



Performing Arts School

Front Cover

Maeve Moran, PAS Graduation

Image Credit: Emilija Jefremova



Production - *Peter Pan*, Tiger Lilly and Elizabeth

Image Credit: Hillary Kavanagh



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Welcome

A warm welcome!

Blue Teapot are delighted to present this prospectus for our Performing Arts School which is designed to help inform you about what you would be studying and focusing on if you were to attend our three year QQI accredited programme. We understand that the choices you make today are important in your personal and creative development and should set you on a really rewarding journey for life.

Blue Teapot's Performing Arts School exists to give you an opportunity to explore and grow as a person and artist by providing a place and many ways to unleash your creative expression. Alongside performing arts modules you will have other classes to learn helpful strong life skills – we believe they are all important and valuable. If, after looking through this booklet you feel our Performing Arts School could be for you, don't hesitate to apply. We look forward to hearing from you.

Petal Pilley
Director of Services /
Artistic Director

Image Credit: Reg Gordon

unleash your
creative
expression

Performing Arts School Staff

Judith Wolf - Performing Arts School Manager



Ana Alvarez & Dave Donovan



Judith Wolf
Performing Arts School Manager
pas.manager@blueteapot.ie

Ana Alvarez
Performing Arts School Coordinator
training@blueteapot.ie

Dave Donovan
Programme Support Worker
pas@blueteapot.ie

Image Credit: Jason Scott

About Us

Blue Teapot Theatre Company is a multi-award winning Theatre Company, Performing Arts School and Community Theatre programme for people with intellectual disabilities.

Our mission is to empower freedom of artistic expression and unlock diverse creative potential through inclusive theatre practice.

Based in the heart of Galway City and close to vibrant arts and cultural amenities, Blue Teapot provides an excellent platform whereby creativity and fun gives learners a foundation to fulfil their artistic potential.



Image Credit: Hillary Kavanagh

PERFORMING ARTS SCHOOL MISSION

To develop each learner through appropriate educational, personal, emotional and social development in an atmosphere characterized by inclusion, respect and creativity.


PERFORMING ARTS SCHOOL VALUES

- Inclusive
- Progressive
- Passionate
- Learner-focussed



"At the core of the work of Blue Teapot Performing Arts School is its commitment to learners. It offers programmes that engages learners, enhances their confidence and increases their sense of self-worth in addition to developing a broad range of skills – and not just the artistic skills expected but the organisation also provides modules on Life, Literacy and IT skills. The Performing Arts School ensures that learners are provided with a platform to showcase their talent and ability"

- Chair Programme Board, Tricia Cunningham -



unique
three-year
training
programme

What We Teach

We deliver a unique three-year training programme focused on performing arts skills that leads to certification in QQI level 2 & 3.

QQI (Quality and Qualifications Ireland) is an independent state agent responsible for promoting quality and accountability in education and training services in Ireland.

YEAR 1 - Introduction to Performing Arts leading to QQI Level 2, General Learning Major Award Certificate

YEAR 1 Modules

- Drama
- Music
- Craft - Theatre Craft
- Design - Costume Design
- Non-Verbal Communications
- Pattern & Relationship

YEARS 2 & 3 - Foundation Performing Arts Skills, 40 credits, QQI Level 3

YEARS 2 and 3 build on the core skills learnt in year 1. We deliver the following component modules

- Drama
- Event Participation
- Music Appreciation
- Art & Design
- Drawing
- Craft - Puppetry

Delivery is face-to-face.

All assignments are practical.

Our tutors are all subject matter experts with a wealth of experience in creative arts.



"I like to express my creativity and it allows us to learn things we would never learn somewhere else. It allows us to connect with same minded others. It connects us as human beings.

Blue Teapot teaches us new skills and we get an understanding of subjects and how they work"

- Student -



Rod Goodall - Drama

Toured the world with renowned Footsbarn Theatre and was an integral part of Macnas. As an actor Rod has performed in many shows over the years and has directed numerous shows and events. Since 2005 Rod has worked with us as a tutor and has directed numerous theatre shows and spectacles.

