

ISACS

Irish Street Arts, Circus
and Spectacle Network

Overview

2023

1ST JANUARY - 31ST DECEMBER



Above Photo Credit: Audience at National Circus Festival of Ireland by Abigail Denniston
Front Cover photo credit: Safire Hikari and Lou Charpin by Denise Wal

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Photo credit: ISACS Members at SHARE, National Circus
Festival of Ireland by Abigail Denniston



Our Story

Organisation's Purpose and Activities

The Irish Street Art, Circus and Spectacle Network (ISACS) was established in late 2010 to support, develop and raise the profile of the street arts, circus and spectacle sectors of the island of Ireland.

We are an artist-first membership organisation which acts as an info hub and resource centre, sharing information, opportunities and supporting the development of the sector through training, networks and advocacy.

History and Evolution Over the Years

ISACS were formed as a voluntary organisation with the aim of creating an umbrella network for these collective artforms to represent, raise the profile and provide a united voice for this emerging, exciting, developing, and growing sector. Since then, we have grown to become Ireland's leading voice, resource and info point for outdoor arts and circus.

ISACS has a diverse, dynamic, and highly engaged membership of over 260 members - that includes artists, artistic companies, curators, festivals, independent producers, production companies, programmers, academics, and enthusiasts from across the island of Ireland and beyond. Today the membership is supported by a core team of four staff ensuring the sustainability and legacy of the sector is maintained and cared for.

Photo credit: Day of Creativity with Circusful -
Circus Explored 2023 by Dave Powell

Our Vision

To be a leading example of an artist-first members network which supports and grows the street, circus and spectacle artforms of Ireland.

Our Mission

Our mission is to celebrate our artforms, advocate for the policy and practical changes that will allow our artforms to flourish, grow our membership and sustain our organisation.



Photo credit: Snatch Circus by Katharina Bauer Photography

Our Values

Underpin and Inform our Work

Care

We value nurturing relationships, supporting our membership across a range of issues and strive for a genuinely inclusive community which connects and cares for each other and the development of the artforms.

Ambition

We laud ambitious actions and thinking, growing determined, proud, confident and resilient behaviour across and between our membership.

Encouragement

We endeavour to encourage and empower our members in their journeys, their professional development and their creativity.

Integrity

We are honest, trustworthy, and open with our members, our board, our team, our partners, and our funders/stakeholders.

We use our resources well, consider all viewpoints, offer solutions where we can and act with integrity.

Strategic Goals

Celebrate

our artforms sharing the history, value, and potential of our work

Advocate

for the policy and practical changes that will enable a flourishing Street Art, Spectacle and Circus sector to thrive in Ireland

Grow

our support to ISACS members to enhance their capacity to deliver high quality work and to sustain their livelihoods

Sustain

our organisation through increased and diversified funding and enhanced human capacity.

Photo credit: SPRAOI Parade 2023
by Abigail Denniston



Main Activities - A Snapshot of 2023

111

Artist
Support/Mentor
Sessions

9

Artistic
Development
Programmes

5

Bursaries

17

Professional
Development
Programmes

7783

Attendances
(at our trainings,
events etc)

