Executive Summary

On December 1st, 2014 UNESCO Galway was designated a UNESCO City Of Film. Galway is now one of only thirteen film cities in the world to achieve this much sought-after City of Film status. Galway Film Centre manages this designation on behalf of the region as part of a MoU with Galway City and County Councils.

To promote the core aim of “using creativity as a strategic factor for sustainable development” Galway City of Film has actively engaged with the process of Galway City Council creating its first Cultural Sustainability Strategy Framework devised for Galway. 'Everybody Matters - A Cultural Sustainability Strategy Framework for Galway 2016 - 2025' outlines a ten-year plan containing strategies and action plans and is part of a broad strategic approach that puts culture at the centre of local development. It specifically recognizes and is underpinned by: The pivotal role of culture in Galway’s past, present and its future; The connection between culture and local sustainable development; The potential growth of the cultural and wider creative industry sectors. The Cultural Vision in the policy states: Culture is at the heart of life in Galway; we want it to be pivotal to all aspects of our development as a city and county. This policy aligns with the UCCN Mission and puts culture at the centre of the region’s development framework.

Galway City of Film was centrally involved in the European Capital of Culture 2020 bid process and helped advise, brainstorm, workshop, and participate in the formation of the bid document and ensured that key film related projects were included namely The Northern Peripheries Talent Camp, VR Story Studio, The Regional Film Fund and The Creative Enterprise Hub. We now work towards the realisation of these projects.
General Information

GALWAY CITY OF FILM | CEANTAR SCANNÁN

City : Galway
Country : Ireland
Creative Field of Designation : Film
Date of Designation : December 2014
Date of Submission of the Current Report: November 2018
Entity Responsible for the report: Galway Film Resource Centre CLG
Previous Reports Submitted: First report
Focal points of contact - Alan Duggan, Director Galway City of Film, administered by Galway Film Centre, on behalf of Galway City Council and Galway County Council
alan@galwayfilmcentre.ie, +353 (91) 770748
Contribution to the Network's Global Management

Number of UCCN meetings attended in last four years
2015 KANAZAWA, attended by Declan Gibbons
2016 OSTERSUND, attended by Declan Gibbons
2017 ENGHIEN-LES-BAINS, attended by Declan Gibbons
2018 KRAKOW-KATOWICE, attended by Alan Duggan

Hosting of a UCCN annual meeting & dates
The City and County of Galway hope to host a future annual meeting of the UNESCO Creative Cities Network.

Hosting of a working or coordination meeting addressed to one or more specific UCCN creative field representatives
Cities of Film Subnetwork meeting in Galway. October 2018 attended by Bristol, Lodz, Qingdao with online participation from Busan, Rome, Terrassa

Membership of the Steering Group and period
2016 - 2018 - Declan Gibbon

Participation in the evaluation of applications (number of applications evaluated per year)
2015: 8 Applications
2017: 8 Applications
Major Local Initiatives

FÍS TV SUMMIT

The FÍS TV Summit is an annual event aimed at producers and content creators which takes place in Galway, UNESCO City Of Film. Programmed in consultation with key industry stakeholders, a selection of topical panels, key interviews and networking sessions aim to reflect the changing landscape for TV.

In light of the publication of the Olsberg Report, the theme followed by the 2018 edition was Entertainment. Throughout the day, the panel sessions and case studies featured a host of broadcasting leaders and innovators from Ireland, the UK, Europe, and the US discussing topics including ‘Let Me Entertain You – a discussion on the latest trends in TV entertainment with the broadcaster’, ‘Funding Across the Regions – a guide to regional funding around in Ireland & Europe’, ‘Get To The Point – looking at short form online digital content’, ‘Bread and Butter – a look at returnable series and brand formats for sustainability’ plus a case study on a highly successful long running entertainment programmes.
Major Local Initiatives

WRAP Fund

The Western Region Audiovisual Production Fund (WRAP) is an initiative of the Western Development Commission and the Galway Film Centre with the support of the local authorities of Clare, Donegal, Galway City, Galway County, Mayo, Roscommon, Sligo and Údarás na Gaeltachta.

WRAP is a regional fund committed to strategic investment that encourages regional production and development activity across the feature film, television drama, animation and gaming sectors, to generate economic impact, support local talent, create sustainable employment, build the audio-visual infrastructure and contribute to the cultural and language of the West of Ireland. The fund of €2,000,000 is available from 2017 – 2020.
CREATIVE ENTERPRISE WEST

Creative Enterprise West (CREW) is an initiative of the Western Development Commission, Galway Mayo Institute of Technology, the Galway Film Centre, Galway City Council and Galway County Council. CREW is dedicated to enabling the West of Ireland’s creative talent combine technology with our rich storytelling heritage to create new enterprises and jobs in emerging high growth creative industries.

CREW’s vision is that in three years it will position the West of Ireland as a global powerhouse in the emerging Creative Technology sector. CREW will have developed a community of creative talent and enterprises in Animation, TV and film production, Games, Publishing, Advertising, and digital goods, providing thought leadership in the sector and establishing a competitive advantage for the West of Ireland in these emerging high growth sectors. In doing so CREW will build an ecosystem that supports the emergence and growth of start-up and established enterprises both indigenous to the Region and locating here to take advantage of its unique advantages in creative technology.
Major Local Initiatives

Science on Screen

The ‘Science on Screen’ scheme, a funding strand for creative documentaries set in the world of science, is now in its third Year. The scheme, a collaboration between CÚRAM, the SFI Centre for Research in Medical Devices at NUI Galway and the Galway Film Centre, funds 100% of one 26 minute film with a budget of €35,000 that promotes the public understanding of science.