Image Credit: Jason Scott



Fiona O'Dea - Music

Graduated with a first class honours M.A. in Community Music. She is a multi-instrumentalist and has been a singer in various choirs and bands.

Image Credit: Michael Patrick Breen



Aine Lawless - Theatre Craft & Drawing

Art graduate and worked as a prop designer and maker in theatres nationally and internationally.

Image Credit: Michael Patrick Breen



Brendan Savage - Art & Design

Creative consultant on national and international projects. Brendan is an experienced production manager and designer. He has worked as a Set Designer for years.

Image Credit: Hillary Kavanagh



Judith Higgins - Event Participation

Graduate of École Jacques Lecoq. She was Performance Director for Macnas for many years and has extensive experience working in theatres and events nationally and internationally.

Image Credit: Seamus Barcelo



Margaret Linnane - Costume

Costume Designer, Production Designer and Art Director for Film, TV and Theatre nationally and internationally. She toured around the world with the band U2.

Image Credit: Michael Patrick Breen



Rosah Mangan - Puppetry

Graduate of IADT Costume Design for Film and Theatre. Worked in Macnas in Costume and Puppetry department. She studied different styles of puppets and performance throughout her career.

Image Credit: Michael Patrick Breen

MODULE DRAMA

- Basic knowledge and skills
- Improvisation of scenes
- Explore the role as an actor
- Respond to instructions and group interactions in the context of theatre/drama
- Visit and review a theatre production
- Encourage self-expression
- Confidence building

"To be trained in the performing arts does not always mean that the student will achieve a career in these disciplines. It means that they'll enjoy more creativity, more confidence and be better equipped for social interactions in their lives"

- Director, Rod Goodall -



Drama is cross blended with the module Non-Verbal Communications



Drama Class
Image Credit: Reg Gordon

MODULE MUSIC

- Learners compose a simple song and soundscape
- Make a music video
- Learn musical language to describe pace and pitch
- Learn about how instruments are made and played
- Learn about different musical genres
- Research music styles
- Compile a scrapbook project to showcase their work

"Working at Blue Teapot has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. Sharing the power and magic of music and singing with these wonderful enthusiastic and creative people is a joy I look forward to every day"

- Fiona O'Dea, Music tutor -



Music is cross blended with the module Pattern & Relationship



Music Class
Image Credit: Jason Scott

MODULE CRAFT - THEATRE CRAFT

- Learn how to make different masks using different materials; cardboard plates, gum strip, clay and paper mache
- Learn how to use different tools to create masks
- Research masks from around the world
- Design work

"From the start to the end of a module it is a joy to observe the growth and self-assurance of the learners as they meet and overcome the challenges and difficulties posed by the various module components"

- Dave Donovan, PAS Support Worker -



Robert Comber
Image Credit: Anita Murphy

MODULE DESIGN - COSTUME DESIGN

- Research ideas for costumes
- Learn how to use the sewing machine
- How to use patterns
- Measure and marking out
- Cutting and pinning
- Explore colour combinations including tie dyeing
- Everyone works at their own pace
- Everyone is encouraged to experiment and work together

Costume is cross blended with the module Pattern & Relationship



Mary Grace Best Lydon
Image Credit: Hillary Kavanagh



Cormac, Wall Mural Project
Image Credit: Jason Scott

MODULE DRAMA

Continuation from QQI Level 2 Drama to broaden and deepen the knowledge

- Further development of acting skills
- Build on confidence to perform
- Work on development of characters
- Further development of team work
- Rehearse for a showcase
- Perform showcase in front of an audience



Theatre Practice
Image Credit: Anita Murphy

MODULE CRAFT - PUPPETRY

- Learn how to make a glove puppet, foam puppet (muppet style), rod puppet using air dough and a shadow puppet using stiff card
- Use a range of craft tools and equipment to produce puppets
- Use a variety of materials as appropriate for their creations
- Design an all-purpose puppet booth
- Learn puppetry performing skills

