application are limited, but measurable and realisable. There is also evidence of positive impact throughout the application.

Leadership

The partners have worked together previously on successful projects. Outreach Orangefest will build the capacity of local communities to deliver culture and arts activities on an ongoing basis, and there is evidence of need and demand. In addition to 200 participants, the core audience is given as 400, with additional footfall of 20,000 to 30,000 for the period of the exhibition at the Waterfront.

Orangefest is requesting 100 per cent of funding from Development and Outreach.

Good Relations

The programme aims to encourage people in areas of social need to engage with their heritage and to develop a more confident, positive cultural identity. The programme will also provide diversionary activities for young people who might otherwise be involved in anti-social behaviour, developing their skills and confidence. Outreach Orangefest will engage with stakeholders within Catholic and ethnic minorities communities, and the end showcase will target a wide audience demographic. More detail of how this will be achieved, however, would have been advantageous.

Place

Outreach Orangefest will support the regeneration of local communities by developing arts and heritage activities within neighbourhood renewal areas. Promoting greater understanding of cultural diversity in interface communities is likely to have a positive impact. The project will also open up Orange Halls as spaces for positive cultural activity.

Management and Governance

A more detailed business plan would have been advantageous. However, organisational governance is strong and the project is supported by a committee. All stakeholders will be involved in monitoring and evaluation. Marketing plans could be developed further. Appropriate policies are in place.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Belfast Orangefest receives £8,659, which is 60 per cent of their request.

BEYOND SKIN

Project Title

Belfast East

Purpose of Lead Applicant

- To address racism and sectarianism by using the arts and music to identify and promote positive attributes reflected from a society made up of different cultures.
- To advance education and promote the cultural arts for the benefit of the habitants of Northern Ireland without distinction of age, gender disability, sexual orientation, nationality, ethnic identity, and political or religious opinions.
- To present, promote, organize, manage and produce performances and exhibitions of works of cultural and educational value, including performances, broadcasts, entertainment and exhibitions.
- To raise cultural diversity awareness through specific educational activities aimed at young people.

Other Partners

Partner 1: Chinese Welfare Association

Partner 2: Ravenlink Residents Association

Stated Targeted Wards

Ballyhackamore_3; Ballymacarrett_1,2,3; Belmont_3; Bloomfield_1,3_Belfast; Orangefield_1; Sydenham_1,2,3; Woodstock_12,3

Dates

June 2011 – April 2012

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

In Beyond Skin's Belfast East project, East Belfast communities will work alongside artists representing a variety of cultures. The aims include enhancing cultural relationships and artistic value in the area; boosting individual and community cultural confidence; and improving communications between different ethnic and cultural groups. The programme includes radio programmes, exhibitions and art and animation workshops.

Belfast East is a strategy for Beyond Skin, not an isolated project. This is the third and final year of the programme, which demonstrates longevity, although project planning could be improved. The project could be more tailored and focussed, rather than incorporating a wide variety of objectives. Tangible and intangible benefits could have been more detailed; however, there is evidence of realisable benefits and positive impacts throughout the application.

The partnership between the organisations is very strong. Previous work with Ravenlink has been extensive. This project will bring vitality and improve local image and identity in an area of weak cultural infrastructure.

The criteria have not been fully addressed in the application. However, there is good evidence throughout of alignment with Development and Outreach.

Belfast East has estimated a target audience of 4,500 and 1,200 participants; this can be achieved through project workshops and other activities, which supports need and demand.

Leadership

The design and strategic vision for Belfast East is built on partnerships and partner ownership. Beyond Skin has been associated with numerous community and professional partnerships in previous projects.

The requested amount from Development and Outreach equates to 45 per cent of the budget for the project, which is excellent leverage and value for money. Beyond Skin will also seek funding from other public sector funding schemes and in kind from partners. They will also generate income of £2,500. The overall budget is very lean.

Good Relations

Beyond Skin portray very strong relations with local communities, including deprived areas and marginalised groups. They have a good understanding of good relations issues, and the project will contribute to civic pride.

Place

Activities will take place at Dundella Primary School, Belmont Tower, Chinese Welfare Association and Willowfield Church and Community. The target areas are: Ballyhackamore; Ballymacarrett; Belmont; Bloomfield; Orange Field; The Mount; and Woodstock.

The communities will be engaged in various art and music activities in order to promote self-esteem and developing cross-cultural relationships locally and globally.

Management

Management and governance could be strengthened given the scope and ambition of the programme. Project and business planning could be more focussed. Artists and staff will receive training to ensure the delivery and performance is of a high standard. The marketing strategy for the programme is standard and could be enhanced with a more detailed methodology. Monitoring and evaluation is well thought-out, and the feedback should be valuable for all partners and funders. Appropriate policies are in place.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Beyond Skin is awarded £9,350.

CINEMAGIC

Project Title

Reel Legacy

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Cinemagic aims to motivate educate and inspire young people; to increase and broaden understanding and awareness that young people have toward film, television and new media industries via moving image.

It caters for young people 4 to 25 years, and believes film and television provides accessible ways of learning and stimulating discussion among young people.

The annual Cinemagic festival includes international and educational screenings, movie premieres, special guests, director discussions, school packages, practical workshops and master classes.

It engages formal and non-formal education sectors in practical work and film screenings to build community capacity, achieve social inclusion and increase cultural diversity.

Other Partners

Partner 1: Knocknagoney

Partner 2: Suffolk

Stated Targeted Wards

Belmont_3; Bloomfield_1,3_Belfast; Glen Road_1,2,3; Glencolin_1,2,3,4; Sydenham_1,2,3

Dates

May 2011 – April 2012

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

Cinemagic's Reel Legacy project will establish a film club with community groups in Knocknagoney and Suffolk community centres. Participants will view films that will help create conversation around issues such as cultural divide, conflict, education, employment and isolation. The project may be opened up to further groups in the Suffolk area.

