



Call to Artists

Building on the participatory arts programme at Galway University Hospitals (GUH), Galway University Hospitals Arts Trust (GUHAT) invites professional practicing artists to apply for opportunities in the hospitals of Saolta University Health Care Group in 2019 – 2020. Artists with a commitment to participatory/collaborative practice and public engagement will be considered for the:

- PUH Creative Writer in Residence 2019 (3 months)
- PUH Visual Artist in Residence 2019 (3 months)
- Participatory Artists Panel 2019 – 2020 for county Roscommon, county Galway, and Galway city hospitals.

Only artists whose practice focuses on artistic outcomes that enhance health and well-being (Arts and Health), rather than therapeutic or clinical outcomes (Art Therapy), will be considered.

PUH Residency Programme

GUHAT, in partnership with Galway County Council (GCC), invites applications from artists for a new residency programme at Portiuncula University Hospital (PUH), Ballinasloe. The programme aims to engage the hospital community in the arts and to create professional development opportunities for artists within the acute hospital context. The inaugural PUH Residency Programme will support two Artists in Residence in 2019 to engage patients and/or staff using participatory and/or collaborative methodologies. They will have a practice that is appropriate or can be adapted to the acute hospital environment. In consultation with the hospital, this may involve working at patients' bedsides, and a variety of private and public spaces. The 2019 PUH Residency Programme is funded by Galway County Council and the National Creativity Fund. Selected artists will be expected to work with GUHAT in sharing the outcomes of their residencies with local and national audiences.

- **PUH Visual Artist in Residence 2019**

The artist will receive:

- A fee of €3000 to include training, preparation, engagement, evaluation, and travel.
- A materials and production budget.
- Mentoring and support from the GUHAT team with additional support from designated PUH staff.

The artist will facilitate:

- A minimum of 12 days of engagement with hospital patients and/or staff.
- Documentation of their residency throughout and a short report on its completion.
- A public event in the hospital, as appropriate to their residency, eg. an exhibition, installation, talk, or participatory event.
- Sharing their residency experience with national audiences, in consultation with GUHAT.

- **PUH Creative Writer in Residence 2019**

The artist will receive:

- A fee of €3000 to include training, preparation, engagement, evaluation, and travel.
- A materials and production budget.

- Mentoring and support from the GUHAT team with additional support from designated PUH staff.

The artist will facilitate:

- A minimum of 12 days of engagement with hospital patients and/or staff.
- Documentation of their residency throughout and a short report on its completion.
- A public event in the hospital, as appropriate to their residency, eg. a reading, recital, talk, discussion or participatory event.
- Sharing their residency experience with national audiences, in consultation with GUHAT.

Participatory Artist Panel 2019 - 2020

GUHAT, in partnership with our colleagues at University Hospital Galway (UHG), Merlin Park University Hospital (MPUH), Portiuncula University Hospital (PUH), and Roscommon University Hospital (RUH), invites expressions of interest from professional practicing artists to join a Participatory Artist Panel for workshop facilitation and public engagement opportunities at the hospitals. Artists must demonstrate a commitment to using participatory/collaborative methodologies and be available to work in hospital sites in Galway, Ballinasloe, or Roscommon. All artforms will be considered. The panel will be in place for opportunities that arise during the period 2019 – 2020. Artists selected will complete Garda Clearance, Child Protection, and Hand-hygiene training. Inclusion on the panel does not guarantee work.

How to apply

Applications should include:

- A current CV (maximum 2 pages)
- Contact details for two current referees
- Documentation of practice: 6- 10 fully captioned images and/or up to 3 examples of texts, audio or links to film documentation. Please include relevant examples of participatory/collaborative practice if available.
- A one-page proposal outlining
 - which opportunity you are applying for: PUH Visual Artist in Residence 2019, PUH Creative Writer in Residence 2019, or Participatory Artist Panel 2019 – 2020
 - how you might engage with patients and/or staff
 - why you are interested in working in the hospital context
 - If applying for the Participatory Artist Panel please also indicate
 - which hospital/s you are interested in working at
 - your availability and any preferences during the period April 2019 – October 2020
 - If applying for the PUH Residency Programme please also state
 - your availability and any preferences during the period April – September 2019
 - how you believe it will support your creative development
 - ideas for how you might present the outcomes of the residency to the wider County Galway community and national audiences

Applications should be submitted to Margaret Flannery, Arts Director, Galway University Hospitals Arts Trust, University Hospital Galway, Newcastle, Galway, H91 YR71 or emailed to guhartstrust@hse.ie no later than Tuesday 19th March 2019 at 5.00pm. E-mail applications should not exceed 15MB in size.

Processing and assessment of applications

The artist will be selected through a process of open competition. The criteria for selection is:

- Quality of the artist's participatory/collaborative practice.
- Level of relevant experience demonstrated through the CV and other supporting materials.
- The suitability and responsiveness of the artists' practice for the hospital environment.
- The ambition, originality, and competency demonstrated by the artist.
- The proposed arts activity as outlined in the proposal.

- The availability of the artist

Applications will be short-listed then selected by a panel comprising representatives from GUHAT, GCC Arts Office, and PUH. Short-listed applicants for the PUH Residency Programme may be invited to attend for interview.

Artists will be notified of shortlisting by Friday 22nd March. It is hoped that the PUH Residency Programme will begin in April subject to Garda Clearance.

For further information email guhartstrust@hse.ie.

Galway University Hospitals Arts Trust

Galway University Hospitals Arts Trust runs the west of Ireland's leading Arts and Health programme as a means of improving the hospital experience for patients, staff and visitors. The Arts Trust believes access to the arts promotes well-being and enhances the hospital environment. Since 2003 we have provided a multi-disciplinary programme of events and activities, including exhibitions, participative workshops, music, theatre and poetry.

The acute hospital context

The acute hospital can be a challenging yet rewarding context for artists to work in. They engage the hospital community in a range of clinical and non-clinical spaces including day rooms, waiting rooms, wards and public areas, across a variety of healthcare specialisms. Each setting comes with a specific set of parameters. These encompass the particular needs of the patient group, Health & Safety, Infection Control, and the routine of the care area. These can change very quickly and often the progress of arts projects can be very slow. The acute hospital has a high staff and patient turnover which can make communication particularly challenging. We work in partnership with our health care colleagues to minimise these challenges and optimise for the benefits of our participatory arts programme. This also requires working with resourceful artists who can navigate limitations and embrace possibilities towards inclusive access as far as is practicable. We work with artists who are responsive to the diverse and changing needs and vulnerabilities of the hospital community, to nurture the discovery and development of creative potential, encourage new ways of seeing, and stimulate fresh dialogue – making the hospital a place of possibilities.

What is Arts and Health? A definition by the Arts Council of Ireland

Arts and Health is the generic term that embraces a range of arts practices occurring primarily in healthcare settings, which bring together the skills and priorities of both arts and health professionals. Good Arts and Health Practice is characterized by a clear artistic vision, goals and outcomes. Alongside these, it aims to promote health and wellbeing by improving quality of life and cultural access in healthcare settings. It may incorporate different approaches, including conventional arts production and presentation, arts participation and environmental enhancement. Arts and Health initiatives may range from once-off events to long-term programmes. The term Arts and Health is preferable to Arts in Health or Arts for Health as it reflects the equal partnership of skills necessary to ensure good practice. There is a clear distinction between Arts and Health practice, where a key goal is the experience and production of art, and the Arts Therapies, where the primary goal is clinical.