



Cruinniú na nÓg 2025

Unleash Your Creative Spark on Saturday, 7th June



Unleash your creative spark

cruinniu.gov.ie



Kialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Clár Aire nÓgach
Creative Ireland
Programme



Creative Fingal proudly presents Cruinniú na nÓg;

A day of free creativity for young people on 7th June, 2025

This year, Fingal Libraries continues to embrace the invaluable insights from the *Voice of The Child Survey*, tailoring their programming to respond to the creative passions and interests of young people living in Fingal.

Creative events will take place across all of our library branches, while Blanchardstown, Balbriggan and Malahide Libraries will each host a *Carnival of Curiosity* to engage and delight the community. Creative writing workshops, author and illustrator visits, coding classes, magic shows, circus performers, and much more will make this a day to remember.

We Own the Castle is this year's Cruinniú Late Event, hosted by Fingal Libraries and Garageland Galaxy. This Swords Castle festival is exclusively tailored for teenagers, and will feature live performances from young talent in music, performance and poetry - including the *Wavin' Words Poetry Slam* - the open mic is yours! Meanwhile, the Creative Village will enhance the festival vibe, allowing young people to customise their look for the day!

Travel through *The Corridor of Creativity* from Blanchardstown Library to the Draíocht Arts Centre, or experience *OutWall*, an immersive dance experience. Express your creative flair with *The Walls Project* as you design and paint a collaborative mural. Watch as children's illustrator Chris Judge unveils *Fingal Future Visions*, a time capsule art project that he designed with four Fingal schools to see what Fingal, and the world, will look like twenty years from now. There will be something for everyone this June 7th, make sure to book your place!



Criunniu na nÓg Events at a Glance

Saturday, 7th of June 2025



CARNIVAL OF CURIOSITY



SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

EVENT	AGE	TIME
BLANCHARDSTOWN LIBRARY		
Sarah Sparkles	0-4 years	11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Cruinniú Creation Station with Mary Murphy and Jennifer Farley	3-12 years	12:00 pm – 2:00 pm
Pop Goes the Comic Strip with Alan Nolan	8-12 years	1:00 pm – 2:15 pm
LED Workshop with Coding Ireland	12-16 years	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
Tie-Dye Workshop with Lollipop Apparel in the Fingal Makerspace	7-11 years	10:30 am – 11:15 am 11:30 am – 12:15 pm 12:30 pm – 1:15 pm
BALBRIGGAN LIBRARY		
Podcasting Workshop with Createschool	12-16 years	10:30 am – 12:30 pm
Reuben the Magician	All ages/families	11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Facepainting and Balloon Modelling with Romina Roe	All welcome	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Stories for our Hearts with Orlaith O'Sullivan	6+/families welcome	2:30 pm – 3:30 pm
Top 10 Story Writing Tips with Conor Kostick	10-16 years	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm
MALAHIDE LIBRARY		
Graffiti Art with Street Art Ink	Age 7+	9:45 am – 12:00 pm
Role Play Village with Messy Adventures	6 months–6 years	10:00 am – 11:00 am 11:30 am – 12:30 pm 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm
Píosa Spraoi le Cupán Focail(s)! / Have Fun with a Cup of Focals! with Áine Gallagher	All ages/families	11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Creative Writing Workshop with Fighting Words	8–11 years	2:30 pm – 4:30 pm



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07.06.2025
Cruinniú na nÓg



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07.06.2025
Cruinniú na nÓg

THURSDAY, 5 TH JUNE		
EVENT	AGE	TIME
GARRISTOWN LIBRARY		
Musical Tots	0-4 years	11:00 am – 12:00 pm
SATURDAY, 7 TH JUNE		
DONABATE LIBRARY		
Irish Storytelling with Seosamh Ó Maolalaí	All ages/families	11:30 am – 12:30 pm
Musical Tots	0-4 years	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
HOWTH LIBRARY		
Creative Writing Workshop with Megan Wynne	8-13 years	11:00 am – 12:00 pm
Irish Storytelling with Seosamh Ó Maolalaí	All ages/families	2:30 pm – 3:30 pm
RUSH LIBRARY		
Bits and Bobs Orchestra	4-10 years	11:00 am – 12:00 pm
High Rock Productions	11-13 years	2:30 pm – 3:30 pm
SKERRIES LIBRARY		
Musical Tots	0-4 years	10:30 am – 11:30 am
Creative Writing Workshop with Megan Wynne	8-13 years	3:30 pm – 4:45 pm
SWORDS LIBRARY		
A Little Birdie Told Me... with Tarsila Krüse	7-10 years	10:30 am – 11:30 am

