

Poetry Ireland

Director

Role

Poetry Ireland is a dynamic and progressive not-for-profit organisation that aims to connect people with poetry, and in doing so, create significant opportunities for poets, and pleasurable experiences for audiences. Since its establishment in 1978, it has championed Irish poetry and poets at home and abroad.

Poetry Ireland's work is focused on five areas: education, publishing, live literature, resources for the poetry community, and the establishment of the Poetry Ireland Centre. Each year, the organisation engages with 35,000 school children and with 80,000 adults. The organisation is inspired by the prospect of a society that values poetry.

Poetry Ireland's location in the north inner city and its commitment to the transformative power of the arts enables it to be a key driver of cultural activity and an agent for social change. The organisation knows that strong partnerships are vital to artists and to successful public engagement. Poetry Ireland has established a robust partnership with the Irish Heritage Trust which will see the organisations jointly develop No 11 Parnell Square with significant support from Fingal County Council, the Department of Housing and Local Government (under the Urban Regional Development Fund) and the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, along with private support from a range of sources. This will enable the establishment of the Poetry Ireland Centre in a beautiful, heritage property.

Following an expansive period, Poetry Ireland now wishes to appoint a director to lead the organisation through its next exciting phase. We are looking for an exceptional candidate with the requisite knowledge, skills and experience to ensure this leading organisation achieves its ambitious goals.

The ideal candidate will have:

Significant senior management experience in the arts, or non-profit sector

A thorough knowledge of the literature sector, with a passion for poetry

Significant financial and management experience

Strong organisational, communication and reporting skills

A track record in fundraising (including from public funding agencies) and revenue generation from a range of sources

Human resources and building management

Stakeholder management, including extensive experience of working with boards

Experience in devising and producing live events

A good knowledge of the wider arts scene

Key responsibilities will include:

Lead the delivery of the organisation's strategic plan (currently in draft form and available to all candidates on request)

Manage the relationship with The Irish Heritage Trust and other stakeholders in delivering the 11 Parnell Square project

Lead and manage a team comprising 6 full-time and 3 part-time staff

Lead and develop the organisation's main funding relationships

Develop and maintain effective partnerships with several organisations in education, live literature, publishing and in the wider arts sector

Ensure the organisation adheres to best practice governance principles and meets its financial goals

Advocate for the art form and for best practice in the arts

Promote a culture of diversity and inclusion and ensure that the organisation has a prominent place in the arts and wider cultural sector

- Working closely with the Chair, the ideal candidate will bring a combination of artistic leadership and energy, financial and management experience, a clear commitment to public engagement, and an entrepreneurial flair to the role
- Interested candidates are invited to submit a CV and a two-page personal statement outlining their suitability for the role
- Enquiries and applications to recruitment@poetryireland.ie
- The closing date for applications is **Monday March 30th at 5pm**
- An attractive salary will be offered, commensurate with experience
- The role is offered for a five-year term
- 22 days annual leave are provided in addition to Public Holidays.

About Poetry Ireland

Poetry Ireland is a dynamic and progressive not-for-profit organisation that aims to connect people with poetry, and in doing so, create significant opportunities for poets, and pleasurable experiences for audiences. Since its establishment in 1978, it has championed Irish poetry and poets at home and abroad. In 2017, Poetry Ireland was one of just seven organisations selected by the Arts Council for multi-annual funding. It is also funded by the Arts Council of Northern Ireland.

In September 2016, Poetry Ireland moved into its beautiful new home in Dublin's Parnell Square. With their partners, the Irish Heritage Trust, the team is now embarked on ambitious and innovative plans to redevelop this expansive Georgian townhouse as an all-island institution dedicated to poetry in all its forms. The new development will house the Seamus Heaney Poetry Library, elegant performance and workshop spaces and a poetry café and garden.

Poetry Ireland values creative and collaborative partnerships, and the organisation enjoys wide public and media reach for its extensive programme of activities. Its continued success is achieved through the efforts of a dedicated and motivated staff who have developed a creative and positive working environment. The organisation is governed by an experienced, dynamic and committed board of directors.

In 2018, Poetry Ireland published its first Inclusion and Diversity Strategy and held workshops, debates, events and seminars for people and poets belonging to underrepresented or misrepresented groups. It aims to develop policy and practices in the wider arts community that will create a more inclusive environment for emerging poets and poetry audiences.

Based in a supportive and flexible environment, this represents an exciting opportunity to bring the work of Ireland's leading literature organisation to a wider audience and to be part of a landmark development in Ireland's cultural landscape.