4

Funders/
Stakeholders

262

ISACS
Members

14

International
Partnerships

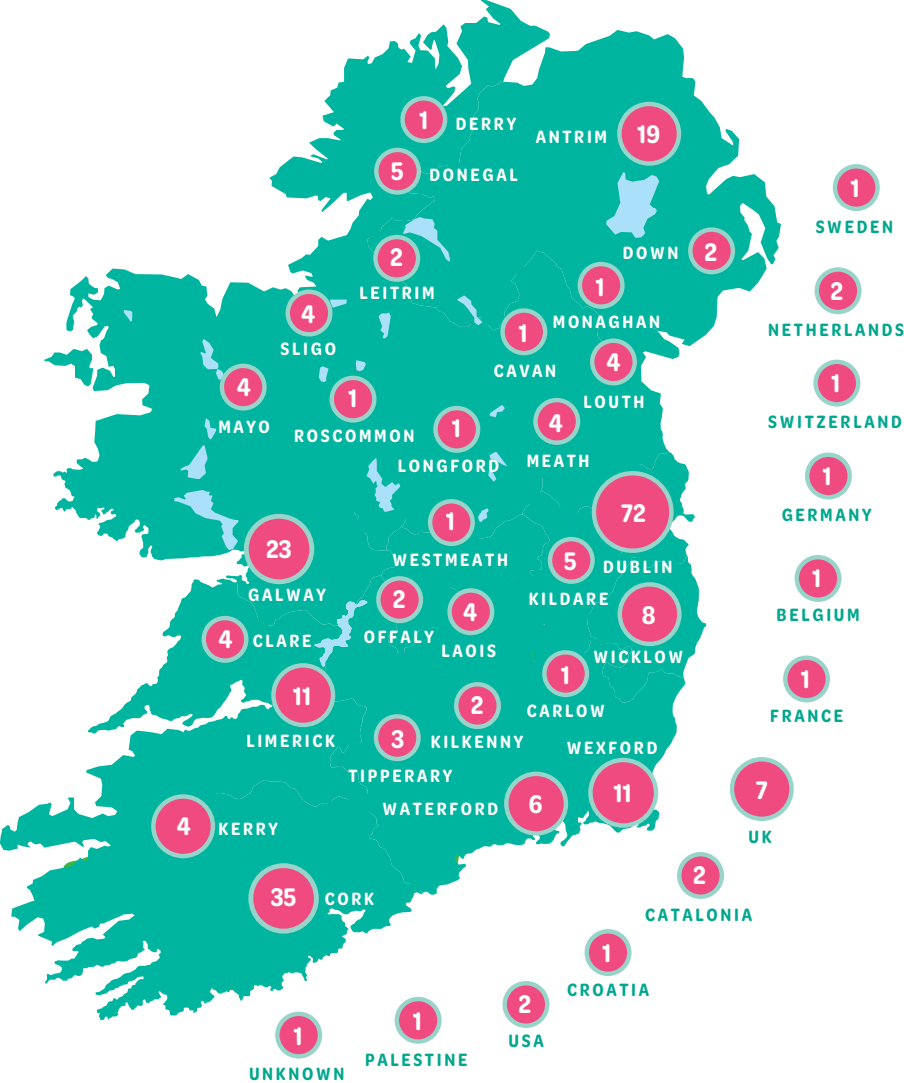
54

National
Partnerships

1

National Award

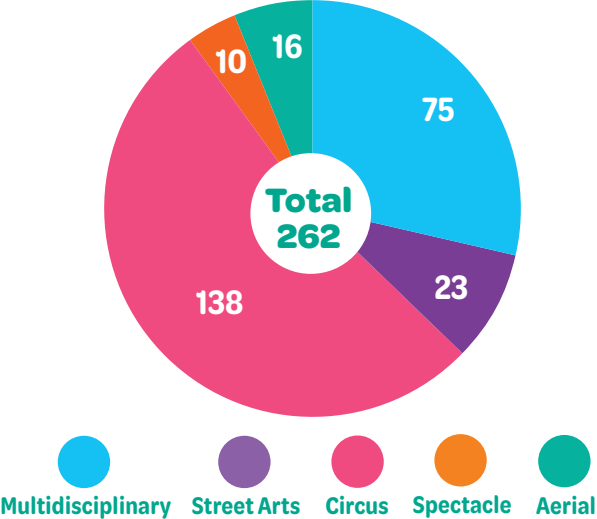
Map of Location of our Members in 2023



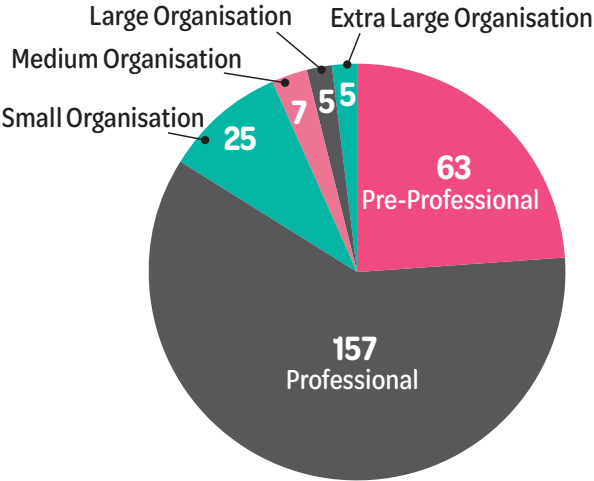
Our Members 2023

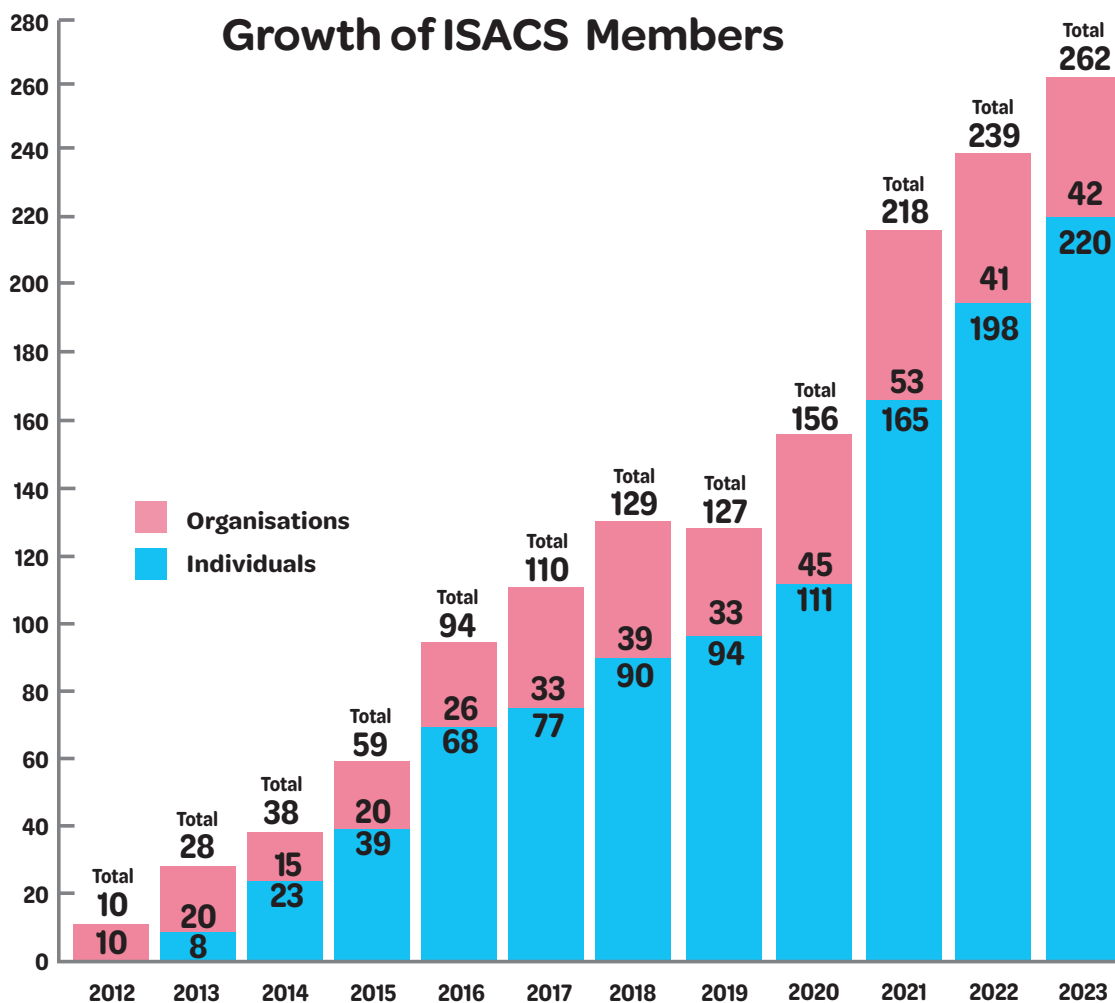
ISACS Members Data 2023

Unique ISACS Membership by Artform