SWORDS CASTLE		
We Own the Castle – Live Youth Music Festival	14-17 years	4:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Wavin' Words – Youth Poetry Slam	14+ years	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Slam poetry is joining the Fingal's biggest youth festival event ever in Swords Castle Castle for Cruinniú na nÓg!		

DRAÍOCHT BLANCHARDSTOWN			
EVENT	AGE	DATE	TIME
OutWall Youth Dance Project	13-18 years	Sat, 31st May, Tues, 3rd June Weds, 4th June, Thurs, 5th June Fri, 6th June	10:30 am – 5:00 pm
OutWall by Selma Daniel Dance - Public Performances	13-18 years	Saturday, 7th June	12:00 pm 2:00 pm 4:00 pm
Graffiti Workshops with Waterford Walls	12-18 years	Friday, 9th May	5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
	12-18 years	Friday, 16th May	5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
	12-18 years	Saturday, 7th June	12.00 pm – 4.00 pm
Shapes & Structures - Creative Response Space	All ages/families	Saturday, 7th June	Saturday, 7th June - Saturday, 30th August 2025

Blanchardstown, Malahide, and Balbriggan Libraries will be jam-packed with playful wonder, creative adventure, and unforgettable moments for children of all ages!

Each library will be transformed into a lively hub of imagination, bursting with local favourites and exciting new experiences designed to spark curiosity and creativity.

With a sprinkle of magic, the incredible Fanzini Brothers will bring their unique circus flair, filling the spaces with laughter, colour, and joy.

©Niamh Sharkey, 2025



Blanchardstown

Sarah Sparkles

Visit Blanchardstown Library for this special celebration with your baby, toddler or preschooler to meet Sarah and her puppet friends. Introduce your child to books and reading.

Then have lots of fun singing, dancing and popping bubbles!

Age: 0-4 years

Duration: 50 mins

Everyone Welcome!



BLANCHARDSTOWN LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Pop Goes the Comic Strip with Alan Nolan

Create a comic strip from your favourite song! From The Beatles to Beastie Boys and from K-Pop to Kylie, everyone's got a tune they just can't get out of their heads! Join author, illustrator and comic creator Alan Nolan as he talks about beloved comics from his childhood (as well as modern day comic superstars like Dog Man, Bunny Vs Monkey and The InvestiGators) and shows you the basics of comic-making – then turn your favourite song into a cool comic strip!

Alan Nolan is the author and illustrator of Fintan's Fifteen, Conor's Caveman and the Sam Hannigan series, and he is the illustrator of the popular Gordon's Game books written by Gordon D'Arcy and Paul Howard, as well as Animal Crackers by Sarah Webb. He is the recipient of the Children's Books Ireland 2024 Award for Outstanding Contribution to Children's Books. His book Molly Malone & Bram Stoker in the Riddle of the Disappearing Dickens, the latest in his #1 best-selling Molly & Bram series, was shortlisted for An Post Children's Book of the Year 2024 (Senior) and is out now!!

Age: 8-12 years

www.alannolan.ie



Reserve a place through Eventbrite
<https://shorturl.at/f1wwU>



BLANCHARDSTOWN LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

Cruinniú Creation Station: A Creative Extravaganza with Author/Illustrators Mary Murphy and Jennifer Farley

Small or tall, arty or smarty, this is Cruinniú Creation Station for you! Discover new ways to be creative with award-winning author/illustrators Mary Murphy and Jennifer Farley. Mary and Jennifer are both huge dog fans - Jennifer even has a website dedicated to dogs! Come along and let Mary and Jennifer inspire you to create your very own doggy pal by printmaking with rollers, dippers, finger paint, real feather brushes, and much, much more! Your pooch can ramble its way onto a huge doodle wall, joining all their buddies... or maybe it can follow you home?

