

Claire Meaney is an artist, curator and arts manager. She is Arts Director of the Waterford Healing Arts Trust and was Assistant Arts Director from 2007 to 2016. She has a BA in Fine Art, DIT (2002) and a Certificate in Youth Arts, NUI Maynooth (2006). In 2010, she completed an MA in Arts and Heritage Management at WIT. Her minor dissertation is titled *The Artist's Perspective of Making Collaborative Art in a Hospital Context in Ireland*. In 2010, she was awarded an Arts & Health Bursary Award from the Arts Council to develop her arts participation practice.

Ailbhe Murphy is the Executive Director of [Create Ireland](#), the national development agency for collaborative arts in Ireland, supporting artists and communities. Prior to becoming a visual artist, Ailbhe Murphy trained as a nurse at the Royal City of Dublin Hospital, Baggot St. Long-term collaborative art projects include *Once is Too Much* in the 90s with the Family Resource Centre St. Michael's Estate and IMMA, and *Tower Songs* (2003-2006) with Fatima Groups United, the Rialto Youth Project and City Arts. She completed her practice-based PhD with the University of Ulster in 2011 and, since 2007, she has worked with independent researcher Ciaran Smyth at the arts and research platform Vagabond Reviews. Recent projects include *(In)Visible Labour Factorium*, one of four artist's works commissioned by Valerie Connor for Still, We Work as part of the National Women's Council of Ireland Legacy Project. www.vagabondreviews.org

Ann O'Connor is Head of Arts Participation with the Arts Council. Ann previously held the position of Arts and Health Advisor to the Arts Council and worked as an independent arts consultant, specialising in the area of arts and health and arts participation. Ann is Arts Coordinator with Arts + Minds, an arts and mental health group involving HSE mental health service users, staff and artists based in Cork (artsandmindscork.com). Ann was Arts Coordinator with the Health Service Executive in Cork (2006 - 2009). She managed the Cork 2005 European Capital of Culture | Culture and Health Strand (2005 - 2006). She was Arts Development Worker with Blue Drum (2003 - 2005) and Sligo County Council (2000 - 2003), and was Cross Border Development Officer with Irish Rural Link (1997 - 2000).

Ali Baker Kerrigan is the Arts Officer in Tallaght University Hospital (TUH), a large academic teaching hospital in Dublin. Her role is focused on managing the Hospital Arts and Health Programme for the National Centre for Arts and Health (NCAH at TUH). Her work is keenly informed by her background in Fine Art Photography, passion for curating art and working alongside fellow arts and health co-ordinators in Ireland. The hospital arts programme features a number of national innovations and strives to promote best practice in arts and health, through professional development, evaluation and research.

Tess Leak is an artist and musician who has been working with the Arts for Health Programme in West Cork since 2010. She is a graduate of the BA in Visual Art on Sherkin Island and The Curious School of Puppetry in London. In 2020, she created the Museum of Song Postal Project in collaboration with artist Sharon Whooley which was delivered to healthcare settings as a response to the isolation of participants during the pandemic.

In 2019, Tess collaborated with a group of residents in Bantry General Hospital to create the puppetry-based performance *Stories from the Well-Field* which brought to life participants' poems about childhood friendships. This was supported by an Arts Council Project Award and an artsandhealth.ie documentation bursary. Tess is co-founder and curator of participatory projects Haiku Island Press, The Museum

of Miniature and The Museum of Making and Mending and is cellist with the Vespertine Quintet.

Marielle MacLeman was born in Scotland and is now based in Galway. She works across visual art, writing, book design, participative and collaborative approaches for exhibition, public art, and publication, with 16 years arts and health experience. She has worked with all ages and in contexts spanning acute to chronic, long-term and palliative care.

From 2003-2011, Marielle was Artist Co-ordinator with Art in Hospital at The Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice, Glasgow where she developed and facilitated a multi-generational programme of activities for day services, out-patients, in-patients, families and carers, encompassing art and creative writing workshops, exhibitions, and access to museums and galleries. Since relocating to Galway, she has worked on several projects with Galway University Hospitals Arts Trust including an ongoing residency in the haemodialysis unit at Merlin Park University Hospital. She has completed public art commissions in care for the elderly, paediatric, maternity bereavement, neonatal, multi-faith, and mental health contexts.

Mark Breen is a native of Waterford. He has been in the property investment business for the last 30 years. Mark is very active in the community and has been a member of Waterford Rotary for 20 years. He joined the Board of Waterford Healing Arts Trust in 2017 and is looking forward to contributing to the work of the organisation.

JP Swaine is a trained psychotherapist and works as a Social Movement Manager within the HSE Values in Action core team. He is the Co-Founder of First Fortnight mental health charity, which runs an annual arts festival and an art psychotherapy service. JP has been instrumental in the development of the European NEFELE Network of which he is the Vice-President.

Gerardette Bailey is the Arts Officer for Meath County Council.