

Dear XXXXXX,

The arts sector has been decimated once again with new restrictions introduced. We would like to remind you, in advance of next weeks budget, that the arts are vital to our social, cultural and economic recovery. Please take a moment to read the [Irish Street Arts, Circus & Spectacle Network Pre Budget submission](#) which outlines some very simple and cost effective measures that can be taken to save this fragile but vital sector of our society.

*'The street, circus and spectacle art forms not only represent our identity as a nation, but they bring together communities in a spirit of celebration and unrivalled joy. The sense of loss that we feel without these moments of collective energy and wonder, is real and is tangible. Let's not just protect them, let's support and empower them.'*

**We call on the Government to:**

- Increase funding for the Arts Council to €135 million in 2021
- Increase investment in the promotion of Irish arts internationally with a commitment of €10 million towards Culture Ireland
- Ensure artists and arts workers are supported through the PUP and the EWSS until this current uncertainty abates at the very least
- Guarantee a ring-fenced funding contribution towards the Street Arts, Circus and Spectacle art forms through the Arts Council of €2.5 million
- Research and resource the need for a national structure for the development of Circus arts
- Implement immediate and urgent Insurance Reform and support artists to access insurance through the introduction of a State Insurance scheme for state funded organisations, such as IPB

Please find full statement and copy to download available at the following link: <https://isacs.ie/isacs/isacs-pre-budget-submission-2020/>

We trust that this document can be of use in contributing to discussions and decisions which you may be currently engaged with around resourcing and supporting the future of our society and economy.

Thank you for all the work that you are doing on behalf of all of us, we really appreciate it.

Beir Bua!

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