

Visual Art Commission for
Árdscoil Na Mara
Tramore, Co. Waterford

Artist's Brief

The Board of Management of **Árdscoil na Mara, Tramore, Co. Waterford** invites proposals for the commission of **Visual Artwork** to be funded under the **Per Cent for Art scheme** in connection with the building of the Secondary School premises at Ballycarnane, Tramore, County Waterford. This new school is the result of an amalgamation of **CBS Tramore and Stella Maris Secondary School**.

Tramore boys and girls have attended two separate Catholic secondary schools for many decades. These schools have shaped and helped to form the characters and lives of many thousands of young people over the time of their existence. It is now agreed that the two schools - Stella Maris secondary school and the Christian Brothers secondary school - should merge into one new school for boys and girls; Árdscoil na Mara. The two congregations of the Religious Sisters of Charity and the Irish Christian Brothers are fully supportive of and co-operating with each other in achieving this goal that has been nearly two decades in gestation.

The overall budget for this Visual Art Commission is **€50,000** inclusive of all costs, expenses, VAT, insurance and other charges. Submissions are invited from artists for an artwork or series of artworks that respond to the brief. This is a **single-stage selection process**.

Design Brief

Artwork Location:

Submissions are invited for artwork to be sited in one, or more, of several locations within the school environment. The Per Cent for Art Committee has identified a number of internal sites and one external site as suitable locations for artwork, but this list is not exhaustive. Applicants are advised to undertake the site visit. Please note the building is currently under construction. Following the site visit on October 1st photos of the locations will be available from the Project Coordinator.

Permanency of Artwork and Scope of Artforms:

The resulting artwork should be permanent in nature. Artwork in a wide range of traditional and contemporary media will be considered, eg: photography, print, painting, video, sound, installation, stone, metal, wood, stained glass, kinetic or environmental artwork etc. Proposals are invited from artists working either on their own or in collaboration with others.

Theme and approach:

The commissioners do not want to be prescriptive about a theme or approach. However artists may like to consider some of the following: the theme of merging and new beginnings, a journey through the building directed by a series of related artworks, interactive or functional artworks. It is the commissioner's intention that the artwork should engage the pupils in a meaningful way.

Participation:

Participation from one student group in the artwork's development/creation/documentation is required. This participation may take the form of actual development or creation of the artwork where students contribute to the process and making of the artwork itself, or be a separate complementary strand alongside the artist's work, such as workshops offering an insight into the artist's practice or a documentation project charting the journey of the creation and installation of the artwork.

Local Context:

It is suggested that the artwork take into account some of the following: the school's Christian ethos, the history, heritage, geology, ecology, culture and community of Tramore and two merging schools. Please see information on the schools and the Tramore area that accompanies the brief.

Selection Panel and Process:

The selection of the artwork will be through a Selection Panel, facilitated by the Project Co-ordinator, comprising a member of the Board of Management, an art teacher from each of the two amalgamating schools, the project architect and an independent Public Art specialist. The panel will be charged with the responsibility of selecting a winning submission. Their decision will be broadly based on the key principles or criteria for selection as outlined in the brief. Ideally the selection process will be a single-stage selection process. In the event that no single submission can be selected in a single-stage process, the Selection Panel may opt for a second stage in the selection process to enable a number of shortlisted artists to further develop their proposals. In this instance, the terms of a second stage selection will be pre-agreed with shortlisted artists.

Budget:

The budget for the design, supply and fix of this project will be **€50,000** inclusive of all costs, such as artist's fee, materials, technical and engineering fees, fabrication costs, site works, foundation and installation costs, insurance and VAT.