*"In QQI Level 3
Craft students design and
construct their own puppets.
By the module's end,
students will have brought
their puppets to life
through manipulation
and movement"*

- Rosah Mangan, Puppetry tutor -



Craft Puppetry
Image Credit: Jason Scott

MODULE EVENT PARTICIPATION

- Explore cultural venues locally, nationally and internationally
- Visit venues in Galway, to see what is on, where it is located and using various methods to plan the route
- Learn about technical information of a venue
- Create awareness of their own feelings about visiting and interacting with cultural events
- Learn about how the public can gain information about events that are happening
- Learn and create marketing materials
- Visit a theatre production



Event Participation Group
Image Credit: Ana Alvarez

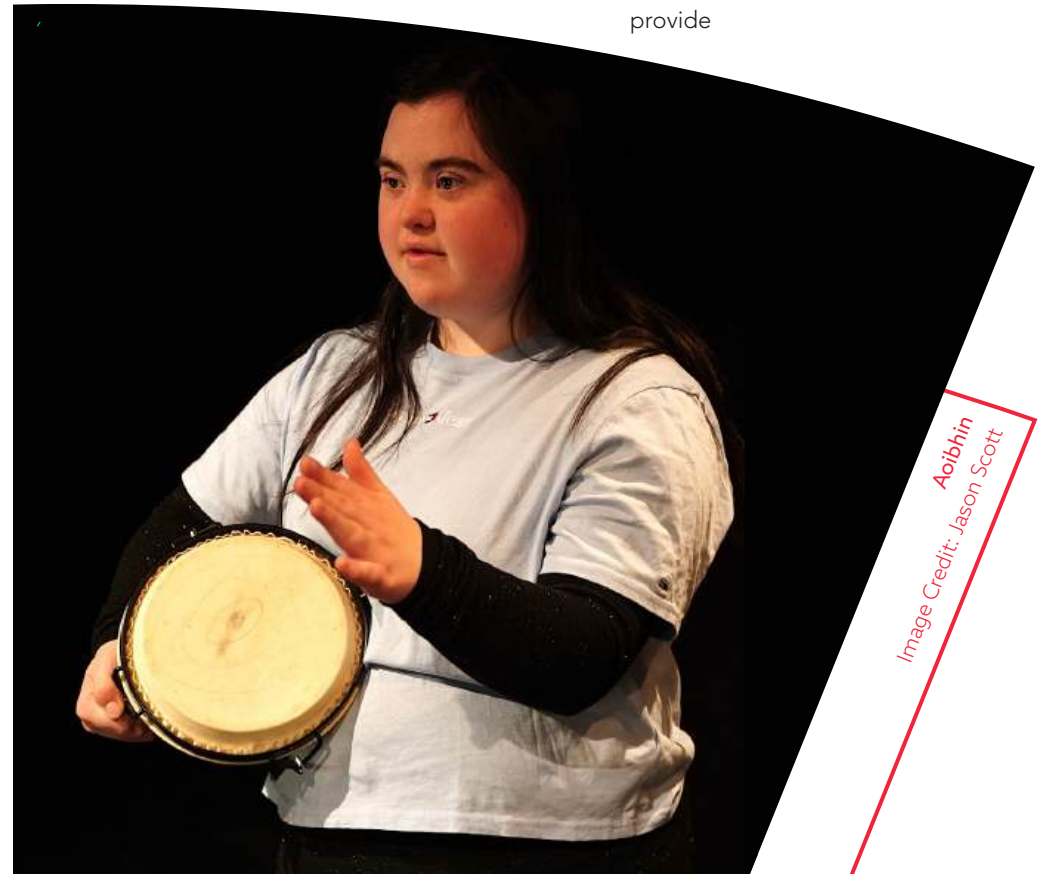
MODULE MUSIC APPRECIATION

Continuation from QQI Level 2 Music to broaden and deepen the knowledge

- Learn about different musical styles including depth analysis of select pieces
- Research music from outside 'comfort zone' and discover and enrich exposure to unfamiliar music
- Continuation of learning musical

language and the basics of musical notation

- Deepen knowledge of the instrumental groupings in the orchestra
- How to prepare for and deliver a performance
- Compose a piece to be recorded in a professional studio
- Explore personal impact of music in their lives and the pleasure it can provide



