

Creative Start and Business Growth Training Programmes



Some of the participants who recently attended the Creative Start training

The Creative Start course (now called the Art of Start) offers a tailored development programme for start-up creative businesses and is an opportunity for the participant to turn an interest, passion or hobby into a profit making business. The Business Growth Course (now called Step Up) provides business enhancement training and professional development for those currently working in the cultural industries. It is designed using a new approach to education and skills training. To book these courses for Autumn 2006, please contact Jacinta on 071 9641899.

Innovative Design Workshops

The first of the Innovative Design workshops by Pat McCarthy Studios were also held in Sligo, Leitrim and Fermanagh. The first workshop called "Product Design" took the participants through the design process from initial research through to ideas generation to sampling and test marketing. It illustrated the key steps which need to be taken in the ongoing development of a new product. The second workshop called Trends Forecasting gave the participants a clear indication of consumer and market trends that affect their sector. The workshop focused the information on the participants involved and gave them guidance on accessing this type of information and how to interpret it. To book these workshops for Autumn 2006, please contact Jacinta on 071 9641899.



Some of the participants who recently attended the Trend Forecasting workshop

Progressive Topics Workshops

The SOURCE training programme recently launched the progressive topics workshops (now called Get your Spark back) with two sessions entitled 'The Brain Game' (creative thinking) and 'Funky Business' (marketing). Two other workshops – 'Sudoku for Softies' (creative problem solving) and 'Knock 'Em Dead!' (impressing clients) are being run in September and October, although all workshops will be run in all counties on a number of occasions over the course of the programme.

'The Brain Game' workshop gave the participants new ways to generate ideas and encourage innovation. 'Funky Business' looked at tips and tricks on how to stand out from the crowd, and looked at a range of ideas and concepts to help promote yourself intelligently and creatively. Both workshops were very practical and participative and the trainees had fun!

The workshops have been delivered by the Fermanagh-based company, Green Hat. Green Hat provides training, consultancy and facilitation and specialises in working with and for creative industries. Between them, Green Hat's trainers have worked on projects and activities as diverse as sculpture trails, arts development, jazz festivals, multi-lingual mural project, theatre & arts centre management, advertising and arts planning & evaluation.

Martina Earley, Arigna LEADER Manager stated that the aim of the workshops is to help stimulate creativity and was delighted to see how successful they have been to date. All the participants really enjoyed the workshops and found them very useful. The Creative Industries sector can only benefit from the SOURCE training programme and she would encourage potential participants not to miss this valuable opportunity. To book these workshops for Autumn 2006, please contact Jacinta on 071 9641899

The course was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended:
 "excellent workshop – gave me some useful tips"
 "Very enjoyable – important to get new ideas on product design"

Creative Launch

SOURCE have launched an innovative support programme called Creative Launch in each of the three regions. They will assist people to find all sorts of advice, help, contacts and information needed to make a creative business idea work. All free of charge. The centre will use their extensive contacts with creative organisations, in-depth knowledge of the local creative economy and a database of support and funding services to help provide these services. There will be lots of creative industry information on the bookshelves and relevant websites bookmarked on the workstation for general perusal. A research officer will also be available on appointment to sit down with on a one-to-one basis. They are located in:

- The Leitrim Design House, The Dock, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim
- The Factory Performance Space, Quay Street, Sligo
- The Fermanagh Craft Consortium, the Buttermarket, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh

For further information or to make an appointment please call Gail on 071-9641156.

Training Events in September

The art of Start
Location: Sligo, Commencing 13th Sept. Fortnightly
Step Up (no longer a busy fool)
Location: Leitrim, Commencing 6th Sept. Fortnightly
Get Your Spark Back Workshops
Working Together
Location: Enniskillen, Thurs 14th Sept.
Fashion the Future Workshops
Product Design & Production
Location: Sligo, 20th & 21st Sept.
Trends Forecast Workshops
Location: Fermanagh 19th Sept.
Perform Beyond Expectation Workshops
Location: Sligo, Sept 25th
For the Love of Craft
Location: Leitrim Design House, commencing 12th Sept.
Contact: +353 (0) 71 96 50550 or Email info@leitrimdesignhouse.com

Training Events in October

Get Your Spark Back Workshops
The Brain Game
Location: Co. Leitrim Thurs 12th Oct
Problem Solving
Location: Co. Sligo, Thurs 5th Oct
Fashion the Future Workshops
Trends Forecast
Location: Co. Leitrim, 19th Oct
Location: Co. Sligo, 20th Oct
Perform Beyond Expectation Workshops
Location: Sligo, 23rd Oct
The Big Draw
Location: Higher Bridges Gallery, Fermanagh - Drawing workshops for adults as part of the National Campaign for Drawing see www.thebigdraw.com for further listing details FREE / booking essential
Dates: 17th & 18th October, 2 - 4pm
Contact: Diane Henshaw Arts Officer for Fermanagh District Council at +028 66325050 for further details

