

IRISH YOUTH FOUNDATION (UK) GRANT AWARDS 2016 FOR PROJECTS BASED IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND & WALES

Birmingham TradFest

www.birminghamtradfest.co.uk

£2,500 has been awarded for The Trip to Birmingham TradFest: towards the promotion of Irish traditional music in a variety of ways throughout the year, aiming to foster greater levels of engagement with, and appreciation of, a shared sense of Irish heritage among young Irish people. The biggest project is the annual 'Trip to Birmingham Tradfest' festival in November and others include a 'Schools Programme', monthly participation sessions and concerts.

Birmingham TradFest is a not-for-profit organisation set up by 4 Birmingham-born Irish individuals under 25 in November 2013 with a number of aims centred on positively impacting other young Irish people in Birmingham. Their overarching aim is to promote greater levels of engagement with, and along with this a greater appreciation of, a shared sense of Irish heritage among young Irish people in Birmingham, and in turn other cities in the UK through the celebration of Irish traditional music.

Birmingham TradFest has also been awarded the **Innovation Award 2016** in recognition of the enterprise and success of 4 young Irish-born Birmingham individuals establishing The Trip to Birmingham TradFest in November 2013 aiming to promote Irish Traditional Music and foster greater levels of engagement with young Irish people in Birmingham.

*Birmingham TradFest's award is supported by Culture Ireland's donation of proceeds from **Ceiliúradh**, held at the Royal Albert Hall, April 2014.*

The Brandon Centre

www.brandoncentre.org.uk

£3,000 has been awarded as a contribution towards the cost of the provision of a priority counselling and psychotherapy service for young Irish people and their families.

The Brandon Centre was formerly The London Youth Advisory Centre which was founded in 1968. The principal objective of the centre is to provide an accessible and flexible professional service in response to the psychological, medical, sexual and social problems of troubled young people aged 12-25 and their families. It aims to relieve distress, mobilise personal resources and facilitate growth in adolescents towards responsibility and self-fulfilment.

Brent Centre for Young People

www.brentcentre.org.uk

£4,000 has been awarded towards Mental Health Support & Liaison Project: to provide vital centre-based AET and Psychotherapy to at least 30 young Irish people. These are effective talking therapies, helping Irish young people to develop the capacity to think and to recognise their own thoughts and feeling about their situations, the first step on the path to recovery from entrenched mental and emotional difficulties. Intensive, tailored, culturally sensitive and practical support will be offered to the most vulnerable who have a range of other complex issues preventing recovery such as homelessness, debt, or not being in education, employment or training. The Brent Adolescent Centre provides a comprehensive service to young people 14-21 years of age in the following areas: Mental Health, Drugs & Alcohol (Advice and Treatment), Sexual Health and a Connexions Personal Adviser Service. These services are provided mainly to residents (including Irish) of the borough of Brent, and other London boroughs.

Bristol Playbus

www.bristolplaybus.org

£2,000 has been awarded for Traveller Education & Health: Towards the costs of a dedicated Irish Youth Development worker for 12hrs a week including the associated costs. The worker would be responsible for building and maintaining relationships with the Traveller community and carrying out consultation and feedback with the families, making links with professionals, attending meetings with outside agencies, ensuring appropriate referrals to EMTAS, liaising with health visitors around speech therapy, specialist provision or equipment. Bristol Playbus is a mobile community development play and youth resource first established in 1974 aiming to work with people isolated from community provision throughout Bristol and surrounding areas. Running a fully converted double-decker bus, the project offers a range of play and family learning experiences for children who have been identified as disadvantaged in some way. All of the projects are mobile and delivered in partnership with other agencies.