The core young people participating in the project will attend drama workshops. These will enable the young people to learn about film, programming, acting, scriptwriting and marketing, helping to develop the film and television industry in Belfast. They will also develop personal and social skills.

The application states that the project has been developed from a common theme, but does not state what this theme is. Evidence of genuine partnership and of the project being tailored to the needs of the community is limited. Benefits could be

more concisely defined. Participants will become involved in the Cinemagic's festival, aiding longevity and sustainability. However, a more detailed project plan would support the quality criterion.

Leadership

The criteria are not fully or clearly addressed in the application.

The project will bring together and forge links between isolated areas. Cinemagic hopes that these links will be sustainable and improve communication among groups of young people at a grass-roots level. Need and demand from a community perspective is less evident. Target audience is predicted to reach 400 people.

Cinemagic is requesting 80 per cent of the budget from Development and Outreach. The remainder of funding will be in-kind from Cinemagic. This is considered reasonable value for money.

Good Relations

This project aims to provide socially marginalised groups and isolated communities with a platform that promotes arts and heritage within their area. It will also encourage a sense of community and civic pride. Other local groups from different backgrounds will be invited to film nights.

Place

The areas that will benefit from the project are: Belmont; Bloomfield; Glen Road; Glencolin; and Sydenham. Each community group will host film screenings on alternative dates to encourage people from both communities to feel less isolated and to promote inter-community integration. Cinemagic has experience of working with a number of community groups across Belfast.

Management and Governance

Management and governance is good with a strategic board and subcommittees. Monitoring and evaluation is relatively basic. Financial management is sound. The application refers to previously submitted marketing strategies, which have neither been tailored to this project, nor developed based on previous experience. Appropriate policies are in place.

Recommendation

Cinemagic did not score over 60 per cent. They are therefore not recommended to receive funding. A more detailed and focussed project plan and application would be advantageous. More evidence that the needs of the communities targeted have been identified and addressed would be advantageous.

CREATIVE EXCHANGE

Project Title

Urban Meadows

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Creative Exchange aims to support and assist the professional practice of visual artists through the provision of studio space, shared resources and the management of an annual programme. Creative Exchange actively engages in arts activities in the greater Belfast area with a special emphasis on East Belfast. This includes dedicated education and outreach activities.

Other Partners

Partner 1: East Belfast Partnership

Partner 2: Engine Room Gallery

Stated Targeted Wards

Ballyhackamore_3; Ballymacarrett_1,2,3; Bloomfield_1,3_Belfast; Island_1,2; Sydenham_1,2,3; The Mount_1.2

Dates

May 2011 – April 2012

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

Creative Exchange, in partnership with East Belfast Partnership and Engine Room Gallery, will deliver two creative urban interventions on the Newtownards Road. The outcome of the project will be community landscaping, which will benefit the wider image of Belfast. It will also develop creative skills and confidence. This will be delivered through a series of workshops.

The project will engage 100 participants and an audience of 300, although footfall past the regenerated area will be considerably higher. Tangible and intangible outcomes are extensive and strong. There is also good evidence that the project will widen access to cultural activity and promote equality. Partnership working is genuine and the activity is sustainable.

Leadership

Consultations have taken place with residents on the Newtownards Road. The project is also supported by the Going Green Group based at East Belfast Mission.

There are few arts organisations based in East Belfast, which supports the need for the initiative. All partners have expertise and demonstrate a strong track record in relevant areas.

If supported by Development and Outreach, the Council's contribution to the project will be 45 per cent, and the remaining budget will be sought through the Arts Council of Northern Ireland and East Belfast Partnership. The investment will aid local tourism initiatives and is considered good value and leverage.

Good Relations

The community will be involved in all stages of project, maximising benefits and ensuring ownership. It will also promote interaction between communities and build confidence and civic pride, which will encourage long-term development of good community relations.

Place

The workshops will be delivered in local venues, including the Engine Room Gallery and local community centres. The end artwork will be placed on a derelict and underused piece of land. It will also provide small recreational areas for the community to enjoy. The long-term aim of the project is to help rejuvenate the arterial route.

Management

The marketing strategy for the project is extensive. Monitoring and evaluation has been well thought-out and both qualitative and quantitative data will be captured. Management and governance is strong, and the vision is realistic. Procedures and policies have been provided to support application. Financial management is sound, but the project budget could be revised, particularly with regards to facilitator fees.

Recommendation

Creative Exchange is recommended for funding of £14,103.

DANCE UNITED NI

Project Title

Merge

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Dance United NI is a professional dance development company, which is based in Belfast and works across the island of Ireland, the UK and internationally.

Its aim is to introduce young people to dance and the creative arts.

Its vision is to facilitate personal and social development, build community connections and foster mutual tolerance and respect.

With performance as an integral part of the process, Dance United NI provides access to innovative contemporary dance workshops and projects across communities which may have limited or no dance provision, constantly challenging traditional views of the relevance and value of dance.

Other Partners

Partner 1: Belfast Unemployed Resource Centre

Partner 2: New Lodge Arts

Stated Targeted Wards

Ballymacarrett_1,2,3; Clonard_1,2; Falls Park_1,2,3; New Lodge_1,2,3; Shankill_1,2; The Mount_1,2; Upper Springfield_1,2,3; Whiterock_1,2,3; Woodvale_1,2,3;

Dates

May 2011 – February 2012

Assessment

Objective of Initiative

Merge is an innovative, large-scale dance project that will take place in the Urban Park Warehouse in the Titanic Quarter. Eighty young people will participate in the project, and the target participants are unemployed people living in areas of social need. The audience is projected as 800.

The programme aims to foster good community relations and celebrate cultural diversity while engaging a non-traditional audience for dance, challenging preconceptions of what dance is and helping sustain the art form. The focus on urban dance and other urban arts is particularly likely to appeal to and engage participants. The overall objective is to increase employment in disadvantaged areas.

Leadership

There is good evidence of strong partnership with the Belfast Unemployed Resource Centre. However, there is less evidence of a genuine partnership with New Lodge Arts, who will be providing project participants.