Check out Mary's adorable puppy-filled book about feelings here:

<https://www.marymurphy.ie/books/board-books/happy>

Check out Jennifer's pooch illustrations here!

<https://www.drawingthedog.com/>

Warning: Wear clothes that like FUN, PAINT and MESS!

Age: 3-12 years



Everyone Welcome!

BLANCHARDSTOWN LIBRARY

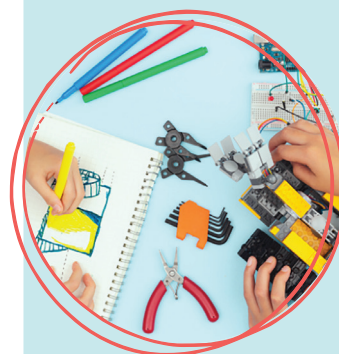
SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Program LED Light Strips Workshop with Coding Ireland

Get ready to light up the room with creativity and coding! In this hands-on workshop, students will program a microbit computer to control LED light strips, creating stunning effects like colour changes, patterns, and even shooting stars triggered by a clap.

Age: 3-12 years



Reserve a place through Eventbrite
<https://shorturl.at/FaGte>

BLANCHARDSTOWN LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Blanchardstown

Tie-Dye Workshop with Lollipop Apparel

Add a touch of colour to your life with an art experience that creates joy and brings a smile to everyone. This workshop is not like other ordinary rubber bands and dye workshops...prepare for the great vibes and a truly fun and artistic adventure.

Age: 7-11 years Duration: 50 mins



FINGAL MAKERSPACE
BLANCHARDSTOWN LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

10:30 AM – 11:15 AM
11:30 AM – 12:15 PM
12:30 PM – 1:15 PM



Reserve a place through Eventbrite
Session 1: <https://shorturl.at/ASgNM>



Reserve a place through Eventbrite
Session 2: <https://shorturl.at/ntnK0>



Reserve a place through Eventbrite
Session 3: <https://shorturl.at/MDNLx>



Fingal Makerspace

Our programmes at Fingal Makerspace, one of Dublin's leading makerspaces, are designed to bring learners on a journey of self-discovery, building confidence and knowledge through engaging STEAM and maker education activities, built around problem-solving, collaboration, creativity and technology.

Please contact Blanchardstown Library for further details.



Balbriggan

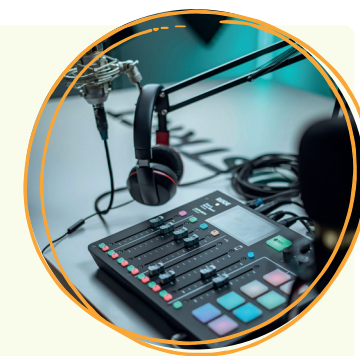
Unleash Your Voice: Podcasting Workshop for Teens with Createschool

Are you fascinated by the world of podcasts? Want to learn how you can create your very own digital show? Join us at your local library for an engaging podcast workshop where you can share your stories, opinions, and experiences through the powerful medium of podcasts. This workshop is designed for budding podcasters aged 12-16 and is perfect for those looking to make their voices heard. In small groups, participants will have the unique opportunity to produce a podcast from start to finish, guided every step of the way by the skilled educators from Createschool.

You will learn research techniques, creative production, editing skills, and the art of sharing your podcast.

Age: 12-16 years

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.



BALBRIGGAN LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM



Stories for our Hearts with Orlaith O'Sullivan

In this session we'll tap into our creativity to write (or draw) our own stories. Along the way we'll explore ways to take care of our worry and share our happiness together. We'll have colours galore and lots of imagination. Great to enjoy as a family.

Age: 6+/families welcome

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.

BALBRIGGAN LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Facepainting & Balloon Modelling with Romina Roe

Face painter extraordinaire Romina Roe will transform your little ones into pretty princesses, cute animals and superheroes, making this Cruinniú na nÓg heaps of fun and one to remember!

Everyone Welcome!



BALBRIGGAN LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Reuben the Magician

Don't miss this hilarious high-energy Comedy Variety Show! Reuben the Magician will have everyone in stitches with his magic, puppets, funny toys, daft voices and bendy body!