Criteria for Selection

- Artistic merit and distinctiveness of proposed artwork
- Quality of proposal
- Creative, imaginative and engaging idea
- Originality
- Relevance to the environment/location/context
- Suitability to site
- Participation of a student group in some aspect of the artwork
- Potential of the proposed artwork to meaningfully engage students and establish an enduring legacy
- Durability and implications for future maintenance
- Artist's track record
- Artist's experience in delivering complete projects to a high standard
- Evidence of artist's ability to work with a professional brief within a specific timeframe
- Feasibility of delivering the commission within the proposed budget
- Health & Safety

Aims of Project

- To commission high quality, imaginative, creative, original, permanent artwork that responds to the context of the school and/or local environment

- To involve the participation of a student group in some aspect of the artwork
- To enhance the school environment for pupils, staff, parents and visitors

Site Visit

A site visit will take place on Tuesday October 1st. Booking is essential. Please contact Aileen Lambert, Project Co-ordinator, at aileenlambert@gmail.com to book a place. Applicants undertaking site visits shall do so at their own expense.

Schedule

24 th September 2013	Deadline to book place on Site Visit
1st October 2013	Site Visit
5 th November 2013	Deadline for submissions
22nd November 2013	Selection Panel will notify successful applicant (or shortlisted artists will be notified that they have been selected to proceed to a second stage should the Selection Panel decide to proceed in this manner)
May 2014	Commission target completion date

The Selection Panel on behalf of Ardscoil na Mara reserves the right to terminate this selection/procurement process prior to any award of contract and to consider other appropriate courses of action.

Application Details

Please consider what is relevant to include in your proposal, keeping it clear, relevant, concise and informative. Six copies of your CV and proposal are required.

Applications must contain the following information:

- **CV** with relevant experience (please provide 6 copies)
- A **proposal** outlining ideas and concepts for the artwork, the process involved in creation of the work, details of student participation, details such as dimensions, materials and technical information on how it is to be installed - maximum 5 pages (please provide 6 copies)
- **Images**/outline drawings/montages of proposed artwork for the purpose of communicating scale, artistic content and proposed location(s) (please provide in whatever format you best feel communicates your idea)
- A maximum of 20 digital **images on CD documenting previous work**, with accompanying documentation list providing details of each work
- **References** - one written reference in relation to previous commissioned work or art projects, and contact details for a second named referee
- **Budget** breakdown
- **Time scale** for completion
- An outline 20 year **maintenance schedule** to take into account durability, maintenance and technology issues (maximum 1 page)
- 3D models or materials to communicate content of proposed artwork will be accepted but are not a requirement
- Please ensure that all submitted materials are **clearly marked** with the artist's name and contact number.
- Please include an **SAE** if materials are to be returned

Freedom of Information

The provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 1997-2003 apply to the Board of Management of Árdcoil na Mara. Applicants should state if any of the information supplied by them is confidential or sensitive and should not be disclosed in response to a request for information under the aforementioned Act. Applicants should state why they consider the information to be confidential or commercially sensitive.

The Successful Applicant

- A **contract** will be entered into with the successful applicant
- The successful applicant shall agree a **payment schedule** as part of the contract
- Payments shall be made in accordance with the schedule outlined in the contract upon **receipt of invoice and successful completion of the work**
- The artist must provide a **tax clearance certificate** and/or **artist exemption certificate**
- The artist must provide evidence of appropriate **insurance**

For queries and further information contact:

Aileen Lambert,
Árdcoil na Mara Per Cent for Art Scheme Project Co-ordinator
Tel: 087 7552593
E-Mail: aileenlambert@gmail.com

Submissions

Submissions must be clearly marked **Árdcoil na Mara Per Cent for Art Scheme** and addressed to Aileen Lambert,
Árdcoil na Mara Per Cent for Art Scheme Project Co-ordinator,
Curragraigue,
Enniscorthy,
Co. Wexford.

Closing date for submissions: Tuesday 5th November 2013, 5pm. Emailed applications will not be accepted.

Documents accompanying brief

- The New School and the Old Schools
- About Tramore – A brief history of the Tramore area
- PDF illustrating Site Locations

The New School and the Old Schools of Tramore

Árdscoil na Mara – The New School

Árdscoil Na Mara is a new co-educational post-primary school scheduled to open its doors to over a thousand pupils in mid 2014. It is a Catholic Voluntary School under the joint trusteeship of the Religious Sisters of Charity and the Edmund Rice Schools Trust and is the result of an amalgamation of CBS Tramore and Stella Maris Secondary School.