Conradh na Gaeilge Glaschú

www.cnag-glaschu.co.uk

£1,000 has been awarded towards Irish Culture Summer Scheme for Children: towards a 5-day Summer Scheme for children involving them in Irish culture through music, songs, dance, drama & sports activities in the southside of Glasgow which has a large 1st-4th generation Irish community in an area of some deprivation with few facilities particularly for children. All activities are used to introduce/improve the children's Irish language skills. Conradh na Gaeilge Glaschú (The Gaelic League Glasgow)'s aim is to promote and maintain Irish language and culture in Glasgow's large Irish community. It provides each week 7 Irish language classes for adults and 1 for children as well as social and cultural activities, events and workshops for the Irish community living in Glasgow and surrounding areas.

*Conradh na Gaeilge Glaschú's award is supported by Culture Ireland's donation of proceeds from **Ceiliúradh**, held at the Royal Albert Hall, April 2014.*

Construction Youth Trust

www.constructionyouth.org.uk

£2,000 has been awarded for Budding Builders: to work with 8 Irish Travellers aged 16-30 at their training facility in Bermondsey to deliver practical training in various construction skills (Carpentry, Electrics, Tiling, Painting and Plumbing) enabling participants to understand a wide range of trades. Those who successfully complete the course will gain a Level 1 Open College Network qualification in Health & Safety in Construction Environment. Participants will also visit an active construction site, have the opportunity to meet role models working in construction and explore pathways to self-employment. Referrals will be sought through partnerships with The Traveller Movement and Southwark Travellers Action Group.

Construction Youth Trust supports young people whose journey to work can be challenging due to barriers relating to their financial circumstances, lack of awareness of opportunities, low self-esteem, gender or ethnicity. It supports young people's journey to work through an integrated service that enables young people to raise their industry awareness and aspirations; increase their confidence; obtain construction and employability skills; acquire experience in the industry; receive financial support, career advice, guidance and mentoring.

Feith an Cheoil School of Traditional Irish Music, Enfield, N London

Email: feithancheoil@hotmail.co.uk

£500 has been awarded towards additional activities including a 10-year celebration gala night and extending an instrument loan scheme. Feith an Cheoil School of Traditional Irish Music has been established since September 2006 and has students ranging from age 7-18 from local primary and secondary schools in the Enfield and surrounding areas of Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

Friends, Families & Travellers, Brighton, Sussex

www.gypsy-traveller.org

£3,000 has been awarded for the Training & Capacity Building Manager: towards the salary costs of a part-time dedicated support worker and small travel costs for young people. The project aims to access 30 young Irish Travellers who are not in education, employment or training and offer intensive support through assertive outreach by a trained support worker from the travelling community. It will target young Irish Travellers aged 16-25 living in unauthorised encampments, on Traveller sites and in housing. Friends, Families & Travellers is a small, dynamic, community led charity, supporting and advocating on behalf of Gypsies & Travellers. Using assertive outreach and community role models, it aims to help Travellers identify their health, education and cultural needs and bridge them into the services that meet their needs. They also work with mainstream agencies and national policy makers to encourage fair legislation, inclusivity, community cohesion and accessible services.

icap Immigrant Counselling and Psychotherapy

www.icap.org.uk

£5,000 has been awarded towards Supporting Young Irish People: towards the provision of 200 psychotherapy sessions for up to 10 young Irish people under the age of 30 years old in London and Birmingham. **icap** provides individuals and groups with culturally sensitive, weekly open-ended psychotherapy, particularly to the Irish community in Britain. Whilst the target group is Irish, immigrants from any ethnic background are also welcomed.

Irish Arts Foundation, Leeds

www.irisharts.org.uk

£1,000 has been awarded towards the Ireland in Schools Programme: towards the further development of the 'Ireland in Schools' programme of workshops in primary schools across Leeds (20 per school year), targeted at Key Stage 2 (ages 8-11) and focused on music, dance and Celtic Art. The workshops take place in schools with a large 2nd, 3rd and/or dual heritage Irish and settled Irish Traveller intake, many of which are in areas that experience deprivation on a number of levels. Irish Arts Foundation is a community based youth and cultural development inner city project providing access to engagement in Traditional Irish music and cultural activities through classes, workshops, access to materials, resources, promotion and performance.