Member type



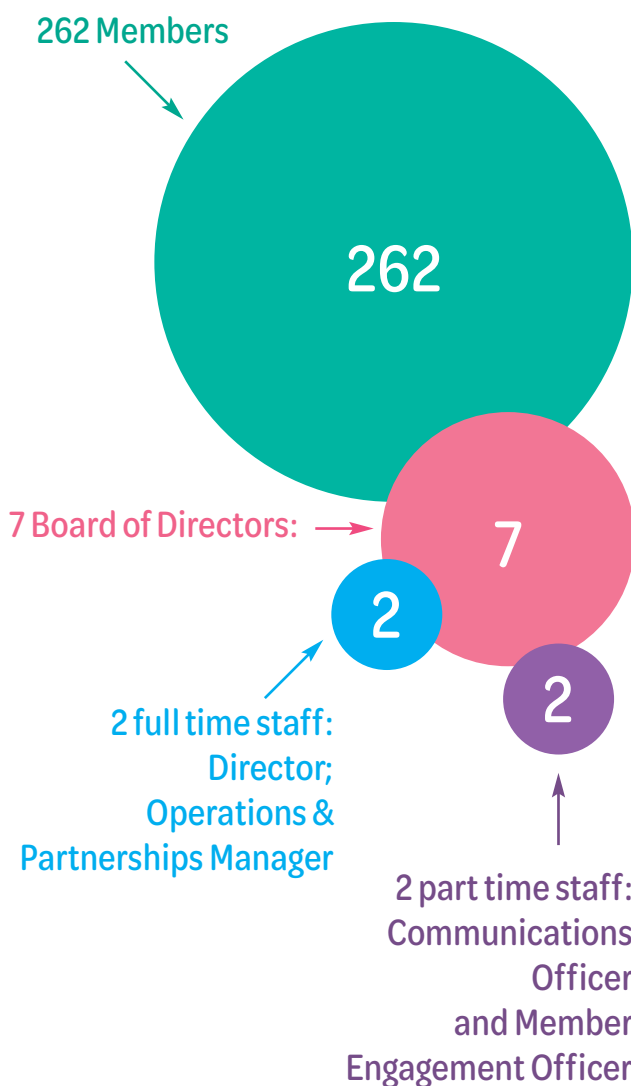


The Top Three Reasons for Being a Member of ISACS are:

- 1 To be part of a community of like minded people and organisations
- 2 To avail of training, advice and guidance
- 3 Networking and peer support opportunities.



Photo credit: Darragh McLoughlin
by Camille LaVerde - Stickman EJC 2023 Lublin



// ISACS has created something very special – through strong advocacy and expertise, they have developed the ambition and reach of Irish artists working in circus, street artists and spectacle. We at Culture Ireland are delighted to partner with them on international showcase opportunities and look forward to bringing Irish artists to global audiences into the future. //
Ciarán Walsh, Culture Ireland