The new development consists of a 1-3 storey post-primary school including PE hall, play courts and playing pitches.

The school is one of eight schools around the country being delivered as part of the Schools Bundle 3 Public Private Partnership project. BAM Building are the main contractors for the school which was designed by local architects CJ Falconer Ltd, Waterford. When completed, BAM will be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the school for the following 25 years. After that period the facilities will be handed back to the Department of Education & Skills.

A Steering Committee, with representatives from both Stella Maris and CBS Secondary Schools Boards of Management, staffs and parents have been working hard to support the process of amalgamation.

Secondary Schools of Tramore – The Old Schools

The Christian Brothers Secondary School (CBS) Tramore was founded in 1867 to provide Christian education for the boys from the Tramore area. The school is currently under the trusteeship of the Edmund Rice School's Trust (ERST). It still is the only male voluntary secondary school serving the area.

From a primary school "Réalt na Mara" established in 1866 to the official opening of the secondary school Stella Maris in 1963, the Religious Sisters of Charity have continued to provide Catholic education for the girls of the area. Edmund Rice and Mary Aikenhead who founded both religious congregations had a vision of forming a Christian Catholic ethos among the people. Many generations of Tramore boys and girls have experienced and have hugely benefited in their personal lives and character from the mission and vision of the founders and the very dedicated teachers both lay and religious over the many decades.

Further information on the two amalgamating schools please see:

The Christian Brothers School – www.cbstramore.com

Stella Maris Secondary School - www.stellamaris.ie

About Tramore

Tramore (Irish: *Trá Mhór*, meaning "big strand/beach") is a seaside town in County Waterford on the southeast coast of Ireland. A small fishing village until the arrival of the railway in 1853, the town has continually expanded since. Initially the town flourished as a tourist destination and latterly it has developed as a seaside satellite town of Waterford City, which is 13 km to the North. Waterford Airport is located about 6 km northeast

The town is situated on the north-western corner of Tramore Bay on a hill that slopes down to the strand, or sand spit, that divides the bay. Behind the spit lies the tidal lagoon known as the Back Strand. Tramore has an imposing Gothic Revival Catholic Church which is dominated by an asymmetrical tower and spire, on a monumental site overlooking the town, built 1856–1871 by J. J. McCarthy.

The area within a 16 km (10 mile) radius of Tramore is an area rich in megalithic structures (e.g. Ballindud Cromlech; Ballynageeragh Cromlech; Knockeen Dolmen; Gaulstown Dolmen), signifying habitation long before Christianity.

History

Waterford-Tramore Railway - Before the late 18th century, the town was a small fishing village. Thereafter its potential was realised as *'a pleasant retreat for the citizens of Waterford and others who assembled there for the benefit of the salt water'*. A tourism boom has left a legacy of buildings dating from the 1860s such as the terraced housing on Strand Street. Opened in 1853, a 12 km (7 mile) long railway line ran from Waterford's Railway Square to the Terminus in Tramore. It was unique in that it was not connected to any other line. Tramore railway station opened on 5 September 1853 and finally closed on 1 January 1961.^[3]

Sea Horse tragedy - On 31 December 1816, the Sea Horse, a military transport ship, with the 2nd battalion of the 59th Regiment of Foot, was wrecked in Tramore Bay, and 292 men and 71 women and children perished. Some time later the Sea Horse was adopted as the symbol of the town of Tramore, and was later adopted as the logo for Waterford Crystal in 1955. From the sea, the treacherous Tramore bay looks like the traditional safe haven of Waterford estuary. After the event Lloyds of London funded the building of piers, including the erection of Metal Man to prevent similar calamities. A monument to the incident is located on Doneraile Walk and an Obelisk marks a burial plot at the Church of Ireland on Church Road.