The need for more employability skills is clearly identified, along with development of arts and culture within the areas of deprivation. Dance United has requested 32 per cent of the overall budget needed to fund the programme from Development and Outreach. 45 per cent of funding has already been secured from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland and Linbury Trust. The remainder is to be sought from other private trusts. The programme will have a good economic output and value for money and leverage is excellent.

Good Relations

Merge will impact positively on good relations by bringing people from different traditions and identities across Belfast together in a shared creative process. The programme will facilitate improved physical and mental health, increase social and communications skills and help combat feelings of isolation.

Place

Merge will target audiences and participants in: Ballymacarrett, Clonard; Fortwilliam; New Lodge; Shankill; the Mount; Whiterock; and Woodvale. The workshops and performances will take place in the Titanic Quarter, supporting Council investment in the cultural infrastructure of the city and enhancing the use of public spaces.

Management

The governance of the organisation and programme is excellent and incorporates various committee members from diverse backgrounds. The management of the project is well thought-out, and it will deliver an extensive range of tangible and intangible benefits. The marketing strategy is sound and monitoring and evaluation is substantial within the application. Appropriate policies are in place. Financial management is sound.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Dance United receives £12,000.

FLAX ART STUDIOS

Project Title

Axis

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Flax Art Studios mission is to support and promote emerging and established contemporary visual artists from Belfast and beyond, through affordable artist-run studios, to sustain and develop local, regional and international initiatives and to promote research and community outreach projects.

Flax art is an artist-run organisation, providing advanced studios for artists and delivering annual programming including International Residencies. Flax art also runs a Graduating Student Residency and facilitates projects in the wider community through workshops, seminars and artist-initiated projects.

Other Partners

Partner 1: Mullan Mews Supporting Housing
Partner 2: Sydenham Court Supported Housing

Stated Targeted Wards

Belmont_3; Orangefield_1; Sydenham_1,2,3; Woodstock_1,2,3

Dates

May – September 2011

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

The purpose of Flax Art Studios' project is to give the elderly and people suffering from dementia an opportunity to be involved in the arts through various visits to museums and galleries. The participants from Mullan Mews Supported Housing and Sydenham Court Supported Housing will be engaged in weekly workshops, which will be facilitated by a professional artist. Quality of experience is a crucial element of the scheme.

The project draws from the success of MoMA New York, a groundbreaking Alzheimer's programme. It will help to give voice to a marginalised community, and there is both need and demand for the activity.

The partner organisations are from areas of high deprivation. There is good evidence that the activities are tailored to actual need.

Thirty-five participants will be involved in the project, with a projected audience of 2,500.

Leadership

The project specifically targets the most isolated and marginalised sections of the older community. This project will also help build capacity to deliver visual arts to people with dementia, an area which is currently underdeveloped.

Flax Arts Studio is requesting 100 per cent of funding from Development and Outreach. This is reasonable value for money based on the outputs.

Good Relations

Flax Art Studios will be working in areas of deprivation and with participants who frequently experience physical, social and financial barriers to arts participation. There is good evidence of supporting good relations, particularly in relation to outreach and building capacity.

A publication will be developed illustrating the overall project, and this will be distributed to public bodies, health services, government offices, Clanmill Housing schemes, libraries and charitable organisations, ensuring knowledge is disseminated widely.

Place

The events will take place in Sydenham Court, Mullan Mews, Ulster Museum, Ulster Folk Park, Ormeau Baths, Golden Thread Gallery and Flax Art Studios. The areas targeted for this initiative are Blackstaff, Shaftesbury, the Mount and Woodstock

Management

Management and governance is sound. However, volunteer numbers could be increased to support the project delivery. The publication will disseminate findings and market the project. However, both marketing and monitoring could be further developed in line with project aims. Business plans are viable and correct procedures and policies are in place

Recommendation

It is recommended that Flax Arts Studios receives £13,376.40.

LIGONIEL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Project Title

Schools Healing and Reconciliation Endeavour (SHARE)

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Ligoniel Improvement Association's mission is: 'To initiate, facilitate and resource community participation in the improvement of Ligoniel'. Services include: community development: support and resources for community participation in local regeneration; community education: education and training; work with the unemployed; youth work: education, support and advice for youth; advice work: information, advice and support for those on benefits; community relations, developing links across communities; health: addressing health inequalities; and neighbourhood renewal: facilitating working groups associated with Ligoniel's Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan. It acts as an intermediary between statutory and community groups and is the main resource organisation in the area.

Recommendation

Development and Outreach is open to collaborative partnerships of community organisations and arts/heritage organisations. Ligoniel Primary School and St Vincent de Paul Primary school are not constituted as community organisations, and this application is therefore considered ineligible.

MAC, THE

Project Title

My Arts Centre Sounds of the City

Purpose of Lead Applicant

The MAC Mission Statement:

To be the Open Door to Fresh Art

The MAC Strategic Aims 2007 – 2012:

1. Business Process – Artistic Programme
To be Northern Ireland's premiere arts laboratory, nurturing, developing and presenting high quality work from new and emerging as well as established artists;
2. The Customer Perspective
To provide an exceptional experience which welcomes, appeals to and inspires a wide range of people;
3. Learning
To create an organisational culture in which people energise and are energised through proactive training and development;
4. Community Engagement

To further develop The MAC as a unique axis point at which artistic excellence and social and economic regeneration intersect;

Other Partners

Partner 1: Tar Isteach

Partner 2: Sailortown Regeneration

Stated Targeted Wards

New Lodge_1,2,3; Sydenham_1,2,3;

Dates

May 2011 – March 2012

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

The My Arts Centre Sounds of the City project will be run by the MAC in formal partnership with Tar Isteach and Sailortown Regeneration Group. They will also work with supporting partners, Dee Street Community Centre, Linking Generations Northern Ireland and PRONI (Public Record Office of Northern Ireland).