Aoibhin
Image Credit: Jason Scott

MODULE DRAWING

- Learn about different drawing materials
- Explore different drawing techniques
- Draw still life, live model and a self-portrait
- Learn about shading, shadow and perspective
- Display personal work including selecting, mounting and hanging
- During the module, learners will produce an art portfolio



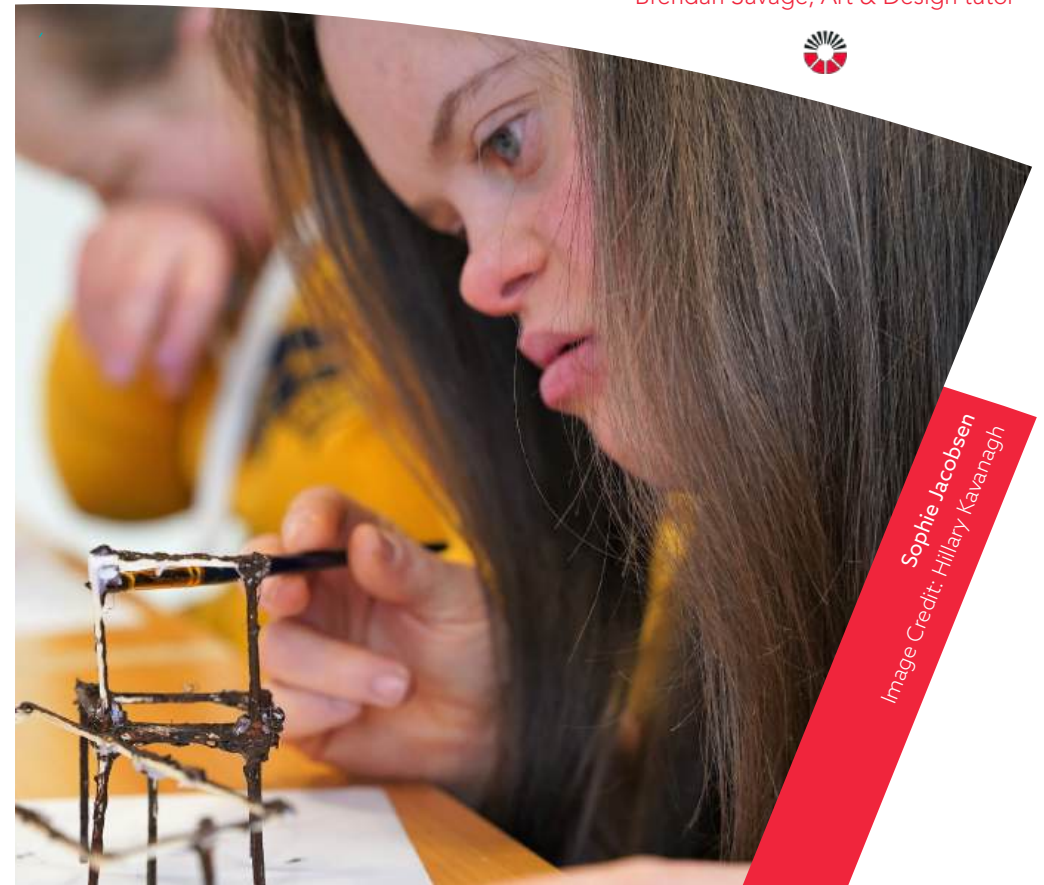
Eoin and James
Image Credit: Hillary Kavanagh

MODULE ART & DESIGN

- This module is taught through set design
- Story research and identification of major scenes
- Learn about 2D & 3D model making
- Use different materials and textiles for the set designs
- Create model boxes based on their own set designs

"Every stroke, shape, and shared moment reflects the boundless potential within this learner group. It's a privilege to create alongside such visionary artists - where curiosity fuels growth, and every journey is shaped by discovery"

- Brendan Savage, Art & Design tutor -



Sophie Jacobsen
Image Credit: Hillary Kavanagh



"In essence, Blue Teapot has given him a unique sense of purpose and belonging. For that, we can only inadequately say our very deepest gratitude!"