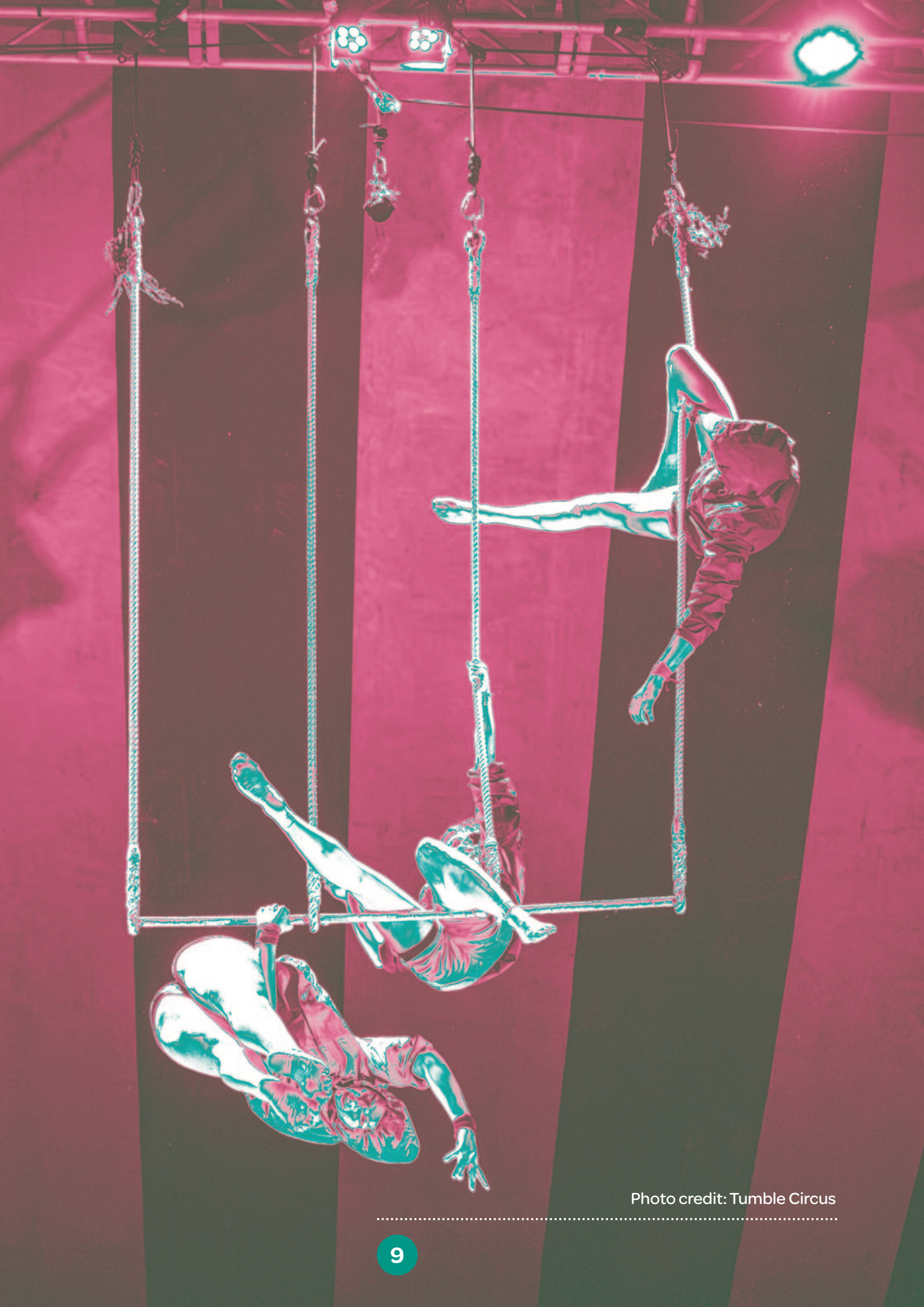
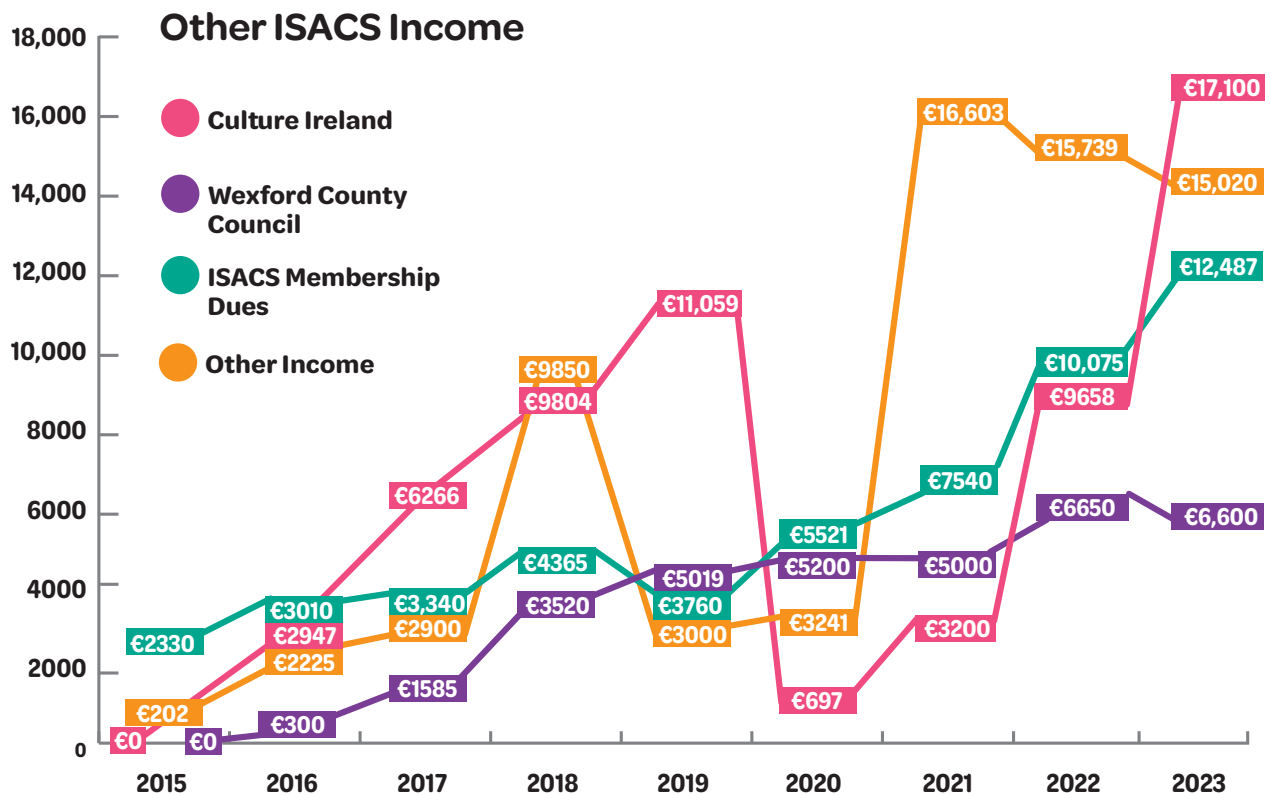
