# **South Dublin County Council Arts Office – programme updates**

# Report prepared by Meabh Butler, Assistant Arts Officer: Early Years, Children and Young People

Seedlings - early years and children's programmes



**SPLAT!** – a 12-week pilot creative programme at the Abberley Hotel

Doulab Circus began classes in February 2025. Participants will play circus games for confidence, trust, teamwork, coordination & physical preparation, learn how to make their own juggling balls, and take classes in a mixture of circus disciplines.

BLUE SKY THINKING! led by Michelle Brown and Bronwen Barrett with early years children from JADD creche (Jobstown Assisting Drug Dependency)

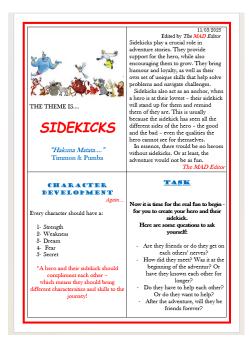
BLUE SKY THINKING! Is an immersive storytelling experience about the sky.

The artists, children and their educators will follow the story of a character who



accidently let their balloon loose outside and it floated off into the sky. They will go on an adventure to find it and that we need to travel across the sky

## MAD MAG, an 8-week creative writing programme with St Thomas' JNS, 2024



The MAD Mag continues in 2025 under the new theme of *Sidekick Secrets: Tales of Friendship and Adventures*. The workshops are taking place over 8 weeks.

#### **Bursaries and Awards**

#### ARTS OFFICE – AVAILABLE ARTS GRANTS

- Community Arts Award: Amateur, Voluntary and Community Arts organisations are invited to submit applications to be considered for grants of up to €3000. The scheme will primarily grant aid groups based and performing in the County but also performing at events outside the County. Groups performing in, but not based, in the County will also be eligible to apply for support under the Scheme. The activity that can be funded includes training, event subsidy, professional support, materials, project delivery and presentation. Further details on sdcc.ie or contact <a href="mailto:cbaker@sdublincoco.ie">cbaker@sdublincoco.ie</a> for further information.
- Individual Artist Bursary Award: is now open. The award is to a maximum of 5000 euro and artists of all disciplines can apply. More information on sdcc.submit.com

### The Annette Halpin Memorial Award

The Annette Halpin award is for young musicians, composers, singers, producers living in South Dublin County Council's Administrative Area. The award is funded by South Dublin County Council and the Halpin Family. It was established to celebrate the legacy of Annette Halpin, a singer / songwriter from Tallaght widely known for her role in community activism and community development who passed away in 2009. The award is for young people between 12 and 25 years of age.

Nicole Kelly, a young Killinarden singer received funding from the 2025 award to record her second album Metamorphosis

On receiving the news her application was successful, Nicole said 'Firstly, the award has given me my confidence back. I've always struggled with confidence issues and as of late I've been questioning if I'm good enough as an artist. Having a panel of people believe in me enough to give me this award has given me a wakeup call, and I'm finding that confidence again. It has also helped my development as an artist by quite literally allowing me to publish more music subsequently, developing my presence and portfolio as an artist.

# **Creative Ireland Community Mural Award**

The Community Mural Award is now open, we encourage community and organisations and clubs to apply to work with a professional artist in creating a mural artwork in their locality. Two awards of up to €10,000 are available, closing date for applications is 18<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

Link to application: sdcc.submit.com

# IN CONTEXT 5 – Connect, SDCC's public art programme under the per cent for art scheme

Sophie Von Maltzan - Rooting Resilience: Cultivating Community Nature in Killinarden through the Arts

This socially engaged environmental art project is an innovative partnership that brings together the Killinarden Community Centre, with young people from the Killinarden Community Youth Council, socially engaged environmental artist Sophie Von Maltzan, and South Dublin County



Council Arts and Community departments. Through Sophie Von Maltzan's socially engaged approach, the community will collaboratively create nature-based, site-specific, and meaningful art installations and events that are creative, interactive and playful. Through creativity and collective action, it aims to cultivate both community spirit and a thriving natural environment. It will take place over the next year.