The overall aim of the project is the successful creation of a sound installation to be installed in the MAC for its launch in February 2012. This sound installation will form part of an opening exhibition exploring Belfast's industrial heritage, with a particular focus on its shipbuilding past and the physical and cultural legacy this has left on the city.

Sounds of the City will commence in May 2011 with a period of research and development with all community partners, which provides evidence that the project will be tailored to the communities. However, the link between the partners and the project is not clear in all instances.

The details of the project throughout the application are sketchy, particularly in relation to the engagement and arts process, and this is reflected in the scores.

Leadership

The community partners will provide participants and marketing support. The project will offer opportunities for collaborative working between the community groups, including information-sharing sessions, whereby young people from one area will interview older residents from a different participating community.

Participation is projected at 48 and audience at 10,000. The MAC is requesting 79 per cent of their budget from Development and Outreach. They will also be contributing some in-kind costs.

Good Relations

My Arts Centre Sounds of the City aims to ensure that local communities are given an opportunity to shape, participate in and add value to Belfast's cultural, social and

economic regeneration, including the MAC development. There is evidence of both cross-community and intergenerational collaboration

Place

There is some evidence of neighbourhood renewal and fostering civic pride through the sharing of stories and sounds from the communities' industrial heritage. The project will also embed the new MAC arts centre in the surrounding communities and help develop an audience for its arts space.

Management

This project is the final year of the three-year strategic community engagement project, My Arts Centre. This supports business planning; however, more detailed project plans relating to this application would have been advantageous. Management and governance and financial management are sound.

The MAC will work closely with its public relations agency to devise a marketing plan for this project. Monitoring and evaluation is reasonable. Appropriate policies are in place.

Recommendation

Clearer objectives and a greater demonstration of partnership working would have strengthened this application. It is recommended that the MAC is not awarded funding.

NAUGHTON GALLERY AT QUEEN'S

Project Title

Magpies in Belfast 2011

Purpose of Lead Applicant

The Naughton Gallery and the Queen's Art Collection offers an aesthetic, academic and creative force which enhances the Queen's experience for staff, students and the wider local and international communities. The mission is to:

- encourage maximum access to the visual arts through display, exhibition programmes and outreach projects
- define, survey and document the University Collection to museum standards
- establish best practice in the preventative care, conservation, handling and display of the Collection
- develop the existing Collection through the acquisition of significant works as outlined in the Collection Policy
- provide a leading dynamic platform for contemporary and historic visual arts

Recommendation

The scheme guidance notes state that all partners listed on page 1 of the application form must complete and sign partner forms. This application is ineligible as no partner forms were submitted.

NEW LODGE ARTS

Project Title

North Belfast Lantern Parade

Purpose of Lead Applicant

New Lodge Arts aims to provide community-based learning and personal development opportunities for economically and socially disadvantaged children and young people from Greater New Lodge and other disadvantaged communities in North Belfast through their engagement with and participation in a wide range of arts and cultural activities that they would not otherwise have had access to. It works in close collaboration with artists, other arts organisations, community groups, youth providers and youth mentors to ensure that its programme is appealing and appropriate to young people whatever their need.

Other Partners

Partner 1: Skegoneill/Glandore Common Purpose

Partner 2: Westland Community Centre

Partner 3: Mount Vernon Community House (Fortwilliam Youth Centre)

Partner 4: Greater Whitewell Community Surgery

Stated Targeted Wards

New Lodge_1,2,3; Water Works_1,2,3

Dates

September – October 2011

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

North Belfast Lantern Parade will involve children, young people and adults from various groups across North Belfast, including Forwilliam Youth Centre, Skegoneill/Glandore Common Purpose, Westland Community Group and Greater Whitewell Community Surgery. The communities are based in an area of weak cultural infrastructure. Some of these partnerships have been developed in the past and previously involved in a pilot lantern programme. Partner organisations will provide participants and volunteers. There is good evidence of meaningful partnership.

An outreach programme of lantern-making workshops will be delivered on a cross-community basis. A steering group of community representatives and project participants will deliver the project, ensuring it is tailored to actual need. The groups will create large iconic lanterns that represent well-known landmarks within North Belfast. Training will also be provided to youth and community workers and volunteers from across North Belfast, enabling them to facilitate lantern-making sessions within their own communities. The project will link different communities through workshops and also physically through the parade to the Waterworks.

The duration of the programme is short at just two months; however, the intention is to run it on an annual basis, supporting longevity and sustainability.

Leadership

North Belfast Lantern Parade will build and sustain effective partnerships between communities and arts organisations. Each of the partners involved have previously worked together, and the project will promote community empowerment and self-determination. An audience of 1,500 will be targeted, along with 350 participants involved in the workshops and 750 in the parade. This is a high level of participation, supporting need and demand.

Good Relations

The evaluation of the 2010 lantern parade involved community representatives from across North Belfast, Belfast City Council Parks Department and the PSNI, and this experience has fed into the development of the 2011 proposal.

New Lodge Arts is seeking 53.6 per cent of their budget from Development and Outreach. They have also requested 7 per cent of funding from other Council sources. However, the project is good value for money and leverage is very good.

Place

Neighbourhood renewal is a central aim and it is linked to area renewal plans. North Belfast Lantern Parade will improve the image of North Belfast and of a Council-owned park.

Management

There is evidence of effective management and governance. Meetings have been held with partners and representatives from the North Belfast Community Pride Steering Group. The board has a wide range of experience. Monitoring and evaluation will involve all partners and organisations. Financial management is sound. The organisation has a strategy in place which complements the project. The marketing strategy is basic but effective.

Recommendation

It is recommended that New Lodge Arts receives £14,579.

NORTHERN VISIONS

Project Title

Connections in a Changing City

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Northern Visions is a non-profit distributing company formed under the Workshop Agreement, signed by English Regional Arts Boards, British Film Institute, Channel 4 and BECTU. This Agreement underpins integrated work practice in filmmaking.

