



# SMASHINGTIMES

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR  
THE ARTS & EQUALITY



**CONNECTING CITIZENS TO**  
**The Arts, Human Rights, Climate**  
**Justice and Gender Equality**





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The Arts, Human Rights, Climate  
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Membership

Resources

Advice

Annual Projects

Smashing Times  
Professional and  
Collaborative Arts

Smashing Times  
Youth Arts  
Ensemble



A SPACE FOR LOCAL, NATIONAL & INTER NATIONAL COMMUNITIES TO COME TOGETHER  
TO CELEBRATE THE ARTS AND TO USE CREATIVITY TO BUILD A BETTER SOCIETY AND ACHIEVE EQUALITY FOR ALL





during WWII; the Peace Process in Ireland and Northern Ireland; and the stories of Irish human rights defenders and trailblazers today from our president Michael D. Higgins to former President Mary Robinson to actors such as Liam Cunningham from Game of Thrones. Each exhibition tells a unique story exploring the diversity of human rights in Irish and international contexts.

The Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality is unique in that it provides a first-of-its kind service to Ireland on a local, national and international basis and offers a unique opportunity to showcase Irish culture, heritage and values across the world and in doing so the centre supports two key strategies of the Irish government – Project Ireland 2040 and Global Ireland 2025.

#### Vision

Through artistic endeavour, the centre promotes the cause of equality and human rights. Our vision is a world where all people have access to the arts and the arts are open for all to enjoy, creating a fair and inclusive society where equality, human rights and diversity are fully recognised, valued and protected.

# Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality

## Connecting Citizens to the Arts, Human Rights, Climate Justice and Gender Equality

The Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality is dedicated to the promotion, study and practice of the arts, human rights, climate justice and gender equality. Smashing Times is an international organisation working with artists and communities to create collaborative art practice in local, national, European and international settings. Our mission is to lead the development of the arts to promote and advance equality and human rights and to connect citizens to the arts, human rights, climate justice and gender equality.

The centre operates as a world class arts space and digital hub for artists, citizens, communities and the general public across Ireland, Northern Ireland and internationally. Core services consist of membership, resources, advice and the implementation of a range of innovative projects promoting professional and collaborative arts practice and a youth arts Ensemble. The centre promotes membership, networking, training, guidance, support and advocacy in relation to using high quality creative processes, collaborative arts practice, research and new digital technologies to promote equality and human rights for all.

Led by Director Mary Moynihan and producer Freda Manweiler, the centre produces an annual interdisciplinary arts programme with a focus on cultural engagement, economic and international development, tourism, education and new digital technologies. All artistic mediums are supported with a focus on the



[SmashingTimes.ie/centrefortheartsandhumanrights](https://SmashingTimes.ie/centrefortheartsandhumanrights)

performing and collaborative arts including theatre, film, visual arts, dance and music. With its global reputation for excellence, and its history running arts and human rights-based projects both nationally and internationally, Smashing Times draws upon its vast experience in the creation of this innovative space.

The centre houses a digital museum which brings to life Ireland's history, heritage and culture related to the arts and equality, providing a unique, immersive community and visitor cultural experience. The space tells the extraordinary and fascinating stories of courageous Irish men and women from history and today who have promoted equality in Ireland and around the globe. Exhibitions cover changemakers of Irish folklore; the invasions of Ireland; events such as the Famine; the 1916 to 1923 decade of centenaries; votes for women; stories from WWI and WWII; Irish people in the Resistance

## S U C C E S S E S

# 1,244,200

### NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS REACHED

on an annual basis through workshops, performances, film screenings, post-show discussions, panel events, visual art and digital exhibitions, symposiums, outreach programmes and via dissemination



# 5000

NUMBER  
OF YOUTHS  
reached per year



# 44

### INTERNATIONAL PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Smashing Times has a global reputation for excellence working with 44 international partner organisations in 18 countries across Europe