Suitable for all ages, his aim is to have everyone laughing non-stop at his antics. It's fully interactive and fun for even the adults! Not to be missed!



Everyone Welcome!

BALBRIGGAN LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

11:00 AM - 12:00PM

Top 10 Story Writing Tips - With Conor Kostick

Do you enjoy reading and writing stories? Author Conor Kostick has been teaching creative writing at the Irish Writers Centre for over twenty years and for Cruinniú 2025, he will summarise the most important lessons he's learned in a workshop for young writers at Balbriggan Library. With fun exercises and plenty of opportunity to use your imagination and create your own stories, Conor will cover topics like creating engaging characters and wicked villains, setting scenes, writing dialogue, delivering a satisfying ending, and more.

Age: 10-16 years

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.



BALBRIGGAN LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

The Fanzini Brothers

Known far and wide, the wonderful Fanzini Brothers will be entertaining you between events in Blanchardstown and Malahide Libraries and in Swords Castle!

These heroes of Irish circus will delight with their interactive comedy performances, including clowns, stilt walking, hula hooping and much, much more.

Everyone Welcome!



Graffiti Workshop with Street Art Ink

Street Art Ink are bringing their graffiti spray workshops to you, where you will learn how to spray multiple layers using stencils to create your own artwork. These workshops are highly engaging, and each participant will create and bring home their own bespoke piece of graffiti art!

Age: 7+ years

Everyone welcome!



MALAHIDE LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

9:45 AM – 12:00 PM

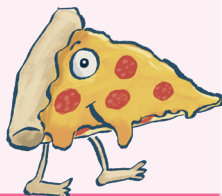
Role-Play Village with Messy Adventures

This bespoke mobile Role-Play Village is the first of its kind in Ireland and was created with little adventurers in mind. At the Role-Play Village, children are given the unique opportunity to use their imagination and creativity whilst entering a world of make believe. Each of the destinations of our village represents a real-world scenario with miniature tools and utensils to immerse children in that specific role.

Here children, and caregivers, are encouraged to learn through play!

Age: 6 months to 6 years

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.



MALAHIDE LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Creative Writing Workshop with Fighting Words

Fighting Words workshops are designed to promote creativity and writing as a powerful means of self-expression. Come along to this workshop to write an original group story and show the power of your imagination in a fun, supportive setting.

Age: 8-11 years

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.



MALAHIDE LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

2:30 PM – 4:30 PM



Píosa Spraoi le Cupán Focail(s)!

Have Fun with a Cup of Focals! with Áine Gallagher

"Is fearr Gaeilge briste ná Béarla cliste" seo é an sprioc don ceardlann seo le Áine Gallagher, aka "the queen of offbeat". Is ealaíontóir í Áine agus tá sí i gconai ag déanamh rudaí nua agus cruthaitheach cun Gaeilge a cur cun cinn agus inspioráid a thabhairt do dhaoine cun an teanga a labhairt. San ceardlann dhá theangach seo, beidh an aidhm cun píosa spraoi a fháil agus Gaeilge a cleactadh gan brú. Má cheapann tú nach bhfuil do chuid Gaeilge ró mhaith, ach ba mhaith leat í a feabhsú, seo é an ceardlann duit.

In this fun family, pop up event, children will play games to practice their cúpla focal and turn them into a simple story. 'Queen of offbeat', Áine Gallagher, uses her 'cup of focals' (cup full of words) to encourage people to give Irish a go, even if it's not perfect. She lives by the saying, "is fearr Gaeilge briste ná Béarla cliste" (broken Irish is better than clever English).

Everyone Welcome!



MALAHIDE LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

More Events

Musical Tots with Karen Donnellan

Join Karen Donnellan from Musical Tots for a fun and lively workshop that your little one will love. This workshop is a fun, developmental, musical activity for children, particularly those with additional needs, as well as their carers. Children will sing, dance, and play instruments in a relaxing, gentle play environment all the while developing confidence, self-esteem, motor skills, language, and cognitive skills.

Age: 0-4 years

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.



