



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017–2022



CREATIVE IRELAND KERRY- LISTOWEL MUNICIPAL DISTRICT PROJECT 2019

RFQ REQUEST FOR QUOTATIONS FROM **CREATIVE PRACTITIONERS ACROSS ALL ARTS DISCIPLINES, AND OTHER RELATED** **PROFESSIONALS TO COLLABORATE ON A CREATIVE PROJECT WORKING TITLE:** **'THE LOST PALACE OF NORTH KERRY'** **BRIEF FOR APPLICANTS**

Introduction:

Creative Ireland Kerry at the Arts Office of Kerry County Council and in association with the Conservation Office at Kerry County Council, wish to develop a creative project as a cultural heritage initiative in Lixnaw in the Listowel Municipal District. The aim of the project is work creatively to assist understanding and appreciation of the built heritage of 18th Century Lixnaw. The collaboration currently has two aims which will conclude in the late Spring of 2019 and include the following:

1. A Creative Project with schools and the local community
2. A Seminar Day in Lixnaw that will include presentations, conversation and a showcase of the 18th century historical landscape.

Applicants are being asked to submit **under point 1** above for a Creative Project only. The aim is to link with local schools and the local community introducing a creative process that has a creative outcome in the form of a temporary or more permanent artwork, (point 2 is mentioned above as point 1(Creative Project) will be showcased as part of point 2 (Seminar). A minimum two-person collaboration is requested regarding applications to this opportunity.

Background:

Arising from a public consultation process which was undertaken by The Arts Office/Creative Ireland Kerry in 2017, the need to support additional access to creative opportunities for communities in Kerry was highlighted. This took place during a period of research and consultation which underpins **Kerry's Culture & Creativity Strategy 2018-2022**. Central to this is the role of community and the essential component of creative engagement that assists well-being, participation and a sense of ownership of a process or project. In this context submissions are invited from suitably experienced creative practitioners to scope out a project for Lixnaw in North Kerry.

Context:

Lixnaw in North Kerry has a rich cultural heritage and an opportunity exists to develop a creative project for the county that links to the historical significance of the area. The aim is to initiate a process of discovery and engagement with this heritage for the local and wider Kerry community, putting in place a creative process and resulting project that will raise awareness as well as animate the rich heritage of the area. The process must be facilitated by the creative sector. Following a process of creative engagement with schools and community groups, the project outcome can but is not limited to the creation of an art piece or artwork such as 3D model, film, performance, happening or other creative outcome that will express the community's newfound appreciation for Lixnaw, its heritage and its historical significance.



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If the project outcome is a physical piece of art, temporary or permanent in nature, it will remain the responsibility of the applicant to install, present or showcase the artwork as part of Stage 2 of this project, the Seminar. This event will take place in the spring/early summer of 2019. The project outcome art piece/ showcase/presentation/artwork, needs to be practical in nature and suggestions as to location, dimensions, format, presentation are being requested.

The creative project and outcome may act as a catalyst for ongoing work by the local Community Working Group and Kerry County Council which over time, it is hoped, will lead to a greater understanding of the potential heritage and value of this for the area.

RFQ for Creative Practitioners across all arts disciplines and other related professionals to Collaborate:

Creative practitioners such as artists across all disciplines, architects, theatre practitioners, filmmakers, writers, dancers, visual artists, historians and other related professionals (as prescribed by applicants) are being asked to collaborate with the local community and schools in the Listowel Municipal District on a creative project and creative outcome. The project is open to interpretation by each applicant. It can be developed and interpreted creatively in whatever manner the collaborating team determine.

We invite teams to apply with an indication of how they would engage in an informative, creative, collaborative process with schools and community groups and on a project that relates to 18th century Lixnaw. We also wish for teams to propose a creative outcome for the project, although it is important to understand that this outcome may change over the course of the process of collaboration with the project's participants. The creative process proposed must however, result in a tangible outcome, which the community has participated in. The creative process and creative outcome can be determined by the collaborating team. The request is to link with the schools and the community a number of times so that a sense of ownership of the project will take place. This link must be determined in the application form.

The creative project might take by way of background information, or inspiration the idea of 'The Lost Palace of North Kerry' that is Lixnaw's 18th Century history which included Lixnaw Court and Demesne, including canals, Deer Park, gardens, avenues orchards, village and more. The extent of the original site of this built environment measures approximately a 2km radius from the site of the Old Manor Court in all directions and includes a Hermitage, a Monument site, avenues and canals. Applicants are being asked to develop a creative process and a creative outcome, which will be led by the creative tea. This may include but not be limited to creative professionals such as artists from any discipline, designers, architects, historians, landscape gardeners, or related professionals or creative practitioners. Practitioners can work across any genre or multiple genres. The requirement is to select and work with two to three primary schools in the area and 2-3 community groups, over a twelve-week period, culminating in a showcase or artwork from this collaboration. The creative outcome may or may not thereafter be available to the people of Lixnaw, depending on the nature of same. The community who engage can have a hand in the creation of the creative outcome, this element is up to the practitioners to decide. The budget is currently set at €8,000.00 and must include all costs, involved in the creative process and the creative outcome. It must include contact time in the schools and the community, facilitation and making fees, materials, travel, installation/presentation/staging as relevant, and VAT. This represents the maximum budget available to the creative project and the creative outcome.



