

Policy Statement

Roscommon Arts Centre - Arts Centre for All Policy - We're Your Arts Centre

Roscommon Arts Centre (RAC) plays an important role in the county, as it is the only full-time, professionally managed arts centre - a cultural home and resource for artists and the public.

Our Vision is to be a space where people and ideas connect, where everyone has equitable access to the arts whether to create, learn, inspire, or be entertained. To ensure this, we must take a look through an equitable, diverse and inclusive lens to ensure everyone in our community can connect and be inspired through the arts.

RAC began its Arts Centre for All Policy by reflecting on who are our audiences, which communities don't attend and engage with our programme and building, and identifying steps we can take to invite them to the arts centre and to participate in our programme of activities. This ideology is based on author and cultural change analyst Verna Myers' quote and belief that, "Diversity is Being Invited to the Party: Inclusion is Being Asked to Dance."

We have identified members of our community that are not actively engaging with the centre, including teenagers, young adults, marginalised groups and ethnic communities.

We are focusing on connecting with these communities, developing meaningful relationships with them and promoting Roscommon Arts Centre as an inclusive space. Our aim is to invite communities to the arts centre, invite them to participate and to tell them 'we're your arts centre'. Our aim is to be informed and engaged with the communities we are starting to connect with, and those with whom we have not yet connected.

Our commitments so far:

- Proactively live, act and work by our policy statement and encourage others to do the same - invite communities to the arts centre and invite them to participate.
- Proactively reject language or attitudes that serve to exclude people.
- Programme and create opportunities for artists who are underrepresented in our arts centre and learn with them how to remove barriers.
- Ensure accessibility of the arts centre, its programme and activities, is central in our planning, actions and delivery.
- Work with local groups and communities to build our understanding of how to make new audiences and communities more welcome and regular users of the arts centre.
- Increase the diversity of our artists, arts workers and arts centre community to ensure a cross range of voices are heard and learned from.
- Check our progress annually and amend our plan to ensure it keeps responding to the needs of the community.