*Irish Arts Foundation's award is supported by Culture Ireland's donation of proceeds from **Ceiliúradh**, held at the Royal Albert Hall, April 2014.*

Irish Chaplaincy

www.irishchaplaincy.org.uk

£5,000 has been awarded for Irish Youth in Prison: funding towards the development of the prisoner advocacy service to address the growing needs of young Irish people within the criminal justice system throughout England and Wales. Factors such as distance, cultural differences, education issues, mental health, legal difficulties, and the welfare of the partners and children of young Irish prisoners are addressed in a holistic way. The project includes a special focus on the literacy needs of young prisoners from the Traveller community and makes no distinction between prisoners in terms of background, conviction, sexual orientation or gender identity, religion or prison status. Prison visiting and casework provides advocacy and support throughout a young person's period of incarceration which can be a considerable number of years. The Irish Chaplaincy is a leading social action charity established in 1957 addressing anti-Irish and anti-Traveller discrimination and the needs of vulnerable and socially isolated Irish people by offering free support through the following areas of work: Prisoners, Older Persons Outreach, Travellers Outreach and new immigrants.

Irish Community Care, Liverpool

www.iccm.org.uk

£9,500 has been awarded for Children and Young People Information, Advocacy & Support: Funding to sustain ICCM's work with children and young Irish people the North West to ensure that they have a decent place to live, access appropriate support services and their entitlements, maintain family links, stay safe and well, do not reoffend, have opportunities for personal growth and development, education, training and employment opportunities, encouraging community participation, cohesion and citizenship.

Irish Community Care Merseyside is a small dynamic needs-led agency aiming to identify and respond to the needs of Irish people, offering a range of professional and culturally sensitive services. ICCM offers a comprehensive service meeting the health, social care and cultural needs of young Irish people and Irish Travellers in the North West.

Irish Cultural Centre, Hammersmith

www.irishculturalcentre.co.uk

£7,000 has been awarded towards Children & Youth Music Education: towards the continuation of the Youth Education Scholarship for 3 young musicians (2 under 16, one 17-30) who wouldn't otherwise be able to afford to attend weekly music classes or buy an instrument with access to London travel expenses and the option of Grade exams; a contribution towards the core Irish Traditional Music Classes and a contribution towards the traditional Irish music termly student performances.

The Irish Cultural Centre Hammersmith aims to provide a high quality Irish Arts and Education programme which is available to all Irish people and to everyone who wishes to share and participate in Irish arts, education and cultural activity.

*Irish Cultural Centre's award is supported by Culture Ireland's donation of proceeds from **Ceiliúradh**, held at the Royal Albert Hall, April 2014.*

Irish Film London

www.irishfilmlondon.com

£500 has been awarded for Youth Film Workshops & Screenings: towards 2 projects "I'm Irish and Proud" film screenings and talks run through the year on themes of Irish identity, isolation and mental health. Working with mental health organisations such as icap, Brent Centre for Young People and Mind Yourself to identify service users who would benefit from free attendance at activities around the films. "Irish Film London Scholarship" to provide free places for young people who would benefit from professional training in film and animation who would otherwise be unable to access it.

Irish Film London is a not-for-profit company established in 2012 with a year-round programme delivering Irish film screenings, Q&A sessions with directors and animators, and runs workshops with children and young people in London. It aims to expand the youth section this year with additional workshops dedicated to young people.

Irish Heritage Foundation, Glasgow

www.irishheritagefoundation.org

£750 has been awarded for the Traditional Music Programme: towards a programme of Irish traditional music taught in 2 schools in the Govanhill area of Glasgow working towards graded exams and performance opportunities for young people from both diverse and Irish backgrounds living in the south side of Glasgow.