- Parent -

LIFE SKILLS

This programme concentrates on personal and interpersonal skills

- Advocacy
- Reputation
- Emotions
- Decision making
- Meditation
- Problem solving
- Online safety



FOH Andrew
Image Credit: Hillary Kavanagh

IT & LITERACY

Galway Basic Adult Education Services provide weekly IT & Literacy classes

- Letters and words
- Numbers
- Reading; using short poems
- IT skills; how to access internet and how to use the search bar for research
- Work with different applications



Production - Peter Pan
Image Credit: Andrew Downes

ADDITIONAL TRAINING & PROJECTS

Learners train in additional skills such as:

- Acting for Screen
- Dance
- Voice / Speech
- Animation
- Singing
- Yoga
- Lantern Making
- Human Rights
- CV Writing
- Interview techniques
- Preparing for a life-long connection to the arts

Graduating year will take part in a performance project.

Based in the heart of Galway City, we have easy access to other arts organisations. Throughout the three years we attend different exhibitions, productions, festivals and events.

"Having a variety of arts organisation within walking distance, really enriches the learners experience in the Performing Arts School."

- Judith Wolf, PAS Manager -



Film Class
Image Credit: Michael Patrick Breen



Production - Oliver Twists
Image Credit: Andrew Downes



"Work hard and do well, and be nice to each other and have some fun as we always had. Enjoy all the work you do and make the best of it"

- Advice from Graduate student -

Graduates 2019

Image Credit: Emilija Jefremova

Graduation

After 3 years of hard and exciting work, we invite learners and their family & friends to a formal graduation ceremony, held in one of Galway's theatres. Learners will receive their QQI Level 2 and Level 3 certificates.



Graduation Eoin
Image Credit: Emilija Jefremova

How to Apply

We enrol 5 new learners every September. We keep numbers small to ensure every person gets a high quality learning experience.

