

Children's Health Ireland Arts in Health Programme



# Treasure Chest

Icons Project

Call Out for Expressions of Interest from  
Artists/Designers/ Makers/Collectives

Deadline 12 noon Monday 4th September, 2023

## 1. About Us

*Children's Health Ireland (CHI)* was established in 2019 and saw the children's hospitals at Temple Street, Tallaght and Crumlin come together as one organisation in preparation for the move to the new children's hospital at the St James's Hospital Campus in Dublin.

As part of our transition, CHI is developing an Arts Programme for the new children's hospital and paediatric outpatient and urgent care centre that aims to place arts, creativity and imagination at the heart of the child's and young person's experience of our settings. Our work is based on creative collaboration with children and young people, our healthcare partners, and professional artists across all art forms. As part of this work and in response to the upcoming move to the new hospital, the CHI Arts in Health Programme worked with staff across the three CHI hospital sites on a project called Treasure Chest.

## 2. Context for the project

### **Our CHI Treasure Chest**

The Treasure Chest project brought together staff from CHI at Connolly, CHI at Crumlin, CHI at Tallaght and CHI at Temple Street to consider and choose artworks that would transfer from their existing locations to the new hospital.

### **Our Icons**

As part of this process the Treasure Chest Staff group identified three items that had particular significance to each of the hospital communities in Crumlin, Tallaght and Temple Street. These items are:

The GAA jerseys in Crumlin

The Front Door of Temple Street

Starlight, the rocking horse from the playroom in Tallaght

Given that the GAA jerseys in Crumlin and the Front Door of Temple Street cannot come forward in their current forms, the CHI Arts in Health Programme would like to work with an artist/designer/maker(s)/ creative collective who will develop a proposal for an artwork or series of artworks that reimagines and presents these three iconic items in a way that can be aesthetically and technically integrated into the new hospital.

### **County Jerseys - CHI at Crumlin**

The collection of GAA jerseys in Crumlin plays an important role in the life of the hospital. It is the main route through the hospital and has been used for years by staff, patients, families and visitors to find their way around this big, unfamiliar place. The GAA jerseys come from every county in Ireland. And the corridor serves as a place to find

ourselves, seek out our home place and feel connected to the familiar when a hospital stay leaves us disorientated, worried and unsure how to take our next step. It is also a place of celebration with signed jerseys from many winning moments. The jerseys are not only a celebration of sport in the lives of children and young people. They are also a way of patients and families to find a bit of their home place within the walls of the hospital.



### **Starlight-CHI at Tallaght**

Starlight is a working rocking horse, who lives in the Playroom in CHI at Tallaght. She travelled there from Harcourt Street when staff moved in 1998. She sits high on her rockers above the ball pit and the games consoles, and has been used daily for many years. She may be really old or just a bit old, no-one knows for sure. She's handsome and definitely handmade and her mane is matted and worn with use and time. She is integral to the experience of children here, she is a symbol of the need for play, for imagination and curiosity here. The space to still be a child here. To be silly and joyous. She has taken many journeys to many magical places. She will travel to the new children's hospital but she's too important to retire just yet and will continue to live and work hard as part of the play service.



### **The Front Door-CHI at Temple Street**

The Front Door of Temple Street belongs to its building. It has been opened every morning for over 150 years welcoming patients, their families and staff. It stays open whatever the weather. It leads to a warren of corridors and stairways, the creaks of history and that world famous Temple Street family, beyond its vivid blue and shiny gold. The door will stay where it is in Temple Street.



### 3. Stage One: Expressions of Interest

The CHI Arts in Health programme is now seeking expressions of interest from artists/designers/makers/creative collectives to apply to complete a research and development process which will lead to a comprehensive proposal for a permanent artwork for the New Children's Hospital. A fee of €500.00 will be paid for the development of proposals. Collaboration between art forms is encouraged.

Artists/designers/makers/creative collectives at any stage of their career are invited to express their interest in being considered by submitting the following:

1. A completed [application Form \(https://form.jotform.com/231844947741061\)](https://form.jotform.com/231844947741061)
2. Brief overview of your relevant experience and approach to the project (no more than 300 words or hyperlink to 1-minute video or audio recording)
3. Images /hyperlinks of relevant previous work including date of projects (no more than 5 examples). All images should be concisely captioned.
4. Your CV(s)
5. Confirmation that if successful the artist(s) is ready to submit current Tax Clearance Certificate and provide insurances. This confirmation is mandatory. This material should be **combined into a single PDF file and attached to the application form. Please do not submit designs or proposals at this stage**

### 4. Stage Two: Research and Development

Following the submission of expressions of interest, no more than four artists/designers/makers/creative collectives will be selected to undertake a research and development process, leading to a detailed artwork proposal. A fee of €500.00 will be paid to each shortlisted applicant to develop a proposal which will include artwork concept, approach, format, production methods and budget. A detailed brief will be supplied to selected

artists/designers/makers/creative collectives at stage two. CHI reserves the right not to proceed with any artwork proposals received or selected.

This R&D phase will comprise as follows:

- A two day briefing to shortlisted applicants comprising of a visit to the 'icons' and opportunity to meet staff to understand their significance
- A visit to the new hospital site and intended location of the permanent artwork(s). Should site visits not be possible due to Public Health measures, personal restrictions or building works, virtual site visits will be facilitated and site drawings will be made available.
- An opportunity to find out more about the experience of being a child or young person in hospital and the role that art plays in this
- A briefing of the rationale, opportunities and constraints of artwork development projects in this context by the CHI Arts in Health Curators
- During the briefing period CHI Curators will be available to answer any queries or questions (insofar as we can) or discuss ideas.

During this phase, applicants should consider how any future artwork(s) will represent our icons. This Research and Development process is an opportunity to develop an imaginative and contemporary proposal for a permanent artwork that responds to the setting and stakeholders in a way that is ambitious, playful and creative.

## 5. Selection Process

A Selection Panel will review both stage 1 and stage 2 applications. It will consist of 5 members made up of relevant CHI Healthcare staff, members of the CHI Arts in Health Team and 1 Professional Artist/Arts Manager. The decisions of the panel are final. The panel has the right to clarify any issue which may arise in the course of selection. Selection will be based on the information supplied to CHI and will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Quality of practice
- Relevant track record
- Fit of practice(s) and professional experience with the requirements of the brief

The closing date for receipt of Stage 1 completed application form together with supporting documentation and material is **12 noon Monday 4th September 2023** via email to [orla.butler1@nchg.ie](mailto:orla.butler1@nchg.ie).

## 6. Timeline for Research and Development Phase

It is anticipated that the Research and Development phase will commence in October 2023 and detailed artwork proposals will be submitted to CHI by December 2023.

## 7. Queries

Potential applicants can make enquiries to [orla.butler1@nchg.ie](mailto:orla.butler1@nchg.ie)

All queries should be made via email by **5pm Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2023**. Queries submitted after this date cannot be answered.

## **Submitting an Expression of Interest**

Artists/designers/makers/creative collectives at any stage of their career are invited to express their interest in being considered by submitting the following:

6. A completed [Application Form](https://form.jotform.com/231844947741061) (<https://form.jotform.com/231844947741061> )
7. Brief overview of your relevant experience and approach to the project (no more than 300 words or hyperlink to 1-minute video or audio recording)
8. Images /hyperlinks of relevant previous work including date of projects (no more than 5 examples). All images should be concisely captioned.
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