

All Different

All Equal

West Cavan

PROJECT OUTLINE

A cross-community, intergenerational community project that seeks to address **what equality means for all** through art, costume making and most importantly, fun!

The project will engage a diverse range of individuals and community groups over a number of weeks from the West Cavan area at Focus Family Resource Centre.

The project begins with a training/ planning session that is open to volunteers, leaders and professionals from a wide spectrum of backgrounds (Age 16+).

Following this, there will be four arts and costume making workshops (Saturdays), facilitated by two experienced community artists along with community leaders, youth workers and volunteers (Age 12 +)

In each session; games, activities and informal conversations are facilitated which are underpinned by the 9 grounds of discrimination, as defined in **The Equal Status Acts 2000 -2015**. This occurs simultaneously whilst engaging in great art, craft and costume making workshops.

Through using problem posing education; we aim to create a space for all to discuss personal experience and impart knowledge to others in a safe and creative environment where **all are deemed equal**.

As the project progresses, we move from **private space to the public sphere**, culminating in an exhibition of work and solidarity at the St. Patricks Day Parades in both Killeshandra and Ballyconnell.

Food and refreshments will be provided to all participants throughout the project.

Whilst full participation is preferred; we are mindful of personal commitments, so participants need not attend every session, if they are unable to do so. Just let us know!

This project is funded by The Ireland Funds in co-operation with Focus Family Resource Centre CLG.

AGE RANGE EXPLAINED

We are predominantly targeting secondary school age upwards. Younger participants may get involved in the arts workshops if accompanied by a (participating) adult at all times.

The project is underpinned by the **9 Grounds of Equality** and thus intends to bring a diverse range of individuals and groups together to share their experiences and the issues that affect them in a safe space.

AIMS

- To combat rural isolation by creating safe spaces for communities to work together in a meaningful way.
- To promote long term community empowerment through investing in strategies that promote cohesion and social capital.
- To engage communities in creative processes with the support of community workers, artists, youth workers, group leaders and volunteers.
- To strengthen inter-generational & cross community bonds.
- Through supportive dialogue and experiential learning, participants can gain a deeper understanding of the issues that affect fellow community members.
- Through providing a safe space for participants to listen and share their own stories, we can reveal commonalities that allow communities to become more cohesive.
- To reflect on our individual and collective worldviews, challenge possible misconceptions or prejudices and build awareness and empathy across communities.
- To increase participation in local groups that are already available and underutilised within the community.
- To build capacity promote the visibility of current local community groups.

- To provide opportunities for community members opportunity to gain creative and practical skills which would not otherwise be available.
- To enhance the employment and educational potential of all individuals.

SESSION ONE:

What Does Equality Mean To Us?

This training and planning session will be facilitated by Focus FRC staff, arts facilitators and external facilitator **Bobby McCormack**.



Bobby has an MA in Development Studies and a B.Sc in Education and Training.

He is a co-founder of Development Perspectives which is an NGO that focuses on development education

He also works on a part time basis as a lecturer in Dundalk Institute of Technology.

See: www.developmentperspectives.ie

DATE, TIME & VENUE

17th February 2020, 9:30-16:30 at The Loft, Focus FRC, Main St, Killeshandra, Co. Cavan.

ATTENDEES:

Professionals, leaders, volunteers, artists and community members with diverse backgrounds. A minimum of one representative from each of the nine grounds. The training is used as a platform for all to learn and share ideas equally and to plan the structure of the following 4 workshops.

SESSIONS TWO TO FIVE:

Arts & Equality Workshops

Costumes to be made will be based on the theme of **Biodiversity**, incorporating the elements of Air, Fire and Water.

Two community artists; Annie June Callaghan and Ulrike Liebtrau (Uliunique) will facilitate these workshops with the support of Focus FRC staff and community leaders & volunteers.

ARTS FACILITATORS



Uliunique creates sculptures and installations made from rubbish, wood, metal, for large festivals/ events, local bands and theatre props.

“I love sharing my skills and am a true eco warrior - encouraging the people around me to reduce - reuse and recycle” See: www.patreon.com/uliunique



Annie June Callaghan is a visual and performance artist and musician who hails from County Fermanagh.

Annie has worked with many arts groups including the Armagh Rhymers and Gonzo Theatre Cavan.

Annie travels extensively nationally and internationally as a freelance artist, facilitator and performer.

DATES FOR SESSIONS TWO TO FIVE:

SATURDAYS 9:30 -17:00

22.02.2020 29.02.2020 07.03.2020 14.03.2020

DESCRIPTION

The Artists will facilitate each workshop teaching the groups the skills needed to build the art and costume pieces in a fun and engaging way.

Groups such as the Mens Shed and the Sewing Group will take the lead on supporting other group members with the creation of the art pieces and costumes.

Group leaders/professionals who attended the initial training are invited to take time during the day to lead informal discussions/ games/ activities which encourage the sharing of experiences on issues that affect them, from a range of perspectives.

Time at the beginning and the end of each session will be dedicated to planning/ reflection with the core group of leaders.

LOCATION:

The Loft, Focus FRC, Main St, Killeshandra, Co. Cavan.

SESSION SIX:

Performance and exhibition of work and solidarity at
St Patricks Day Parades in both Killeshandra & Ballyconnell.

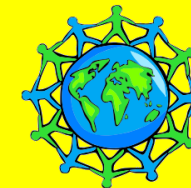
The success of the project is dependent on the active participation of well-established groups rooted in the community of West Cavan.

If you would like to be involved please get in touch.

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THE IRELAND FUNDS