Northern Visions provides:
Digital technology and services for media arts and literacy projects;
Training for community/cultural groups in the creative use of digital technology;
A heritage programme;
A good relations programme;
A young people's film unit;
Screenings and arts venue;
Promotes arts and culture through NvTv, other broadcast platforms and streaming on the internet;
Is a partner in Exchange Place, Multimedia Arts Centre in Cathedral Quarter.

Other Partners

Partner 1: Ballymac Youth Project
Partner 2: Ballymacarrett Arts & Cultural Society
Partner 3: Cregagh Community Association

Stated Targeted Wards

Ballymacarrett_1,2,3; Belmont_3; Bloomfield_1,3_Belfast; Island_1,2;
Sydenham_1,2,3; The Mount_1,2; Woodstock_12,3

Dates

June 2011 – January 2012

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

The purpose of Northern Vision's digital media project is to complete a one-hour film documenting locations in East Belfast and the work carried out by partner organisations. The film will be distributed via local television, the internet and DVDs etc. The application states that this will help create synergies between areas and groups involved.

Target neighborhoods are Albertbridge, Pitt Park, Short Strand, Sydenham and Cregagh.

The project will examine the integration of the growing minority ethnic populace through sport.

It is not clear what input the community partners have had in to this project or how it has been tailored to need and demand. More detail is required. Overall, it is not considered a good fit with the aims and priorities of the Development and Outreach scheme. In addition, the project plan lacks clarity.

Leadership

The projected will target audiences of 350,000 through broadcast as part of an all-Ireland network of local television stations. This will enable the project to be broadcast in Dublin, Cork and Navan. Participation is given as 40, although it is not clear what the participant role is.

Northern Visions is requesting 75 per cent of their budget from Development and Outreach. The remainder of the funding will be provided in-kind by Northern Visions. However, the additionality of the project to their core programme is questionable.

Good relations

The application states that the partners will seek to educate through social interaction with other communities and facilitate endeavors to address questions of division, diversity, culture and pluralism with a view to enhancing understanding of such issues. However, it is not clear how this will be achieved. There is evidence, however, that the project will outreach to areas of social need and weak cultural infrastructure.

Place

The project aims to support participants from the community to explore and articulate their sense of belonging. The resulting film will be showcased to stakeholders such as the Department for Social Development as an aid to neighborhood renewal. However, the focus is on social issues, rather than on arts-led development.

Management

Monitoring and evaluation is thorough. Marketing is extensive and reflected in the high audience figures. Management and governance and financial management are sound. Appropriate policies are in place. The project would benefit from a clearly defined project plan, including clear aims and objectives.

Recommendation

Northern Visions' project focuses on the benefits to the organisation and audience, rather than partners and participants and is not a good fit with the objectives of the Development and Outreach programme. They are therefore not recommended for funding.

OPEN ARTS

Project Title

Come to Your Senses

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Open Arts encourages disabled people to participate in the arts as artists, participants, audience and employees, by improving accessibility and creating equal opportunities, contributing to the principles of equality of opportunity and good relations.

They promote the disability arts movement by enabling disabled people to create their own arts and work with people of all ages, from every disability background, in all art forms, throughout Northern Ireland. They develop local partnerships, thereby strengthening the arts infrastructure and provide employment and training for local artists, so improving their standard of work, knowledge and experience of working within the disabled community.

Other Partners

Partner 1: RNIB

Partner 2: Aspen

Partner 3: Junction Club

Stated Targeted Wards

Ballyhackamore_3; Beechmount_1,2,3; Belmont_3; Clonard_1,2;
Crumlin_1,2_Belfast; Falls Park_1,2,3; Knock_1; New Lodge_1,2,3; Orangefield_1;
Shankill_1,2; Whiterock_1,2,3; Woodstock_1,2,3

Dates

August – October 2011

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

The aim of the Come to Your Senses project is to create a participatory sensory art installation in the city centre, helping to regenerate an unused shop. Bringing arts activity into Belfast city centre and creating an interesting sensory installation in an unused city centre retail unit will help to make Belfast a more attractive place.

Open Arts will work in partnership with local disability groups, day-care centres and other arts organisations to devise a series of sensory workshops that will produce the interactive installation. Eight hundred and thirty participants will be involved in the project, and audience is substantial at 100,000. The project will provide opportunity for disabled people to access the arts and will also allow non-disabled people to experience disability arts. There is therefore very good evidence of widening access to the arts and of valuing diversity.

Leadership

There is a genuine partnership between the lead organisation and community partners. The project brief has been specifically tailored to support partially impaired and disabled people within the community. The partnerships built behind this initiative are extensive and this will establish good communication and collaboration with regards to all areas of interface.

Open Arts has requested 93 per cent of the project funding through Development and Outreach. Given the level of partnerships and involvement from various communities, this is good value for money.

Good Relations

There is evidence of supporting good relations throughout the application. The project engages people with a range of disabilities from a wide range of community backgrounds. The end event will also promote civic pride and equality.

This project does not focus on participants from one area of Belfast, but the use of a city centre location for the end showcase will draw in people from marginalised groups and deprived areas.

Place

Audience and participants will be drawn from the following areas: Ballymacarrett; Beechmount; Belmont; Clonard; Crumlin; Falls Park; Lady Brook; New Lodge; Orangefield; Shankill; Whiterock; and Woodstock. The art installation will physically enhance an unused retail space, contributing to the overall image of Belfast.

Management

Management and governance is very strong. The project is supported by various partners and stakeholders who will contribute to its development and sustainability. The aims and timescales of the project are defined and achievable. More effective methods of marketing and monitoring could be implemented. Appropriate policies are in place. Financial management is sound.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Open Arts is awarded £14,414.

ORMEAU BATHS GALLERY (OBG)

Project Title

OBG Artist in Residence

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Mission Statement:

OBG is a leading public art gallery in Northern Ireland, enabling the initiation, promotion and development of contemporary visual arts to an international standard.