GARRISTOWN LIBRARY	THURSDAY, 5TH JUNE	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
SKERRIES LIBRARY	SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE	10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
DONABATE LIBRARY	SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE	2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Scéalta agus Spraoi le Seosamh Ó Maolalái Stories and Fun with Seosamh Ó Maolalái

Insíonn Seosamh scéalta do pháistí. Amhráin agus rannta aige chomh maith. Insíonn sé go dátheangach, i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla. Bíonn spraoi agus gáire agus scléip ina chuid scéalaíochta. Bainfidh gach éinne, idir óg is aosta, sult as an seisiún seo.

Seosamh tells stories for children. He has songs and verses too. He tells bilingually, in Irish and in English. There's fun and laughter and hilarity in his storytelling. Everyone, young and old, will get enjoyment from this session.

Age: 3-8 years/families

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.

DONABATE LIBRARY	SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
HOWTH LIBRARY	SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE	2:30 PM - 3:30 PM

Creative Writing Workshop with Megan Wynne

Write a story based on a Mister Man!

Do you remember Mister Men characters, such as Mr. Greedy and Mr. Bump? In this workshop participants will learn how Mister Men make GREAT characters in stories. They will be invited to write a story about a Mister Man (in disguise!) and show their personality by what they SAY and DO!

Megan Wynne is the author of 'The House on Hawthorn Road'. Her new children's novel, 'The Spirit of Loughmoe Abbey' is coming out in autumn 2025.

Age: 8-13 years

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.



HOWTH LIBRARY	SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
SKERRIES LIBRARY	SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE	3:30 PM - 4.45 PM

High Rock Productions presents: Sceitimíní

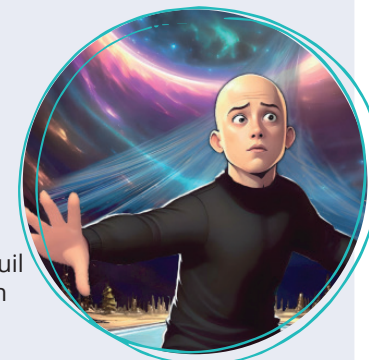
Tagann eachtrán chuig bunscoil. Cad a thug anseo é? Conas ar tháinig sé? Níos tábhachtaí fós, conas a rachaidh sé abhaile arís? Tá an t-ádh leis go bhfuil Gaeilge ina aistritheoir idir-réaltrach! Agus an seomra á scrúdú aige, agus cairde nua á dhéanamh aige le muintir an domhain, foghlaimíonn sé nach bhfuil an pláinéad seo chomh difriúil óna phláinéad féin. Ach chun dul abhaile, ní mór dó scéal na seachtaine is aite riamh a chur le chéile, agus aghaidh a thabhairt ar an dúshlán ollmhór sin - na Sceitimíní!

A young alien is transported to earth. Why is he here? How did he get here? And more importantly how does he get home? Luckily for him his intergalactic translator speaks Irish. As he explores the room and befriends the earthlings around him, he discovers that this world is not so different from his own but to get home he must piece together the craziest week ever and overcome the dreaded Sceitimíní.

Age: 11-13 years

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.

RUSH LIBRARY	SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE	2:30 PM - 3:30 PM
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Bits and Bobs Orchestra

Classical music is not just for concert halls! Join Bits and Bobs Orchestra for a fun and relaxed introduction to the world of classical music.

Interact with our musicians and the instruments of the orchestra, bop along to familiar songs and classical hits, and even try your hand at conducting!

Age: 4-10 years

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.



RUSH LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

'A Little Birdie Told Me'...with Tarsila Krüse

Get ready for an exciting event with author and illustrator Tarsila Krüse as she hosts a reading and craft session for her brand-new book, *A Little Birdie Told Me*...

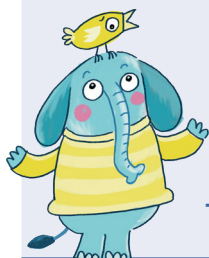
There's going to be a party! All the birds are going, from the little robin to the graceful swan.

There'll be games, dancing and cake - and someone VERY special is coming! WHO could it be? Don't miss out on this delightful celebration!

Small children must be accompanied by an adult.

Age: 7-10 years

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.