# 200

### AWARD WINNING EVENTS

presented per year

## DEMAND FOR CENTRE



**Significant Support** from the local community for the centre



**Over 600 current members** nationwide supporting the centre and membership growing at rate of 18% per month. Over 600 requests for guidance, advice, information and the provision of services



**Extensive skills** in the successful implementation of large-scale artistic, training and outreach programmes as requested by our partners, audiences, members, communities and key stakeholders



**Extensive expertise** in animating a building and attracting a public profile on a local, national and international level with a successful resilience model of funding to sustain and grow the centre into the future





# What we WILL DO in the space

## CORE SERVICES AND ANNUAL PROGRAMME

- **Secure a long-term physical premises** and establish the Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality as a world-class visitor centre and digital museum for arts and human rights with permanent and visiting exhibitions, a café and sustainable garden, providing a membership, resource, advice and advocacy service alongside current and historical exhibitions and a range of activities, projects and training implemented on a local, national and international basis
- **Build the Smashing Times International Online Centre with a membership network** across Ireland, Europe and internationally and facilitate opportunities for members to interact, network, communicate and share information and learning using the arts to promote equality, human rights, and diversity for all. Actions include meetings, arts-based events, workshops, online and face-to-face training, working collaboratively and strategically to build strong national and international partnerships and to facilitate the transfer of good practice and policy research.
- **Provide a resource, advice and advocacy service** for individuals and organisations. Services include website, social media, research, policy, advocacy (publications, submissions), newsletter, arts blogs, vlogs, podcasts, networking, online discussion forum, journal of arts and human rights and an advice service via telephone and face-to-face.
- **Implement an annual professional and collaborative arts programme** – producing artistic plays and multi-disciplinary performances, film screenings, visual and digital art exhibitions, books, panel discussions and debates, public talks, national and transnational creative arts symposiums and conferences and projects, festivals and international artist exchanges, and training in the



arts and for leadership and employment – all using the arts to promote equality for all. Annual events include the Dublin International Arts and Human Rights Festival, the Winter Solstice and Summer Solstice Festivals, outreach programmes and international artist exchanges and residencies

- **House a Digital Museum for Arts and Human Rights** displaying permanent and temporary digital media exhibitions showcasing the extraordinary work of human rights defenders in Ireland and around the world – past and present – and the role of the arts and artists in promoting human right today, bringing to life the stories of courageous Irish men and women who campaigned for the rights of others in Ireland and on an international basis. Visitors and tourists have access to the public arts-based programme and exhibitions, installations and collections. Heritage and historical trails include Women's Heritage Trails, Peace Heritage Trails focused on the peace process in Northern Ireland, and Equality Heritage Trails.

## TRAINING FOR CREATIVITY, LEADERSHIP AND EMPLOYMENT

- **Provide high quality Training for Communities** in leadership, entrepreneurial and soft skills development for employment, implemented through an annual programme of workshops, training courses and masterclasses suitable for youth and adults, enabling communities to realise their potential
- **Provide professional development, training and support for Professional Artists** in relation to creativity, arts practice development and innovation and in Arts Facilitation in Participatory Contexts

## RIGHTS AND ENGAGEMENT

- **Open up the centre as a cultural and digital hub** for direct use by local people as a community resource for creative engagement and training, working collaboratively with people from all ages and cultures, particularly with areas and groups experiencing disadvantage and marginalisation.
- **Establish a Youth Café and Sustainable Garden** with all activities open to youth and bring young people from a European and International context to work with youth in Ireland

- **Establish National Creative Arts and Human Rights Volunteer programme** and 40 Creative Arts and Human Rights hubs around Ireland

## SUCCESS AND SUSTAINABILITY

- **Supports Project Ireland 2040** by using the arts to make Ireland a better country to live in for all its people, promoting high quality international connectivity through cultural engagement and access to a quality arts experience that can enhance a better quality of life.
- **Supports Global Ireland 2025** by promoting Irish arts, heritage and culture to new audiences across the world, increasing visibility, awareness and enhancement of Ireland's reputation across Europe and promoting Ireland's values of peace, humanity, democracy, equality and justice.
- **Run by highly experienced creative management team** with resilient model of funding who have successfully raised substantial funding and who provide core services and a multi-disciplinary programme operating at local, national, European and international levels. The work takes place in Ireland, Northern Ireland, Europe and internationally and with partners from a range of countries including the United Kingdom, Spain, Germany, Poland, France, Belgium, Italy, Bulgaria, Romania, Norway, the Netherlands, Greece, Lithuania, Latvia, Turkey, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Czech Republic and Portugal, Israel, Palestine, Sri Lanka, Canada and the United States.