Programming

OBG will present outstanding contemporary art, architecture and design in a variety of media which commands public attention

Education

OBG will initiate innovative experiential and discursive learning opportunities for diverse audiences through direct encounters with artists together with an interpretive education programme

Community Outreach

OBG values its relationship with the community at a local, city and national level and will nurture such relationships by providing valuable contemporary visual art experiences for all

Other Partners

Partner 1: The Crescent Arts Centre

Partner 2: The Donegal Pass Community Centre

Partner 3: The Markets Community Centre

Stated Targeted Wards

Shaftesbury_1,2,3

Dates

June 2011 – March 2012

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

Ormeau Baths Gallery's (OBG) artist-in-residence project will recruit a professional artist/facilitator with a successful track record of working on visual art projects involving participants of all ages, abilities and differing cultural backgrounds. The artist will be based at OBG, but work three days onsite at the Donegall Pass and Markets community centres. The project will run over nine months, with groups and individuals participating in a range of visual arts projects. Weekly group workshops will include print-making, photography, film, painting and sculpture. The end-product and legacy of the project will be the creation of two pieces of public art, one permanently displayed in Donegall Pass and one in the Markets.

Consultation meetings with representatives from the Markets, Donegall Pass, Belfast City Council and the Crescent Arts Centre have identified that there is a shortfall in arts participation and engagement at a local community level. The project will also allow the participants to attend other major cultural venues in the city. An emphasis will be placed on workshops that promote and explore cultural diversity and social cohesion.

Leadership

There is evidence of need for the project. However, evidence of genuine partnerships and demand driven by the community groups is limited. The proposal also does not clarify the type of art work/public art to be produced, and the budget available may restrict quality. Only 6 per cent of the budget is for artistic materials. OBG is requesting 100 per cent funding of funding from Development and Outreach. They project an audience of 1,000 and 200 participants, which is high.

Good Relations

The planned cultural trips to arts venues will further help in building social cohesion within the Markets and Donegall Pass communities, promoting a sense of pride in the city of Belfast, its heritage and cultural offering.

There will be consultation between OBG and schools in the Markets and Donegall Pass areas to ensure community buy-in and involvement from participants at primary and secondary education level.

Place

The public artworks will physically enhance the local communities, and there is evidence of linkages to wider regeneration plans. OBG's location on Ormeau Avenue is geographically positioned between these two communities. However, it is not clear if or how the communities will come together.

Management

Management and governance is very strong and frequent monthly meetings will engage stakeholders and monitor performance. Last year's accounts show a small deficit, which is manageable. Appropriate policies are in place. Business plans are reasonable

OBG and the Crescent Arts Centre will maximize existing relationships with the local, regional and national press to get coverage of the launch of the project, ongoing progress and the launch of the two pieces of public art. A dynamic press pack will accompany each press launch. The information collated from questionnaires and surveys will be analysed and evaluated at monthly project stakeholder meetings. Overall, evaluation is strong.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Ormeau Baths receives £9,523.

PRIMECUT PRODUCTIONS

Project Title

12 Mersey St: The Story of an East Belfast House 1912 & 2012

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Prime Cut is committed to:

- Developing and producing quality contemporary international drama for local audiences and beyond
- Sustaining and building upon their critical reputation for first-class challenging theatre, promoting cultural diversity and understanding through artistic exchanges within a local, national and international arena
- Driving forward the development of theatre practice and nurturing the professional and creative skills of theatre artists in Northern Ireland
- Increasing access to and participation in Prime Cut's productions and theatre generally

Other Partners

Partner 1: Dee Street Community Centre
Partner 2: Knocknagoney Community Centre
Partner 3: The Polish Association

Stated Targeted Wards

Ballymacarrett_1,2,3; Belmont_3; Bloomfield_1,3_Belfast; Woodstock_12,3

Dates

September 2011 – May 2012

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

Prime Cut's 12 Mersey St will create a site-specific theatre performance in East Belfast. They will work in partnership with Dee Street Community Centre, Knocknagoney Community Centre and the Polish Association Northern Ireland. The project will explore the impact of immigration and emigration on society in general and on East Belfast.

The project capitalises and builds on existing partnerships. Participants will also access other arts events in Belfast. All the participants will come together to transform their stories into theatre performance, which will also build individual and social confidence. However, evidence of community determination and self-empowerment is weaker.

12 Mersey St will enhance the cultural infrastructure of East Belfast through arts-skills development and by the physical creation of a new performance space, albeit short-term, drawing audiences to East Belfast.

Leadership

The project will reach an audience of 240 along with 24 participants, which is relatively low given the overall cost of the project is £80,150.00. However, Prime Cut is only requesting 24.8 per cent of their budget from Development and Outreach. 65 per cent will be sought from other public and private trusts. The remainder will be in-kind from Prime Cut and partners. This is good leverage.

Good Relations

The project will help integrate the Polish and East Belfast communities, and the organisation has experience of working in this area and an excellent understanding of the issues. Participants will be male and female, of different ages and from different religious backgrounds. The theme to be explored is the impact of immigration and emigration on society. There is therefore a good demonstration of supporting good relations in the application, particularly in relation to outreach.

Place

12 Mersey St will create a new theatre piece themed around local issues as interpreted by local people. It will also create a temporary arts space in East Belfast in two terraces adjacent to Harland and Wolff. The project will help develop audiences for and access to the arts in an area of social need.

Management

Management, governance and business planning are good. The marketing plan will be targeted directly to the groups' catchments areas. Both quantitative and qualitative information feedback will be collected to reflect the scope and impact of the project, and monitoring and evaluation findings will be a valuable asset. Financial management is sound, although evidence of match funding already in place would be desirable. Appropriate policies are in place.

Recommendation

It is recommended Prime Cut receives £11,940.

QUEEN'S FILM THEATRE

Project Title

Take Over Film Festival

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Vision: 'To be a leading centre for film excellence and creativity that inspires, informs and entertains.'