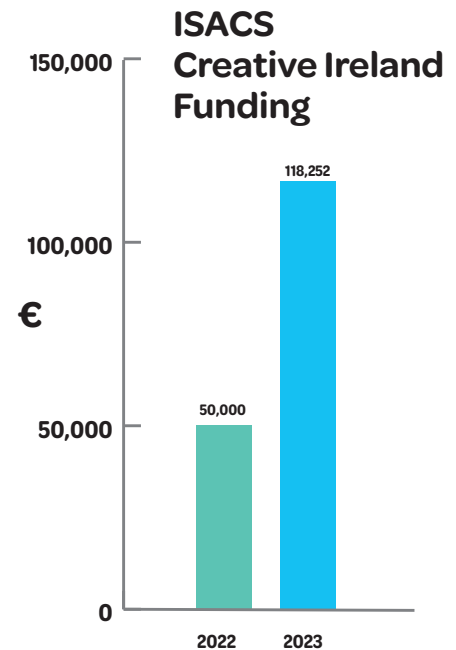
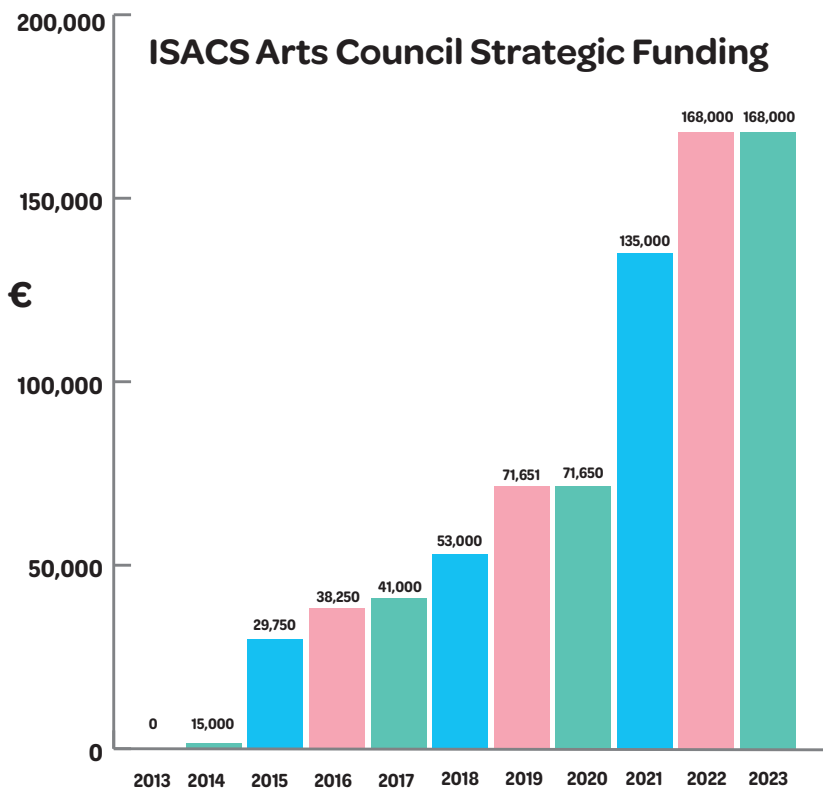
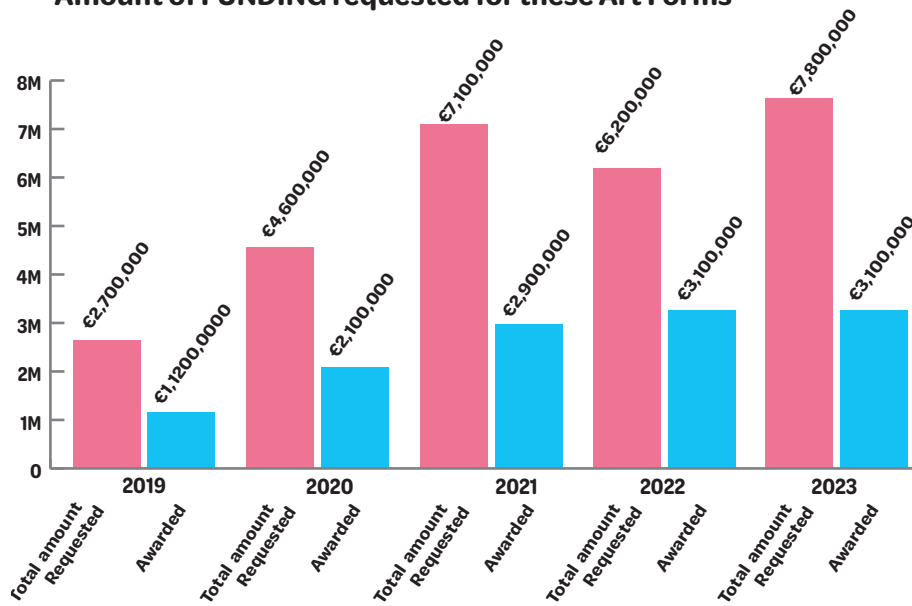