## SMASHING TIMES IN EUROPE

A selection of locations where the Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality have worked in Europe.

Smashing Times is one of the most successful arts organisations in Ireland and at a European level, having received support from Europe for Citizens, Creative Europe, and Erasmus+, capturing a global imagination.



## SUPPORTERS:

Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht /// Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Reconciliation Fund /// Dublin City Council Arts Office /// The Arts Council /// HSE National Social Inclusion Office /// ESB Energy for Generations Fund /// HSE National Lottery Community Foundation for Ireland /// Business to Arts Arklow Mental Health Week /// Waterford Samaritans Erasmus+ /// Europe for Citizens and Creative Europe

## SMASHING TIMES

Using creative and cultural processes and performing and collaborative arts practices to connect citizens to equality, human rights, climate justice, gender equality, diversity, peace, development education, positive health and well-being and more

- Arts in Education
- Arts in Health – Creative Approaches to physical and positive mental health and well-being
- Arts for Democracy, Human Rights and Peace Building – From Historical Memory to Stories in history to peace building today
- Arts in Gender Equality and Diversity
- Arts for Climate Justice
- Arts in Development Education

## PROJECT PARTNERS:

Frontline Defenders /// National Women's Council of Ireland /// Concern Worldwide /// Trinity College Dublin /// John Scott Dance Theatre /// Poetry Ireland /// Create /// Samaritans /// Irish Council for Civil Liberties /// Tallaght Travellers Community Development Project /// TravAct /// Kildare Traveller Action /// and Musicantia Roma Movement

## ENDORSEMENTS

*'Smashing Times has a deserved reputation for exploring social issues with sensitivity and in depth... The plays are true theatre... extraordinary. Smashing Times must continue with it.'*

**IRISH TIMES**

*'Fascinating, executed by the innovative and dynamic Smashing Times.'*

**SUNDAY INDEPENDENT**

*'Smashing Times is a wonderful endeavor and I wish you well with all your future work.'*

**THOMAS KILROY, PLAYWRIGHT**

*'This production and the discussion afterwards should be compulsory for all young people. It is Theatre-in-Education at its best.'*

**MAEVE INGOLDSBY, WRITER AND PLAYWRIGHT**

*'This work is so powerful, I wish there was more of this.'*

**MEMBER OF PUBLIC**

*'What Smashing Times are contributing is cutting-edge... this is serious, thought-provoking and provocative work that is really impressive and valid.'*

**BRIDGET KELLY, MEMBER OF PUBLIC**

*'I've never been presented with an issue like this in my experience before, this has been extraordinary, powerful.'*

**TOM O'HAGAN, MEMBER OF PUBLIC**

*'The Department of Education should fund this show to go into every school in the country. It is excellent and extremely important.'*

**LIAM HALLIGAN, MEMBER OF PUBLIC**

*'This work is excellent . . . drama is so important, particularly for young people in schools.'*

**SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, CBS, WESTLAND ROW**



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**Smashing Times International Centre for the Arts and Equality  
incorporating Smashing Times Theatre and Film Company  
and Smashing Times Youth Arts Ensemble**

**Coleraine House, Coleraine Street, Dublin 7, Ireland.**

**Tel: + 353 (0) 1 865 6613 Tel: + 353 (0) 87 221 4245**

**Email: [info@smashingtimes.ie](mailto:info@smashingtimes.ie) Website: [www.smashingtimes.ie](http://www.smashingtimes.ie)**



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