



An Roinn Cultúir,
Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta
Department of Culture,
Heritage and the Gaeltacht

Historian in Residence

Scheme Criteria 2020

Laois County Council seeks applications for the Historian-in –Residence Grant Scheme 2020 as part of the Laois County Council Decade of Centenaries programme . There is one grant of €10,000 available and the successful applicant will be required to work for 6 months (circa 20 hours per week) from July 2020 to December 2020. Due to COVID19 the candidate will be based remotely with some scheduled meetings and research visits to Laois County Council Local Studies Section.

The Commemorative Programme will take note of national policy and national commemorative projects, but it will ultimately focus on County Laois and environs.

The aim of the programme in Laois is to mark the centenaries within the county in the most appropriate fashion.

Grant:

The total grant available is €10,000 and will be paid in four instalments to include all expenses. Applicants must be Tax Compliant and provide a Tax Clearance Access Number (TCAN) and Tax Reference Number and hold their own insurance cover.

Brief: Historian-in –Residence

- 1 The Historian- in- Residence should have a proven track record in historical research and some experience in publishing is desirable . A focus on the history of County Laois within the given period is essential. They should be familiar with the relevant local and national sources for the period. Utilising and promoting the collections of Laois County Library and Archive Services will be a key component of the project. The intention is to create a legacy of research and/or cultural material for future generations. A future publication based on the outcomes of this residency will be considered by Laois County Council. A Publication will be supported by Creative Ireland Laois as part of the Creative Ireland Programme 2018-2022 in partnership with Laois County Council and facilitated by The County Library Services. The delivery of the programme should be inclusive, appropriate and sensitive, to take account of all aspects of life in County Laois in the period 1913-1923.

- 2 Research topic and publication .The Historian-in –Residence for 2020 will continue to focus on a research topic and an associated publication.

As part of the brief for 2020 , the Historian-in –Residence will continue to focus research the period of Laois history 1918-1923. During 2019 a specific subject area of Laois history was identified as a research area which was the achievements and role of women in Laois over the last 100 years and how these women were to become leaders in the area of education, heritage and women’s rights in Ireland . The 2020 residency will continue to research the lives and achievements of the women below in more detail which were identified as part of the 2019 residency. They are **Helen Roe, Lucy Franks and Ann Jellico**. The Historian-in –Residence will continue to research and promote the achievements of these women which are not widely known and will continue to compile an archive of research for a publication and for the County Library archives section.

History Promotion:

The Historian-in –Residence will also use the residency to promote history and local history in the county.

The Historian-in –Residence will be expected to organise online talks and lectures to inform the public of the above research as well as other areas of general local history in an easy accessible manner . Due to COVID 19 all talks and lectures will be held online via zoom and or/ face book live/YouTube etc. The Historian-in –Residence will also have to use social media and blogs to promote the residency and its topic.

- 3 The applicant should hold a Fetac Level 8 qualification in history /heritage studies.
- 4 The applicant must have excellent communication and interpersonal skills and be able to work with a wide cross section of the local community and be able to demonstrate evidence of same. The candidate will be responsible for working with the Decade of Centenaries Committee and County librarian to identify themes, events and notable figures, co-ordinate research work and timelines ,arrange suitable and relevant events and lectures to promote the Commemorative Programme.
- 5 The candidate must demonstrate and hold the ability to promote interest and engagement in history among a non-academic audience;
- 6 The programme will take due consideration of the Irish language.
- 7 The candidate will be required to have their own transport.

- 8 The Historian in Residence will abide by all relevant Laois County Council policies and guidelines and operate in accordance with said policies and guidelines.
- 9 Any and all events, work arrangements, outreach projects etc. must conform to Laois County Council guidelines.
- 10 The Historian- in- Residence will retain copyright of unique material generated by them during the programme and will acknowledge Laois County Council as the original commissioner of the material
- 11 All programmes will be delivered with the co-operation and goodwill of the community at large and may involve outreach projects in schools, libraries and communities across County Laois. The Historian in Residence will demonstrate an ability to deliver and co-ordinate outreach events within the library and throughout the broader community, to facilitate an inclusive Commemorative Programme.

Application Procedure

Please note applications should be made by sending the above information as **ONE single attachment** (either in PDF or word format) incorporating all of the below required information:

- An up-to-date CV , including the names and contact details of two professional references;
- A written submission of interest which outlines approaches to the residency. (1,000 words maximum) to include examples of previous similar and relevant work the area of history . Please also refer and include information as per selection criteria as listed below

Selection Criteria for Historian -in-Residence

Required

- a. The successful applicant must be able to demonstrate suitable skills, IT competencies, writing style, enthusiasm and must provide evidence of

relevant achievement. Previous relevant work experience which involved facilitation and engagement with mixed audiences at workshops and other events should be included

- b. The Historian-in –Residence should have experience and provide examples of research assignments . This should include examples of projects of a similar history period and topic.
- c. Good Knowledge of history and heritage both local and national.
- d. A creative and innovative approach to the delivery of the historian in Residency programme.

i. CONTRACT AWARD

Only tenders which contain all of the information specified in the above will be considered.

Each complete tender will be scored on the basis of the information supplied in accordance with the following criteria and scoring:

Criteria	Scoring
Previous relevant work experience	40
Experience and examples of research projects to date including examples of similar projects Experience the area of hosting public talks /workshops for all age groups	30
Approach to residency in the areas of innovation and creativity	30
TOTAL	100

ii. NOTICE OF EVALUATIONS

All parties will be informed of the outcome of their proposals following evaluation and any necessary clarifications.

iii. AWARD TO RUNNER UP

If for any reason, it is not possible to award the contract to the designated successful party emerging from this competitive process, or if having awarded the contract, The Contracting Authority considers that the successful party has not met its obligations, The Contracting Authority reserves the right during the tendering validity period to award the contract to the next highest scoring party on the basis of the terms advertised without re-opening the competition. This shall be without prejudice to the right of The Contracting Authority to cancel this competitive process and/or initiate a new contract award procedure at its sole discretion.

iv. APPOINTMENT, EXTENT AND TERMINATION

the successful tenderer will be expected to take up this project with effect from **Tuesday July 28th 2020** or another earlier date as agreed with the local authority. This project will include evening and weekend work when required.

The appointment shall be for the services described in this brief only. The Contracting Authority reserves the right to engage with other service providers for additional services in connection with the project and shall be under no obligation to extend the contract.

Laois County Council reserves the right at their discretion to extend the residency for a further period subject to funding availability.

v. DEADLINES AND SHORTLISTING

The closing date for receipt of proposals is **Tuesday the 21st of July 2020** before **4.30pm**. Tenders received after this time will not be accepted.

Please send completed application form and a current CV marked 'Historian in Residence' by email to:

County Librarian Bernie Foran to Library@laoiscoco.ie

For further information: Tel: 057-8594982 E-mail: library@laoiscoco.ie

The deadline for completed applications is Tuesday the 21st of July 2020