Further Information:

In its heyday, Lixnaw Court provided work for hundreds of people from the area and its location, river and canal access in North Kerry was essential for trade and export to and from the area. The importance of Lixnaw Court is unrivalled in the county, but history and time has somewhat undervalued the prominence and importance of the Court to the county to date. It is hoped that this project will act as a catalyst for greater awareness of this cultural heritage.

Visual artists, architects, historians and other related creative professionals are therefore invited to collaborate on a community-based project. At least one of the applicants must have experience of working with groups and schools and/or in community contexts. An ability to communicate and enthuse participants as to the architectural and social history of the area is desirable. Applicants are being asked to facilitate the project through the local primary schools. These include Lixnaw Boys Primary School, Scoil Mhuire Gan Smál and Dromclough National School subject to their willingness and interest in taking part. Community based groups may also take part. It will remain the responsibility of the Team to make contact with the schools and community based groups with the support of Kerry County Council. Ideas with regard to other potential participants will be welcomed. The project is facilitated with support from a Community Working Group whose representatives will support the creative facilitators on the ground and as the project requires. An introductory session in each school will be supported by the Architect Conservation Officer at Kerry County Council alongside the Community Working Group. The entire project must be completed by the calendar year.

Proposals are therefore being sought and must be submitted to The Arts Office/Creative Ireland Kerry no later than 1pm on Thursday 28th February 2019.

Applicants must identify their creative collaborators from the outset.

Proposals must include:

1. A completed Application Form. Applications must be typed and signed.
2. Name of project lead and contact details for the creative team/collaborators.
3. A brief synopsis of all facilitators detailing career highlights and why they are included in the application.
4. Examples of previous work must be submitted which relate to projects of a similar nature that are community led or inspired or heritage based.
5. Detail as to the proposed creative process and creative outcome where possible and its links to the schools and community. Detail also as to how the built architecture and the history will be linked to the creative process and outcome.
6. Information on the materials that will be used (if any) to create the detail of an artwork/presentation/showcase/performance/art piece
7. A detailed budget highlighting all costs including research, collaborative and consultative sessions, facilitation time in schools and the community, the build of the creative outcome, venue hire, administration, materials, travel, and VAT.
8. Information regarding time commitment, timescale and proposed delivery days.

Open Site Visit:

Interested applicants are invited to an open site visit of the area which has been arranged by the local Community Working Group along with the Architecture Conservation Officer at Kerry County Council.



Interested applicants are asked to wear raingear and suitable footwear as a walking tour of the demesne will be included. The ground may well be wet, and mud soaked, therefore attendees are advised to come prepared. The meeting point for the open site visit is outside the Catholic Church in Lixnaw village at 11am on Saturday 2nd February 2019. Prior registration is necessary by email to arts@kerrycoco.ie

The site visit will be led by a local historian who will conduct the walking tour as well as a member of the Community Working Group. Access to the site of Lixnaw Manor & Demesne is provided courtesy of the Costello family in Lixnaw.

Selection Criteria (pass or fail): Tenders will be selected to go forward for consideration based on a pass across each category listed below. A fail in one category eliminates the tender going forward for award criteria scoring. Submissions at this first stage will be considered under the following:

Criteria for Selection	Pass/Fail
Experience of similar projects/research in the last three years.	
An understanding of the specification and requirements set out above.	
Two typed references	

All applications that meet the Selection Criteria above will be assessed under the following Award Criteria

All projects will be evaluated using the following marking scheme

	Award Criteria	Maximum Marks: 1000
1.	Project methodology -the design, scope, scale & feasibility of the project proposed by the applicant.	600
2.	Price-project costing-its accuracy and value for money.	400
	Total	1000

Insurance: Professional indemnity and public liability insurances are required and evidence of same must be supplied on award of contract. Public Liability cover to the value of €6.5million is required and professional indemnity insurance to the value of €1million.

Codes of Practice & Child First Guidelines: Project submissions must be conscious of Codes of Practice Observance; Child First Guidelines including appropriate Garda Vetting procedures, Health & Safety Regulations, Equal Opportunities policies and procedures must be in place and adhered to where relevant and in all cases. Applicants will be required to undergo a Garda vetting procedure through Kerry County Council.