Photo credit: Tumble Circus

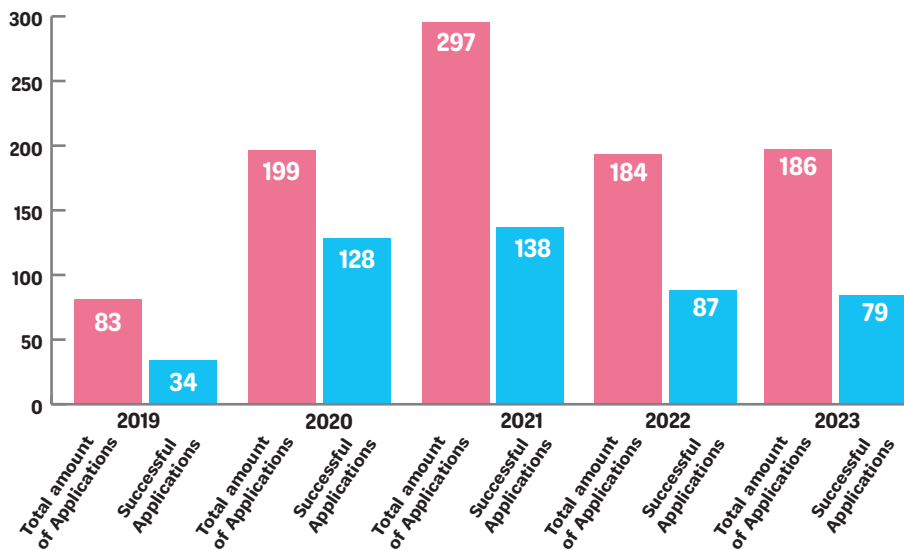


Arts Council of Ireland Funding for the CSAS Sector

Amount of FUNDING requested for these Art Forms



Number of APPLICATIONS received from these Art Forms



Year	Total AC Budget	Total CSAS sector	% of total budget for CSAS sector	Total CSAS sector including GCC funded through YPCE	% of total budget including GCC funded through YPCE
2019	€75 million	€1,200,000.00	1.6%	€1,310,000.00	1.7%
2020	€109 million	€2,100,000.00	1.93%	€2,225,000.00	2.1%
2021	€130 million	€2,900,000.00	2.23%	€3,050,000.00	2.3%
2022	€130 million	€3,100,000.00	2.38%	€3,285,000.00	2.5%
2023	€130 million	€3,100,000.00	2.38%	€3,320,000.00	2.5%

Source of data: Arts Council of Ireland.

Income & expenditure summary 2023

Income 2023

€

Arts Council Strategic Funding	€168,000
Wexford County Council	€6,600
Membership Fees	€12,487
Creative Ireland	€118,252
Culture Ireland	€17,100
AC Capacity Building Support Scheme	€26,956
Other Income	€15,020

TOTAL

€364,415

Expenditure 2023

€

Programme of Activities	€160,068
Wages and Salaries	€131,549
Rent, Light & Heat	€1,530
Insurance	€861
Marketing & Website	€5,943
PR	€2,475
Company Development	€4,311
Training	€715
Legal & Professional	€2,384
Board Governance	€7,380
Board Expenses	€2,779
Bank Charges	€510
Auditor	€2,976
Advocacy Expenses	€2,479
Phone & Broadband	€1,387
Software	€2,833
Dues & Subs	€923
Sundry	€117
Depreciation of Tangible Assets	€1,410

TOTAL

€332,630

Surplus

€31,785

See Appendix 2: Financial Statements 2023 for full audited accounts.

N.B: Wexford County Council also support ISACS through Benefit in Kind with the provision of an office valued at €5000 per annum.

Photo credit:
Spraoi Parade
by Abigail Denniston



Photo credit: When the Moon Spun Round - Fidget Feet Aerial Dance Theatre by Anita Murphy 2023.



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme



Shared Island
Initiative



Culture Ireland
Cultúr Éireann



Stronger Charities.
Stronger Communities.



Business to Arts
Developing Creative
Partnerships



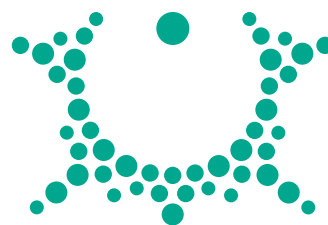
create national development
agency for collaborative arts



Photo Credit: LUXe at Cairde Festival by Cían Flynn

Our other valued partners:

Áras Éanna Arts Centre
Cairde Sligo Arts Festival
Cloughjordan Circus Club
Circus Factory
Circusful
Dublin Dance Festival
Dublin Circus Project
Earagail Arts Festival
Fira Tàrrrega
Galway Community Circus
In Your Space Circus
Irish Aerial Dance Festival
National Opera House
National Circus Festival of Ireland
Showmans Guild
Spraoi
SpringMoves Dance Festival
University of Galway
Wexford Arts Centre



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