



COPE Cycle of Exchange/ Age & Opportunity Arts

Dr. Tara Byrne, December 2023

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AGE & OPPORTUNITY

Age & Opportunity is Ireland's leading national development organisation working to enable the best possible quality of life for us all as we age.



ARTS PROGRAMME: ACCESS & REPRESENTATION







Creating Bealtaine Festival events that engage, challenge and represent Supporting artists, arts organisations and arts participants



BEALTAINE FESTIVAL PROGRAMME AIMS

Nurturing the greater participation and representation of older people in the arts;
Celebrating older artists and highlighting the creativity and potential of older people;
Platforming the diversity of older age;
Supporting organisations to deliver their own events;

Nurturing solidarity between generations.

SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Supports for Artists Supports artists working with older people and in developing their careers

Supports for Arts Organisations Supports organisations working with older people

Supports for Arts Participants Supports audiences through Bealtaine Festival, cultural networks, and an Arts Charter

Supports for Care Homes Supports training of staff in care settings and artists to work there

National initiatives: National Arts in Nursing Homes Day Celebrates & encourages the arts and creativity in nursing homes during Bealtaine and offers awards (With Nursing Homes Ireland)







ARTISTS CARE EXCHANGE (ACE)

- Responds to the need for more trained artists in this sector
- Targets professional artists who work in care settings with older people
- Opportunity to exchange information, advice, and experiences in a group situation, whilst also learning from a range of experts in the social, medical, and arts fields.
- Offers mentoring support
- Offers a network of peers
- Complements Introduction to Arts, Health and the Older Person (AHOP)



Programme announced!

Experience: An Introduction to Arts, Health & the Older Perso

Thursday 7 December 2

Réalta Centre for Arts + Health, University Hospital Waterford Booking details from www.ageandopportunity.ie and www.realta.ie Presented by Age & Opportunity and Réalta, the National Body for Arts + Health in Ireland







ARTS & CREATIVE CHARTER FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Arts & Creative Charter for Older People

The Arts & Creative Charter for Older People aims to increase and enrich the experiences and confidence of older arts participants, audiences and artists in their engagement with arts organisations in Ireland.

In displaying this Charter, we set out our commitments In relation to engaging with older people.





These are our commitments:

We welcome older people. We eliminate barriers to older people's

in all aspects of our work.

We invest in older people's creativity and involvement.

participation in and enjoyment of our activities and aim to ensure that our buildings, online activities, programming, communications and information are as accessible as possible to the broadest range of older people. We seek the active participation and feedback of older people in relation to all that we do.

We reject ageist language and commit to communicating clearly and openly with and about older people.

We create and support opportunities for diverse communities to collaborate and create together

We foreground the participation and value of older people in our communications.

We ensure that all our employment, commissioning, funding, volunteering, learning and collaboration opportunities

are fair and inclusive of older people.

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- To create confidence amongst older people by enhancing their experiences of the arts
- To support arts organisations in engaging with older people
- 8 commitments
- 3 years to develop
- Wide consultation and stakeholders
- Pilot project
- National roll out



Creative Enquiry: Arts and Older People

do the arts



Strategic Partners



Comhairle Cathrach Chorcal Cork City Council Arts Ealaíona



County Council Comhairle Contae Chorcai







Host Organisations







Funder



Arts & Disability Ireland



I LOVE MUSEUMS BUT THEY DON'T LOVE ME

Age and Disability Arts Access Info Sheet

www.adiarts.ie

www.ageandopportunity.ie











A Toolkit for Arts & Creativity in Care Settings

A practical guide to making the arts and creativity part of everyday life in a care setting

Every bird can sing in its own voice



Age & Opportunity

PARTNER RESOURCES

Arts & Creative Charter for Older People







Mind Your Language

At Age & Opportunity we believe that ageist terms and images should be as unacceptable as sexist or racist ones. This guide aims to encourage all of us to use language that is precise, accurate and non-judgemental in private and public conversations with and about older persons.

Use the term Older persons. It is the most appropriate term to use. The 'er' qualifier makes it more acceptable and inclusive than just 'old'. It indicates that age is relative - everyone is older or younger than someone else. It recognises a continuum of ageing, all older persons are not the same age. While older people is also acceptable the word persons highlights that everyone is an individual. Above all, it is the term that older persons prefer. This is reflected in titles such as the United Nations Principles for Older Persons and the International Day of Older Persons.

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the arts

One of the worst - but most pervasive - ways to describe older persons is 'the elderly'. The word elderly is problematic because of its association with dependency and frailty and when paired with 'the' it implies membership of a homogenous group where all the individuals are the same. Also using "the" as a prefix implies we are not part of this group, we are othering the subjects.

Geriatric is a medical term and should only be used in medical contexts, we would never refer to children as paediatrics. Likewise, just as we don't refer to persons under 50 as junior citizens there is no need to refer to persons of any age as senior citizens. Pensioner or OAP implies financial dependency and renders invisible the very many older persons who are in paid or unpaid work.



Age & Opportunity



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Age & opportunity guidelines for working with older people in the arts: a resource for Bealtine organisers and others involved in the arts and older people

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Thank you.

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