Freedom of Information: Kerry County Council proposes that the following information relating to this RFQ will be made available on request:

1. Name of the successful applicant.

Kerry County Council undertakes to use its best endeavours to hold confidential any information provided by applicants' subject to its obligations under law, including the Freedom of Information Act 1998 and 2003. Applicants are requested to consider if any of the information supplied should not be disclosed because of its sensitivity. If this is the case, candidates should, when providing the information, identify same and specify the reasons for its sensitivity. If such information is not identified as sensitive, and Kerry County Council upon consideration does not deem it sensitive, then



such information is liable to be released in response to a Freedom of Information request without further consultation with the applicants. Kerry County Council will consult with any candidates about sensitive information prior to deciding on any Freedom of Information Act request received.

Data Protection: This fund is publicly advertised and is competitive. Successful recipients' names and project proposals will be detailed to media (radio, press and social media) and in reports. Contact details will be made available to media and funding agencies upon request with regard to information or publicity relating to the funded project. Images of recipients and the activity funded by Creative Ireland Kerry, will be used for documentation purposes, in reports as well as for publicity to local and national media outlets. It will also be used to inform funding agencies (Kerry County Council, Creative Ireland via the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht). By applying for the fund, you are agreeing to the above use of your data.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): The purpose for processing your data is to process your application to the Arts Office of Kerry County Council for Arts funding. This information you provide will be assessed by a panel made up of staff from a Local Authority and external invited specialists. Your information will be retained for five years if you are granted an award and for one year if your application is unsuccessful. If you do not furnish the personal data requested, Kerry County Council will not be able to process your application.

Kerry County Council reserves the right not to award a contract if none of the applications received are deemed to be suitable. In this instance Kerry County Council reserves the right to pursue a different procurement process.

Additional Information on the Historical Background to the project: In early 18th century Kerry, Lixnaw was one of 90 family seats in Kerry representing an estate of hugely significant size and wealth and the ancient seat of the earls of Kerry. Lixnaw Court in its heyday was one of the most celebrated and lavish of Irish houses. It was an ancestral seat of the Fitzmaurice's and the home of the 1st Earl of Kerry who acted as a de facto sovereign of Kerry.¹ Thomas Fitzmaurice, 1st Earl of Kerry (1668-1742) and his wife Ann Petty (1672-1737) are credited by Charles Smith in *The Ancient and Present State of the County of Kerry* (Dublin:1756), pp.214-15 as having created Lixnaw and built the Manor and surrounding demesne which in its day would have rivalled only the home of Lord Kenmare in Killarney. Lixnaw was laid out as a formal parkland with gardens, avenues, orchards, stables, deer parks, woods, an old town, bogs, glebes, groves, an old river course and old and new canal, cottiers holdings, a monument, roads, meadows, a park, paddocks, lawns, fish ponds, walled garden and old bridge, houses and offices. In 1763 the estate was estimated to be 1,586 acres in size and one of the largest in Ireland. "It was in effect a muted variant of the Dutch and French Baroque garden, with an emphasis on symmetry, formality, vastness of scale, set pieces and integration of architecture and landscape".² Today there is little left of Lixnaw Court and the demesne, but some historical landmarks exist and are considered part of the national inventory of architectural heritage.

Applicants are advised that it may be necessary to study current research which details the records and evidence of Lixnaw Court and demesne.

¹ *Lixnaw and the Earls of Kerry*. John Knightly. Journal of the Kerry Archaeological Society, Series 2, Vol. 10, 2010. P. 39

² *Lixnaw and the Earls of Kerry*. John Knightly. Journal of the Kerry Archaeological Society, Series 2, Vol. 10, 2010. P. 48.



Additional Resource Sources which may be consulted include:

- Lixnaw and the Earls of Kerry. John Knightly. Journal of the Kerry Archaeological Society, Series 2, Vol. 10, 2010. P. 39 (provided here as a word document as part of this brief)
- The Ancient and Present State of the County of Kerry (Dublin:1756), pp.214-15
- Ireland and the picturesque: Design, Landscape Painting, and Tourism, 1700-1840 (Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art). Finola O'Kane. Yale University Press; 1 edition (14 May 2013)



The Old Hermitage Building as part of Lixnaw Court & Demesne.
Courtesy of Sister Ailbhe at the Presentation Convent in Lixnaw.

Included as additional information in this brief is a significant research paper published in the Journal of the Kerry Archaeological Society in 2010. The paper was researched and written by Mr. John Knightly, historian and is titled *Lixnaw and the Earls of Kerry*. It is provided in addition to this brief and offered to assist applicants by way of historical data and additional information about Lixnaw Court and Demesne. It is reproduced with the kind permission of Mr. John Knightly. Available to download with the brief.

The closing date for receipt of quotations is **1.00pm on Thursday 28th February 2019.**