Mission: 'To provide a unique cinema experience and widen access to the best film from around the world through a programme that actively encourages appreciation, enjoyment, debate and understanding.'

Queen's Film Theatre aims to:

- Deliver a unique cultural experience.
- Deliver a high quality programme.
- Promote diversity and choice for audiences
- Provide engagement through education and outreach activity
- Cultivate existing and new audiences.
- Contribute to the student experience, QUB and Queen's Quarter.
- Contribute to the cultural economy of Belfast.

Other Partners

Partner 1: Indian Community Centre

Partner 2: TRANS Urban Arts

Stated Targeted Wards

New Lodge_1,2,3; Shaftesbury_1,2,3; Shankill_1,2; The Mount_1,2

Dates

April 2011 – January 2012

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

Queen's Film Theatre (QFT) will partner with a range of community and arts organisations to help young people from TSN areas programme and deliver their own festival, The Takeover Film Festival, at the end of September. The festival will focus on exploring issues of respect and on celebrating cultural diversity. Peer mentors drawn from last year's festival participants will have an active role in the project.

The young people will receive accredited training and get on-the-job experience of a range of artistic, personal and employment skills. All activities will take place in mainstream venues, and the project will promote access to and attendance of the QFT, which is the only cultural cinema in Northern Ireland. The beneficiaries from this programme are, therefore, individuals and, while this is a tangible benefit, the impact on the wider community is less clear.

Trans is providing training for the young people. However, they are charging for this service and the depth of partnership is questionable. The community partners will provide participants and staff. Informal partners include 174 Trust; New Lodge Youth Centre; St John Vianney; Lower Ormeau Residents Action Group; and Hammer Youth Club. Some partners were involved in the 2010 pilot festival, and there is good evidence of quality and longevity.

Leadership

The project budget lacks clarity. QFT has requested 92 per cent of funding from Development and Outreach. Some QFT core costs are included in the budget as cash (the Council contributes to QFT's core costs through an Annual Funding grant). The remainder of funding is in-kind from Cinemagic, Trans and QFT. Substantial additional funding is to be sought from other sources, but this is not included in the budget which makes the need for funding questionable.

Twenty participants will be involved in running the festival, which is projected to attract an audience of 812.

Good Relations

The Takeover Festival will create partnerships and friendships between Protestant, Catholic and Asian community groups, who will work together regularly and move towards a shared goal. Initial self-development training will foster personal and group trust and respect. Further evidence of the dissemination of the project and learning back to the participating communities would have been advantageous.

Place

The project will help develop audiences for the arts in an important cultural hub. The impact on and benefit to local neighbourhoods will be through skills development and confidence building among their young people.

Management

Management and governance is good. QFT has created new formal partnerships and built on existing informal partnerships to deliver this project, and business planning is sound. The project will be monitored closely by the project coordinator. Marketing plans are detailed and will be developed with input from participants. Financial management is sound. Appropriate policies are in place.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Queens Film Theatre receives £10,245.90.

SMALL STEPS ADULT EDUCATION GROUP

Project Title

Picture This!

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Small Steps is established to support the regeneration of Lower North Belfast by creating opportunities for education and training. It aims to:

- Promote community development through education and training
- Promote good relations through education
- Promote employability through education and training
- Promote personal development through education

Other Partners

Partner 1: Arts for All

Partner 2: Ulster Scots Community Network

Stated Targeted Wards

Ballysillan_1,2,3; Bellevue_2,3; Castleview_1,3; Duncairn_1,2; Fortwilliam_1,2,3; New Lodge_1,2,3; Water Works_1,2,3

Dates

May 2011 – April 2012

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

Picture This! will enhance and develop artistic and creative capacity in lower North Belfast, an area of weak cultural infrastructure. There is a good focus on sustainability.

The project will encourage local people to engage with visual arts. A resident artist will be employed for 20 hours a week to deliver courses, workshops and master classes in photography, stencil making, screen printing, mosaic, glass appliqué and shadow puppetry.

Leadership

There is good evidence of partnership working. The project is strategically linked to lead, partner and wider neighbourhood plans. This provides evidence of need for the activity. Arts for All will advise on artistic content, Ulster Scots Community Network will connect Ulster Scots groups to the programme and Small Steps Adult Education Group will connect the programme to its community education agenda and provide access to IT training facilities. There is a good focus on capacity building.

Picture This! will involve nearly 650 participants and a projected audience of 800.

Small Steps is requesting 100 per cent of the funding from Development and Outreach. In terms of outputs, this represents good value for money. Evidence of partnership is good and each partner will make a tangible contribution to the programme.

Good Relations

Picture This! will target communities in the top 10 per cent most deprived wards in Northern Ireland. The area also has less than 7 per cent of its population engaged in arts. Some participants will be drawn from both local Protestant and Catholic primary schools, building on Small Steps' previous work in the area. They will target young people and adults, including older people, through churches, youth clubs and community groups.

Place

Picture This! has been designed to complement existing regeneration initiatives in the local area. The results of the programme will be showcased at a Creative Expo, which will be open to a range of community organisations in the area as well as key stakeholders from various sectors. It will enhance cultural and artistic vitality, showcase lower North Belfast's rich heritage and has the potential to attract visitors to the area.

Management

Management and governance could be strengthened by increasing the range of experience on the board and more communication with stakeholders would be advantageous. However, this project will help build organisational capacity. A detailed marketing plan will be put in place. Monitoring and evaluation information will be collated regularly and discussed by the partners on a quarterly basis to determine whether the overall aims of the initiative are being met. Appropriate policies are in place.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Small Steps is awarded £12,000.

STREETWISE COMMUNITY CIRCUS

Project Title

Integrated Disability Project

Purpose of Lead Applicant

Streetwise Community Circus makes circus skills accessible to people throughout Northern Ireland, irrespective of gender, age, disability, economic, religious or cultural background, by providing circus workshops throughout the community, facilitated by experienced tutors.

They provide tutors with a range of training including; teaching circus skills, first aid, child protection.