SWORDS LIBRARY

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

10:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council



©Niamh Sharkey, 2025

**A festival of music and the spoken word
specifically tailored for teens**



Music Generation
Fingal
Fhine Gall

Garageland

We Own the Castle Live Youth Music Festival with Garageland Galaxyz

Get ready to rock Swords Castle at **We Own The Castle** – a vibrant teen music festival celebrating the incredible talents of young musicians, aged 12–19. Garageland Galaxyz is thrilled to be back in Fingal for Cruinniú na nÓg 2025, bringing a tidal wave of youth-powered performances to this iconic venue!

From rising bands and solo acts to fresh new ensembles, this is a day all about music, creativity, and community. **Two stages** will be buzzing all day – a **Main Stage** showcasing featured acts and a **Busking Stage** open to anyone brave enough to jump in and perform on the spot!

Step into the **Chapel Sessions** for poetry and intimate unplugged sets, and explore the **Creative Village**, where you can craft your festival look and soak in the vibes. Plus, gain insider insights at our **Music Industry Workshops**, designed to inspire the next generation of artists.

Know someone aged 12–19 who wants to take the stage? We may still have a few performance slots available – get in touch soon to secure a spot! Please contact info@garageland.ie.

The entire event will be **broadcast live on Garageland Galaxyz HUB TV**, so even if you can't make it in person, you won't miss a beat.

Pack a picnic, grab a blanket, and come celebrate the future of music with us – We Own The Castle is going to be epic!



Age: 14+ years. Everyone welcome!

SWORDS CASTLE

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

4:00 PM – 9:00 PM



Music Generation
Fingal
Fhine Gall

Garageland

We Own the Castle Wavin' Words Youth Poetry Slam

Slam poetry is joining the Fingal's biggest youth festival event ever in Swords Castle for Cruinniú na nÓg!!

The Chapel venue inside the castle grounds will be the setting for **Wavin' Words**, a more intimate stage for young poets to slam, perform or read their poems alongside some of the best slam poets on the Irish scene right now including All Ireland Slam Champion 2022, Leon Dunne and Wexford's Poet Laureate, Sasha Terfous.

The Poetry is Dead Podcast will be recording live and chatting poetry to anyone and everyone and Sheila Ryder will be hosting and helping make the magic happen.

Anyone who would like to perform just **DM** us your name and number on Instagram **@wavinwords**. And if you get the urge to perform on the day don't worry, we'll be saving a few spots!



Age: 14+ years. Everyone welcome!

SWORDS CASTLE CHAPEL

SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Fingal Libraries Storytrails

Fingal Libraries' Storytrail project aims to create a family experience that blends creativity, literacy, and exercise in a fun and interactive way. Here, the beauty of storytelling intertwines with the serenity of the outdoors, bringing families on a memorable journey of discovery.

Check out Fingal Libraries' Storytrails!

'The Ravenous Beast'
by Niamh Sharkey

Ardgillan Castle, Balbriggan

'The Lonely Beast'
by Chris Judge

Kenure Park, Rush

'Only a Tree Knows How to be a Tree' by Mary Murphy

Santry Demesne Castle, Balbriggan

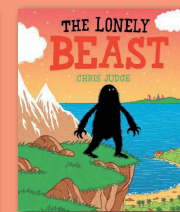
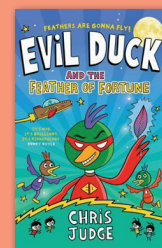
Fingal Future Visions with children's illustrator Chris Judge

For Cruinniú na nÓg 2025, children's author and illustrator Chris Judge (*The Lonely Beast*, *The Great Explorer*, *Evil Duck and the Feather of Fortune*) is collaborating with four primary schools across Swords and Malahide to create an artistic vision of what Fingal, and the world, will look like twenty years from now.

Through the lens of advancements in technology, the environment, community life, and their personal dreams, this time-capsule project sparks imagination and critical thinking while allowing each student to contribute to a collective masterpiece.

The final result will be a vibrant, large-scale mural collage that reflects their hopes, innovations, and possibilities. This project is paper-based and fully sustainable and recyclable. It will be unveiled in the Chapel at Swords Castle on Cruinniú na nÓg 2025 and later put on display in the atrium in County Hall, Swords.