The Science on Screen scheme has been running since 2016 and has previously funded documentaries on topics such as Parkinson’s disease (Feats of Modest Valour), tendon injury (Mending Legends) and diabetes (Bittersweet: The Rise of Diabetes). The films have reached audiences of over half a million people and have received success at festivals internationally.
Major Local Initiatives

OTHER SIGNIFICANT ANNUAL INITIATIVES

iIDÁNA
Supporting the making of ambitious and cinematic long form documentary on the arts in Irish.

Dig Where You Stand
Documentary funding scheme for young filmmakers based in Galway City and County.

Writing Mentorship Scheme
Mentoring for Writers from the region with Script Editors and Commissioning Editors.

RTÉ Short Film Commission
Short Film commission for new and upcoming Writers, Directors, and Producers.

Baboro Children’s Festival
A workshop for kids to create a short video portrait and consider what to share online

Screen Talent Europe
To help filmmakers exchange knowledge, experiences and methods through talent camps and co-productions

Heritage Scheme
A short documentary commission for films based on the culture and heritage of the region

Animation & Live Action Filmmaking Camps
Camps for kids run twice a year and expanding to communities and schools.

48Hr Filmmaking Challenge
Teams make a short film in 48hrs over one weekend in Galway. The winning film is screened at Galway Film Fleadh.

One Minute Film Festival
30 one minutes films are selected for screening at Galway Film Fleadh and Culture Night.

Film Screenings
Numerous film screenings, many with Q&A.

Workshops & Seminars
Numerous workshops and seminars with our training partners SSI, Skillnets, GRETB, GMIT and more.
Major Inter-City Initiatives

BRADFORD INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

In March 2015, Galway City Council and Culture Ireland supported the Cinemobile visit to the first Bradford International Film Summit, where it took centre-stage at Bradford City Hall for the week.

The Galway, City of Film delegation included City Mayor, CEO, County Cathaoirelach, and senior officials. A formal reception was hosted by the lord Mayor of Bradford, Mike Gibbons. The Festival included three days of workshops, talks & events and featured screenings of Irish Films in the Cinemobile.

Galway also met with delegations from Busan and Sofia.
In 2017, Galway City of Film announced an exciting new partnership project with Rome City of Film to share knowledge and expertise amongst the filmmakers of the future. Galway and Rome UNESCO Offices facilitated a new international student exchange programme between the Centre for Creative Arts & Media, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology, and the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia in Rome.

Ten students from the GMIT BA (Hons) in Film and Documentary course travelled to Rome for seven days. They attended lectures and met with their Italian counterparts with a focus on the exchange of knowledge in regard to Editing and Production Design.

Workshops for the students were hosted at the Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia and included meeting with Costume Designer Giovanna Arena, Pietro Jona from Reaction Roma, Production Designer Francesco Frigeri (The Passion of Christ), Editor Matthew Newman (Drive) as well as legendary Editor Roberto Perpignani (Il Postino)
Declan Gibbons, Director of Galway City of Film received a special invitation from Sydney City of Film to attend the 360 Vision event along with Galway based filmmaker Paula Kehoe in 2017. Paula, originally from Melbourne and based in Connemara, is an award winning filmmaker who recently created Ireland’s first narrative-led VR 360 film titled ‘I Am Galway 2020’ as part of Galway’s successful bid for European Capital of Culture in 2020. ‘I Am Galway 2020’ had a special screening during the 360 Vision event with the film available to view by all international attendees through VR headsets.

Declan Gibbons also met with representatives from the UNESCO Creative Cities Network members during the trip including representatives from Sydney City of Film, Adelaide City of Music and Melbourne City of Literature.
In October 2018, Alan Duggan Director Galway, City of Film, visited Rome during Rome Film Fest. Alan met with Rome, City of Film Focal Point Giuliana Bottino to discuss collaboration between our cities and our festivals. Alan also met with Roberto Cicutto, President of Istituto Luce-Cinecittà and Marcello Minuti to discuss cooperation between Rome Video Game Lab and Creative Enterprise West.

Rome Video Game Lab at Cinecittà is a significant investment in interactive entertainment with facilities, mentoring and training mirroring the planned activities of CREW in Galway. It is planned that cooperation will include sharing of methods, mentors, and knowledge as well as collaboration between hosted companies including inter-city exchanges, shared workshops and joint funding initiatives.
Major Inter-City Initiatives

OTHER INTER-CITY INITIATIVES

Screening - Dublin, City of Literature
Screening of the Irish Language short film Grá & Eagla with panel discussion and guest speaker Darach O’Sheaghdha, author of Motherfoclóir

Collaborative Research - Terrassa, City of Film
Exploring collaborative research potential with Terrassa, City of Film

Co-production - Bristol, City of Film
Exploring co-production for Galway European Capital of Culture 2020

Blue Book of Film - Qingdao, City of Film
Contributing to the Blue Book of Film with Qingdao, City of Film

Screenings - Busan, City of Film
Galway, City of Film submitted two films into the Busan Independent Film Festival in 2016.

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<tr>
<th>Proposed Action</th>
<th>SDGs Links</th>
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<td>Establish additional Short Film Schemes to include entrant and established filmmakers</td>
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<td>Develop further community initiatives to address gender, diversity, language and disadvantage</td>
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<td>Provide enhanced Support of Animation and Games</td>
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<td>Develop the profile of the Region as a destination for Inward Productions</td>
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<td>Provide broader Training Initiatives across the sector with Screen Training Ireland, Skillnets, GMIT, ETB's</td>
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<td>Increase International Collaboration on Development, Production and Training, Best Practice and Knowledge Sharing and Academic Research and Data Collection</td>
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