They make circus performing/teaching viable and sustainable, enabling practitioners to live and work in Belfast, thereby ensuring the best quality practitioners working in the community.

Recommendation

Development and Outreach is open to collaborative partnerships of community organisations and arts/heritage organisations. Belfast Activity Centre is not constituted as a community organisation, and this application is therefore considered ineligible.

UPPER SPRINGFIELD DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED

Project Title

Aftermath

Purpose of Lead Applicant

The Upper Springfield Development Trust (USDT) has been a lead community-based organisation in the Upper Springfield since 1993. It has developed many successful programmes to support the area's social, economic, physical and cultural regeneration.

The Arts Unit within USDT uses art as a tool for community development and neighbourhood regeneration, placing culture and creativity at the centre of community life and bringing art to the streets of the Upper Springfield and West Belfast.

Other Partners

Partner 1: Ballymurphy Research Group
Partner 2: West Belfast Partnership Board
Partner 3: Conway Mill
Partner 4: Féile an Phobail

Stated Targeted Wards

Shankill_1,2; Upper Springfield_1,2,3; Whiterock_1,2,3; Woodvale_1,2,3

Dates

July – August 2011

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

Upper Springfield Development Trust's (USDT) project, Aftermath, aims to teach drama and acting skills to local young people while strengthening cultural capacity in West Belfast. Workshops will also be hosted by community groups in Ballymurphy and the Shankill. The end result will be a drama production in Conway Mill. Seventeen performances will be delivered over a two-week period. Themed around family and conflict, the project is tailored to community need and likely to be

engaging. Statistics have been provided as evidence to support the demand for the activity.

USDT uses art as a tool for community development and neighbourhood regeneration. There is good evidence of partnership working. Partners will provide participants, venues and expertise, and have considerable input in to the design and execution of the project. Tangible and intangible outputs are clearly defined.

Leadership

Participation is projected at 60 and audience, 3,000. USDT is seeking 30 per cent of project funding from Development and Outreach. Other funding will be sought from the Council's Good Relations Unit, Community Relations Council and the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. This is considered a good value for money.

Good Relations

The project aims to widen access to cultural activities through the delivery of workshops, performances and events. This includes a series of good relations workshops tailored to people who have dealt with trauma, and there will be collaboration with the WAVE Trauma Centre. There will also be cross-community collaboration with Windsor Women's Centre and Shankill Women's Centre, as well as with the formal community partner, Ballymurphy Research Group.

Place

The programme will engage people from lower and upper West Belfast. Some of the showcase events will be exhibited within the city centre, which will expand the audience numbers. The run of 17 shows in Conway Mill is extensive and makes good use of the newly redeveloped cultural space. Each community involved will be from a neighbourhood renewal area.

Management

Management and governance could be strengthened through board development. The overall project plan is strong and clearly identifies the aims and objectives of the programme. The marketing plan is clear and concise, and the monitoring and evaluation is clearly defined. Appropriate policies are in place and financial management is sound.

Recommendation

USDT is recommended for funding of £9,120.

YOUTHACTION NORTHERN IRELAND

Project Title

Belfast Kaleidoscope Issue-based Theatre Project

Purpose of Lead Applicant

YouthAction Northern Ireland's Youth Arts Unit delivers high-quality performing arts training underpinned by youth work principles to young people aged 8 to 25. Their

priority is to work with disadvantaged young people to support them as equal citizens whose voices are heard and valued.

Their 400-strong membership participates weekly in 40 dance/drama classes, production rehearsals, outreach programmes and issue-based theatre opportunities. Annually, YouthAction provides over 1000 workshops and create an average of 10 productions based in their flagship Youth Arts Hub at College Square North.

Kaleidoscope is an outreach project using issue-based theatre techniques enabling young people to access performance opportunities and explore issues.

Other Partners

Partner 1: Clonard Monastery Youth Centre

Partner 2: WAVE Trauma Centre

Stated Targeted Wards

Chichester Park_1,2,3; Clonard_1,2

Dates

July – August 2011

Assessment

Objectives of Initiative

The aim of the project is to deliver two 20-week Kaleidoscope Issue-based Theatre projects in Clonard Monastery Youth Club and Wave Trauma Centre. This will be delivered to 30 young people and conclude with a two-day festival. The young people will receive Asdan Youth Achievement Awards.

The purpose of the project is to develop a drama infrastructure within the partnership areas. The young people will choose the issues to be explored through drama, and there is good evidence of both individual and community empowerment. Evidence of previous successful Kaleidoscope projects has also been supplied, demonstrating quality and sustainability.

There is a lack of evidence to support how this project will help improve the wider image of Belfast.

Leadership

400 participants will be engaged in workshops which will be tailor-made to each community. The long-term outcomes are to develop a sustainable youth drama group in each area.

An exit strategy will be developed ensuring young people have options to continue arts participation, and this will help to further sustain the infrastructure developed within the communities. Partnership organisations will provide participants and staff.

YouthAction is requesting 68 per cent of funding from Development and Outreach. The remainder of funding will be provided in-kind by Youth Action. Some costs included in the budget are not eligible.

Good Relations

The Kaleidoscope project aims to engage and empower marginalised young people aged 13 to 18 years old from isolated and deprived communities. It is reactive to artistic, social and personal need. YouthAction has developed effective partnerships with various communities across Belfast.

Place

Recruitment of the young people will take place in local schools and the youth centre in Clonard. The workshops and activities will take place in Clonard Monastery Youth Centre, WAVE Trauma Centre and the Rainbow Factory studio. The two-day festival in February will also enhance the engagement with arts activity.

Management

Management and governance is strong. Each partner will sign up to a project strategy the project aligns with YouthAction's overall strategy, and there is a clear focus on what they want to achieve.

The marketing plan is standard and could be developed further. Evaluation and monitoring procedures are sound. Appropriate policies are in place and financial management is sound.

Recommendation

YouthAction is recommended for funding of £13,690.