Chris Judge is an illustrator, artist, and children's picture book author from Dublin, Ireland. Since 2011 he has written and illustrated over 35 children's books and delivered large-scale public art projects. His first book, *The Lonely Beast*, won the Specsavers Irish Children's Book of the Year 2011 in the Bord Gáis Energy Irish Book Awards.



Meet Fingal's Local Ambassador, Christian Campbell!

Name Christian Campbell
Age 14
School & Class Glór na Mara, Baile Brigín (First Year)



Tell us about yourself

I love to sing and act and be as creative as I can, always! I play guitar and sing I am currently studying for my Grade 4 piano and Grade 6 speech and drama exams with RIAM! I love art, drawing and building models from cardboard and other materials. It's a lot of fun to get lost in a project and see it completed. I also enjoy making videos for my YouTube channel and I play football with Balbriggan FC Under 14's.

Earliest memory of creativity or creative accomplishment

I think this was when I appeared on TG4's Cleas Act show when I was 6 singing *Walking in The Air*! Also, when I got to sing on RTÉ's DONNACHA's TWO TALENTED show with my Mum.



When/how did you begin your favourite creative activity?

My parents are both accomplished singers and musicians, so I grew up around music without even realising it! We'd always sing together and have fun. I love acting and I started when I was 5 in a local drama school. I go to Little Duke Theatre at the moment, and we are currently rehearsing for our upcoming show, Sister Act. I am playing Eddie which is a lot of fun.

How do you feel when you're being creative?

I feel really good and calm. It's great to be creative alone when you are doing art or learning a song but I also love being creative in a group. Especially when we are rehearsing for our shows. I love when I see the whole process coming together and we are all confident that we will give a great performance as a team.

What advice would you give other young people to encourage their creativity?

I would encourage everyone, no matter what age they are to be creative whenever possible because it's really important for your mental health. To young people like me, I would say it's important to find like-minded people who share the same interests and passions that you have. You can work together and expand your ideas and take projects to a whole different place. I think it also helps unlock your potential and shows how important helping each other can be.

Who is your creative hero and why?

My creative hero is Billy Joe Armstrong from the band Green Day! He is such an incredible songwriter and performer. I was lucky to see him in Marlay Park with my dad last year and he was amazing!

Finish the sentence, 'creativity is...'

Creativity is bringing to life all the ideas and dreams that excite and motivate you to be the best you can at everything.

Engagement on Cruinniú na nÓg Day

I am really looking forward to seeing and meeting new people and sharing interests with them.

In your own words, what's the best thing about Ireland having Cruinniú na nÓg, a national day celebrating creativity for young people?

I love Cruinniú Na nÓg! It's such a great way to get young people to try things they've never done before and discover talents they never knew they had! I loved it last year and the concert at Millennium Park was brilliant! To see all the smiling faces and children my age getting the chance to perform on a big stage was truly fantastic!

Is there anything else exciting you'd like to tell us?

I am truly honoured and grateful to be the Ambassador for Fingal! It really is a fantastic day, and so much hard work goes into it by the organisers, so well done to them all. I thank them for their faith in me and I am really looking forward to the best Cruinniú ever!



Celebrating Cruinniú na nÓg 2025 in Draíocht

Join us for Cruinniú na nÓg 2025 on 7th June in our Galleries, Workshop Rooms and Outdoors for this day of free creativity for young people.

Drop into our Shapes & Structures Family Day in our First Floor Gallery, try your hand at Wonder Walls Graffiti Workshops with Waterford Walls or catch OutWall, an outdoor youth dance show with Selma Daniel Dance.

OutWall Youth Dance Project

Young people are invited to take part in this exciting Youth Dance Project that explores movement, public spaces and local architecture. Experience dance in a professional setting with choreographer Selma Daniel and professional dancers Mia D'Chiara and Cristian Emanuel Dirocie.

Over 6 days, participants will attend daily morning dance classes in contemporary dance, improvisation skills, and breakdance. Collaborate with professional dancers in a creative and inspiring environment. Then perform live alongside the professionals as part of Cruinniú na nÓg!