Formerly The Harps Community Project, Irish Heritage Foundation was established in 2011 with the aim of providing activities and opportunities for the older and young Irish community living in the Greater Glasgow area to engage fully with civic society.

London Irish Centre

www.londonirishcentre.org

£7,000 has been awarded towards the Youth Resettlement Programme: funding for face-to-face, telephone, email and online advice and information for young Irish people in London and those in Ireland thinking about moving to London offering help on access to housing, benefits, finding accommodation, healthcare, crisis care and employment. Where appropriate LIC will refer young people to organisations able to offer specialist assistance, i.e. mental health.

The London Irish Centre was established in 1956 to serve the welfare and cultural needs of the Irish community in London, especially the disadvantaged. Within the Centre, the Youth Resettlement Project provides vital safety and support for the growing numbers of young Irish people forced to leave Ireland for economic or other reasons offering advice, information, advocacy, referral, counselling and practical help.

Luton Irish Forum

www.lutonirishforum.org

£4,000 has been awarded for a New Irish – Health & Wellbeing Project: towards the cost of a third welfare officer to help the under 30's "new" Irish emigrants to become established in Luton and surrounding counties, whilst preventing the adverse experiences shared by many including isolation, poverty, homelessness, addiction problems and suicide by providing practical information, advice and support and promoting access to job, skills and social opportunities. Luton Irish Forum was established 15 years ago to meet the needs of the local Irish community, providing welfare assistance, health promotion, social and cultural activities.

Manchester Irish Education Group

£2,000 has been awarded towards the Children's Irish Music Festival in partnership with Manchester Music Service: to provide workshops in Irish song, music and dance for up to 24 primary schools participating in the weeks leading up to the 3-day festival in Manchester Town Hall in March 2017. Each school will be invited to send 30 children and a couple of staff to participate.

The Manchester Irish Education Group was founded in 1986. Its aim is to promote a positive image of Ireland and the Irish in schools, community, colleges and universities in the belief that the large Irish community should have access to its cultural background and that this should be shared with others. Over and above this, the group tries to give support to people of any age who want to explore and reaffirm their Irish identity.

*Manchester Irish Education Group's award is supported by Culture Ireland's donation of proceeds from **Ceiliúradh**, held at the Royal Albert Hall, April 2014.*

Mind Yourself

www.mind-yourself.co.uk

£2,000 has been awarded for Health & Wellbeing for Traveller Youth: Towards a pilot project aiming to improve the current and future health and wellbeing of Irish Traveller youth aged 18-30 in the greater London area, at four sites which have not previously benefited from Mind Yourself's support. They will work to reduce the stigma around discussing health issues and increase access to local health services by this group.

Mind Yourself, formally launched in May 2012, is the new name of the London Irish Women's Centre originally established in 1983 when its main activities were advice, outreach, representation, advocacy, information and counselling for vulnerable and disadvantaged women of Irish birth or descent and their families throughout London. The organisation has now widened its remit, in response to identified need, to work with Irish men as well as women. It will continue to work with Irish Travellers. Mind Yourself's primary task is to reduce the health inequalities Irish people in London have traditionally experienced and to improve wellbeing in the Irish community.

New Horizon Youth Centre

www.nhyouthcentre.org.uk

£9,500 has been awarded for the Irish Youth Project: contribution towards salary costs of providing a holistic model of support including lifeskills; literacy and numeracy; drug and alcohol advice; counseling; physical and mental health primary care; connection to services in participant's home area; securing ID; and primarily a listening and non-judgmental ear in a warm and safe environment. The project will also focus on young Irish men and women who are involved, or in danger of becoming involved, in sex working, have gang affiliations, are in prison or who have multiple needs. A culturally sensitive service will engage with young Irish women and men on the streets and in custody and aim to divert them to the centre-based service and the Women's Open Space Project. It will access young people into appropriate housing and support them through resettlement work and introduce them to the in-house counseling and lifeskills training service. Regular prison visits will be made to young Irish people in custody with the aim of steering them towards appropriate services on their release before they are drawn into any street-based/criminal/gang-related or other potentially harmful activity.