Metal Man - A prominent feature of Tramore bay is the "Metal Man".^[4] It is a large cast-metal figure pointing seawards, set on top of one of three pillars located in Westown. It was erected in 1823 by Lloyd's of London to warn seafarers away from dangerous shallow waters. Two more pillars sit on the headland opposite, Brownstown Head. There are many myths and legends surrounding the Metal Man. One such myth is that if a woman could hop barefoot around the base of the Metal Man three times she would be married within the year. In 2006 the Irish broadcaster RTÉ had an item on its Seascapes radio programme on the history of the Metal Man and its state of repairs.^[5]

The Pickardstown Ambush - On the night of 6 June 1921, during the Irish War of Independence, fifty local IRA Volunteers attempted to ambush a party of forty British troops from Waterford City, who were coming to Tramore following an attack on the RIC barracks there. The ambush took place at Pickardstown, about a mile to the north of Tramore. The ambush failed to go according to plan, and two

IRA men were killed and two wounded. The Tramore GAA field is named after one of the dead Volunteers.[6]

Tourism - The town has long been associated with Irish tourists and offered a traditional seaside experience of ice-cream, fairground and sand. The beach front features a long promenade and an amusement park. It is a popular resort for tourists in the summer and has 5 km (3 mil) of beach and sand dunes looking out onto the Atlantic Ocean. Tramore has a reputation for surfing, and the T-Bay Surf club, which was established in 1967, has produced national and international surfing champions.

The Promenade, erected in 1914, serves as a popular tourist spot in Tramore and is the focus of the attractions of the strand during the summer. The Cliff Road was built in 1872 as a carriageway on the site of an old Coastguard path and provides access to Newtown Head and the men's swimming club.

Horse racing - Tramore has a long association with Horse Racing. Soon after the railway arrived, Lord Doneraile and James Delahunty built a new racecourse at Riverstown. Racing continued here until 1911, when the area finally succumbed to the sea, and, at low tide, one can still see part of the racecourse from the back strand.

A new Tramore racecourse was built at Graun Hill, where it currently operates. The town is known for a horse-racing festival that has been held every August for more than 200 years. While the horses used to run along the strand, the route has moved to a purpose-built race course. Over recent years the course has been developed and improved and is regularly used as a venue for shows and music events. Trá Fest, a street music festival held in mid summer has become a popular event over the last few years and showcases local bands as well as national and international acts.

Walks - The scenic landscape of Tramore, represented by the strand and cliffs, attracts many walkers. Walks in the locality include the Doneraile Walk, Cliff Road Walk, as well as the 5 km Strand walk commonly called 'down the back and up the front'. Another attraction between March and September every year is the set up of "The Amusements" a small amusement park with a selection of rides and other attractions opposite the beach. Otherwise known as "down-around" by the locals

Surfing - More recently Tramore has become renowned as a surfing location in Ireland, as well as other watersports including kitesurfing and windsurfing. The sport was first brought to the town in 1967 by Irish surfing pioneer Kevin Cavey.[7] Tramore has many surf stores, board manufacturers, surf schools and hire shops in the town. There are many good breaks in and around Tramore. During big swell and wind locals also head to surf Killmurren Cove where there is some shelter and other breaks near-by often work when Tramore is blown out with big swell including Dunmore East, Bunmahon and Annewstown.

References

1. "Tramore Legal Town Results". Central Statistics Office. 2011.
2. <http://www.cso.ie/census> and www.histpop.org. Post 2002 figures include environs of Tramore. For a discussion on the accuracy of pre-famine census returns see JJ Lee "On the accuracy of the pre-famine Irish censuses" in Irish Population, Economy and Society edited by JM Goldstrom and LA Clarkson (1981) p54, and also "New Developments in Irish Population History, 1700-1850" by Joel Mokyr and Cormac Ó Gráda in The Economic History Review, New Series, Vol. 37, No. 4 (Nov., 1984), pp. 473-488.

3. "Tramore station". *Railscot - Irish Railways*. Retrieved 2007-11-24.
4. Our Town- The Metalman
5. RTÉ RealAudio report on *Metal Man*
6. Tramore GAA website - History
7. IrelandSurfari.com - History of Surfing in Ireland

More information on Tramore:

- Tramore Tourism – www.tramore.ie
- Discover Tramore – www.discovertramore.ie
- Tramore Town Community Website – www.tramoretown.com
- Live Webcam of waves and beach – www.tramoresurfshop.com