No prior experience is needed - just bring your love for dance or an interest in movement and performance. Don't miss this chance to learn, create, and perform in a fun and supportive setting. Join us and be part of something special!

Age 13-18 years. Maximum capacity of 10 participants. Booking essential.



Booking through Draíocht Box Office on 01-885 2622
<https://www.draiocht.ie/whats-on/outwall-youth-dance-project>

draíocht

OutWall by Selma Daniel Dance - Public Performances

An immersive dance theatre experience to enjoy outside Draíocht starring young people from Dublin 15!

OutWall is a dance theatre performance for public spaces that explores architecture, movement and the concept of self-isolation. Join us as we delve into the interplay of architecture, movement and the concept of invisible walls. We live surrounded by physical and invisible walls, so many walls that rose throughout human history, political walls, social walls, emotional walls. We are protected and divided by these walls. These solid structures still rise between us. With metaphorical and literal walls Selma invites communities to celebrate the details of local architecture that can pass unseeing, using dance, original music and engaging with young people from the local community.

Performance duration:
 40 minutes
 All Welcome.

Age 13-18 years. Maximum capacity of 10 participants. Booking essential.



Prebook online at
<https://draiocht.ticketsolve.com/ticketbooth/shows/1173659861>
 or phone 01-885 2622

draíocht



DRAÍOCHT, BLANCHARDSTOWN

SATURDAY, 31ST MAY
 TUESDAY, 3RD JUNE
 WEDNESDAY, 4TH JUNE
 THURSDAY, 5TH JUNE
 FRIDAY, 6TH JUNE

10:30 AM - 5:00 PM

DRAÍOCHT, BLANCHARDSTOWN

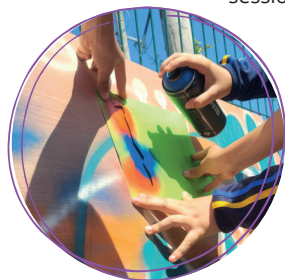
SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

12.00 PM
 2.00 PM
 4.00 PM

Wonder Walls Graffiti Workshops

Wonder Walls for Cruinniú na nÓg invites young people to unleash their creativity through vibrant, collaborative murals! Participants will work together in hands-on workshops alongside a professional artist to create a mural and present their work in Draíocht on Cruinniú na nÓg on 7th June.

Over two Friday evening workshops on the 9th & 16th of May, participants will learn street art and graffiti techniques with the Waterford Walls artists. Design, create and work together to create an original outdoor piece of art. If you don't secure a spot, join us for drop-in sessions on June 7th and get involved in the creativity.



Note: Dress for Mess. Participants must be available for both workshop dates, 9th & 16th May. During these outdoor workshops, spray paints will be used in a safe and secure environment. Places are free and limited and must be booked in advance. Brought to you by the team behind Waterford Walls – The Walls Project, funded by Creative Ireland.

Age 12-18 years. Maximum capacity is 14.



Tickets are Free but Advance Booking is Required through Box Office: 01-885 2622 or Online

<https://draiocht.ticketsolve.com/ticketbooth/shows/1173659864>

DRAÍOCHT, BLANCHARDSTOWN

FRIDAY, 9TH MAY
FRIDAY, 16TH MAY
SATURDAY, 7TH JUNE

5.30 PM - 7.30 PM
5.30 PM - 7.30 PM
12.00 PM - 4.00 PM

Shapes & Structures - Creative Response Space

Launching on 7th June for Cruinniú na nÓg 2025, and continuing for the Summer months, visit our Shapes & Structures - Creative Response Space.

Designed by artist Sarah Ward, this creative space provides a relaxed environment that will help you and your child to further explore and engage in creative play, independently, or together with an artist.



For more information see

<https://www.draiocht.ie/gallery/exhibition/shapes-and-structures-creative-response-space>



draíocht

Féile Fhine Gall de Litríocht na Leanaí Draíocht na Scéalta

Caisleán Shoir • Dé Sathairn 27 Meán Fómhair 2025



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SWORDS CASTLE - SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

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Donabate	01 890 5609	donabate.library@fingal.ie
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Tá Leabharlanna Fhine Gall ar na Meáin Shóisialta
Fingal Libraries are on Social Media