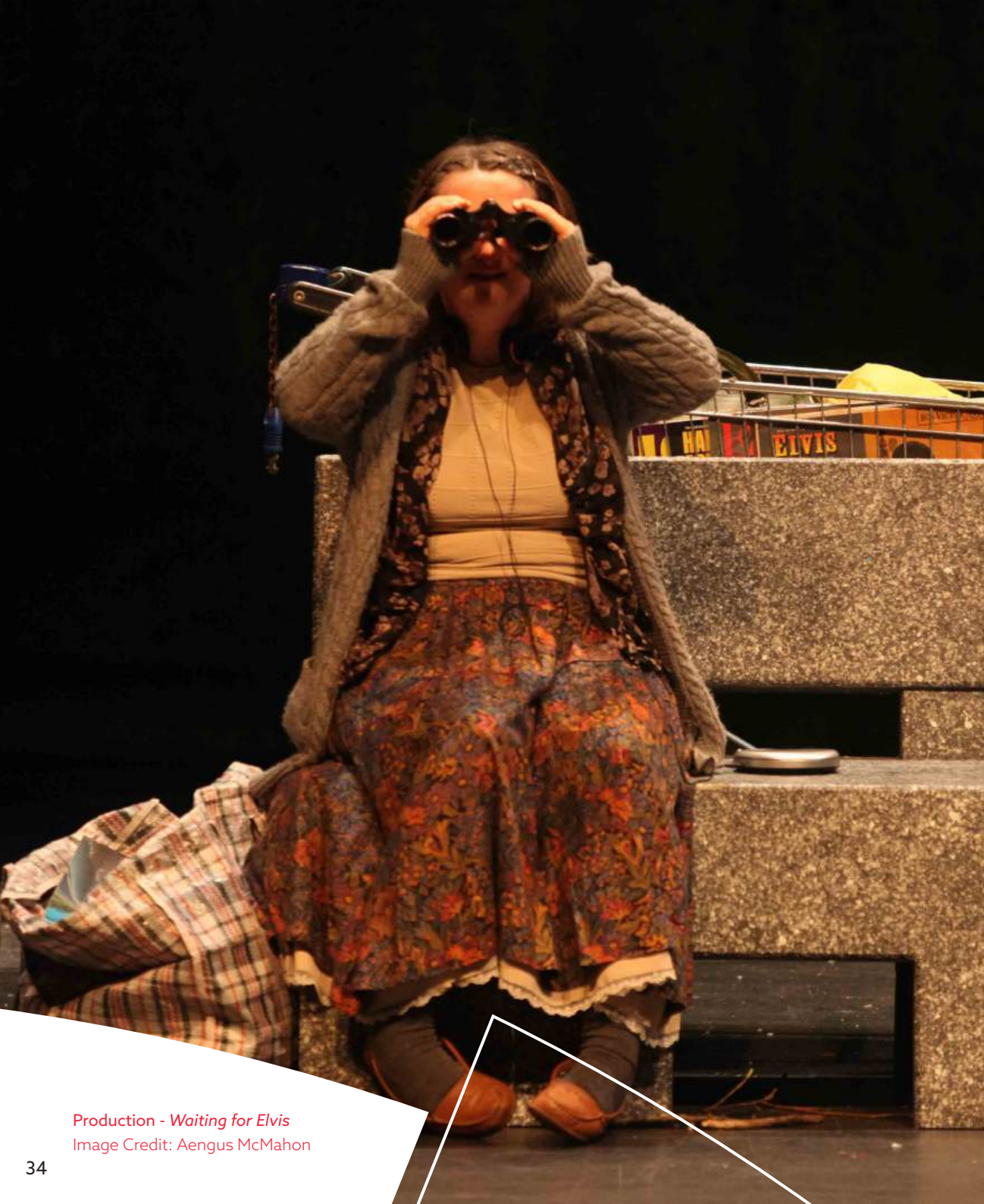
Applicants have to have a mild to moderate intellectual disability and be over 18 years old.

Application process

1. **Application Form:** You can download the application form from our website www.bluteapot.ie. Applications can be sent in by post or by emailing training@bluteapot.ie.
2. **Information meeting:** We explore candidate's interest in performing arts practice, and what they hope to gain from the programme. The meeting lasts for 30-40 minutes.
3. **Audition:** All candidates are invited to attend an audition day where they take part in different group workshops.
4. **Decision:** Final decision is made by the Audition Panel and places are offered.
5. **Acceptance:** There is a two week timeframe for candidates to accept the place.
6. **Commitment:** When candidates accept the place, a commitment is made to the three years training.



Aidan
Image Credit: Hillary Kavanagh



Governance

Blue Teapot Theatre Company is a company limited by guarantee without share capital, registered under Part 18 of the Companies Act 2014. The objectives of the company are charitable in nature, the main object being to benefit and advance education and participation in the arts as defined in the Arts Acts 1951, 1973, and 2003. We do this through the operation of a theatre company and providing performing arts education to promote inclusion, social development and the artistic expression of people with intellectual disabilities. Compliance is achieved through the registration of Blue Teapot Theatre Company CLG with the Companies Registration Office and the Directors and Company Secretary ensure all returns are filed as appropriate with the Companies Registration Office (CRO). Company accounts are audited annually with MK Brazil, Waterford.

Blue Teapot Theatre Company is governed by a voluntary non-executive Board of Directors comprised of elected and co-opted members.

Performing Arts School Programme Board

The Board of Directors has delegated responsibility for oversight and review of the operation of Performing Arts School to the Programme Board which acts as a sub-committee of the Blue Teapot Theatre Company Board.



Blue Teapot Theatre Company

Munster Avenue
Galway City
H91 FVF8

Office: +353 91 520 977 or 087 652 0146

blueteapot.ie

 @blueteapottheatrecompany

 @blueteapottheatre

 company/blueteapotgalway/