New Horizon Youth Centre provides a 7 day a week service including advice and tenancy sustainment as well as facilities such as food, laundry, showers and clothes store to young homeless people from 16-21 years old. The street outreach team complements the day centre services and operates in the boroughs of Camden and Islington. Projects provided in-house include drugs education, literacy & numeracy training, basic skills training, counseling, peer education and training programmes that focus on young people between 16-21 as well as sex workers 16-35.

St John Bosco Youth Club

£2,000 has been awarded towards the running costs of the Youth Club: hire of the hall for 4 nights a week to accommodate the Youth Club activities and Irish dancing classes for children from low-income Irish families in the deprived area of Tower Hamlets.

St John Bosco Youth Club runs Irish dancing classes and sporting activities for young people in the deprived Tower Hamlets area of East London.

St Michael's Irish Centre, Liverpool

www.stmichaelsirishcentre.org

£500 has been awarded towards the salary of the Activities Co-ordinator to provide cultural activities for young people.

St Michael's Parish Centre was given to the Irish Community on Merseyside by the Liverpool Archdioceses in May 1999. In October 2001 the Parish Centre became St Michael's Irish Centre and a registered charity with its own constitution and management structure, since when it has been the centre of Irish social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities in the area.

Solace Women's Aid

www.solacewomensaid.org

£9,000 has been awarded for the Irish/Irish Traveller Domestic Violence Project: a contribution towards a specialist Case Worker to provide individual and group support to Irish Traveller women and children who are affected by domestic and sexual violence. The project aims to help these vulnerable and marginalised women and children to flee abuse, live safely and recover from trauma. The programme will be run in partnership with The Traveller Movement who will deliver an advocacy training programme to build Irish and Traveller women's skills and abilities as advocates to provide support to vulnerable young Traveller women and children.

Solace Women's Aid provides services across London which addresses the support needs of women and children affected by domestic and sexual violence. It provides specialist services in the community and in refuges, to women, children and young people (including dedicated support to Irish and Irish Traveller families). Their services are holistic and empowering so that service users can live independent lives free from abuse. SWA was founded in June 2007 as a result of a merger between Camden, Enfield and Islington Women's Aid. In 2012 SWA merged with DVSS (Barnet) and Lambeth Women's Aid to form a charity dedicated to supporting survivors of domestic and sexual violence with over 100 collective years' experience in this area of work. SWA manage multiple refuges sites across the capital and a number of pan-London services with dedicated teams in Islington, Southwark, Haringey, Camden, Barnet, Waltham Forest, Lambeth and Enfield.

Tyneside Irish Cultural Society

www.tynesideirish.com

£1,500 has been awarded for the Tyneside Irish Youth Project: funding towards Irish Language and cultural class for ages 18-30; Irish storytelling in NE England schools and youth music and culture workshop October 2016 over 4 days.

Tyneside Irish Cultural Society's aim is to promote & maintain Irish culture on Tyneside, through concerts, music classes, drama, education and a 2-week festival in October.

*Tyneside Irish Cultural Society's award is supported by Culture Ireland's donation of proceeds from **Ceiliúradh**, held at the Royal Albert Hall, April 2014.*

York Irish Association

www.yorkirish.co.uk

£750 has been awarded towards Supporting the Irish in York: Towards the organisation of a year-long programme of cultural events for the Irish in York including York St Patrick's weekend festival and to provide more activities for the benefit and engagement of the younger generation. The York Irish Association is a community group set up in May 2014. Its main objectives are to raise awareness of and celebrate Irish culture and tradition, to bring the Irish community and anyone with an interest in all things Irish together in the city and to celebrate the unique connections between Ireland and York. The benefits the organisation provides are increased wellbeing and reduced social isolation among members, having some somewhere to be able to express their cultural identity and have access to a series of cultural events.