Other Events in September

Every picture tells a story
Event: Exhibition
Location: Leitrim Design House
 Sept -7-8th
Battle of the Bands
Location: Share Centre, Lisnaskea, Co. Fermanagh
Contact: Majella Flanagan @ +44 (0) 28 677 22122 or email arts@sharevillage.org
Words my son has learnt since 9 / 11
Event: Exhibition by Clayton Campbell, Los Angeles Artist
Dates: 1st - 30th September
Contact: Diane Henshaw Arts Officer for Fermanagh District Council at +028 66325050 for further details
Source Website Launch – 7th Sept 2006
World Music round part singing workshops
Location: Higher Bridges Gallery, Fermanagh
Dates: Thursday 7th September 2006 at 7.30pm - 9.30pm weekly no booking required -
 With MUSAIQ tutors Valerie Whitworth & Karen McLaughlin for a further 10 Free weeks (weekly). Suitable for ADULTS only and those with an ear for the music.
Contact: Diane Henshaw Arts Officer for Fermanagh District Council at +028 66325050 for further details
Tradelinks 2006
Dates: 26th & 27th Sept
Location: Slieve Russell, Co. Cavan
International Meet the Buyer Trade and Networking Event
Contact: www.tradelinks2006.com or email oonagh@tradelinks2006.com
SOURCE will run a series of one-off workshops covering areas of Finance (taxation), Photography, Approaching galleries, Production Management in the Theatre and others for their Autumn calendar. Please check the website www.ruralcreativity.com for updated information.

Other Events in October

SOURCE Conference
Dates: Oct 26th & 27th 2006 – "Developing Rural Creativity"
Location: Ramada Hotel, Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim
Community art exhibition of painting by Old Crocks Art Group
Location: High Bridge Gallery, Fermanagh
Dates: 1st - 12th Oct
Alice Knox / Minimal Contemporary Drawing Exhibition
Location: At the High Bridge Gallery, Fermanagh
Dates: 13th - 31st Oct
Contact: Diane Henshaw Arts Officer for Fermanagh District Council at +028 66325050 for further details

November & December Events

Get Your Spark Back Workshops
Funky Business
Date: Thurs 16th Nov
Location: Co. Sligo
Cross border accessories event
Location: The Leitrim Design House
Dates: November
The National Crafts Fair at the RDS
Dates: December 6th
Public Art and Installation by Leitrim Sculptor Niall Walsh
Location: High Bridge Gallery, Fermanagh, Enniskillen.
Dates: 3rd - 30th November
Enniskillen Arts Festival
Dates: 19th - 26th November 2006

Contact Details:

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Issue one- September 2006

Welcome

to the first edition of the SOURCE developing rural creativity Newsletter. Through the Newsletter we will update you on upcoming events; details on what is happening in the "creative" world in Sligo, Fermanagh, Leitrim, North Roscommon, Sweden and much more.

The project is supported through the EU Community Initiative INTERREG IIIA Programme, is a cross border initiative involving Leader groups in counties Leitrim, Fermanagh and Sligo and aims to advance the creative industries sector in the regions through training, infrastructure and the creation of information centres. Creative Industries includes the areas of craft, design, fashion, software & computer services, architecture, the performing arts, advertising & P.R., publishing and the media. Funding is also secured under the Leader II Action 2 transnational programme.

Developing Rural Creativity Conference 26-27 October '06

A new generation of entrepreneurs are translating their experience, passion or interest into a profit-making business. The creative industries sector is a new and emerging rural development strategy with immense potential. Yet, in the Irish context, scarce or low profile sectoral policies/strategies and specialised development supports are curtailing the potential of the sector to deliver economic development advantages.

In view of the LEADER preparation of new strategic plans, we would like to convene our colleagues on a national and cross border basis to share our

experiences and highlight the potential of the creative industries sector in context of rural development. We will host a conference "Developing Rural Creativity", 26th and 27th October 2006 in the Ramada Hotel, Drumshanbo, Co. Leitrim, which will present examples of innovative creative industries, community cultural capital and other arts projects now developing in rural and farming communities throughout Ireland and EU LEADER + networks, and elsewhere.

We have invited well-known speakers from the Creative Industries field from the UK and Northern Ireland to attend as well as key local speakers. Simon Evans is a champion of supporting the creative industries. Founder of Creative Clusters, Simon is a cultural entrepreneur with a portfolio of projects that have been ground-breaking in creative, technological and business terms. Maree Morrissey of Irish Entrepreneur magazine and a new Channel 4 business programme is a creative entrepreneur with a unique perspective on establishing and growing creative businesses.



Simon Evans

A conference brochure and booking form is available from Jacinta Freeman at source@ruralcreativity.com or by phoning +353 (0)71 9641899. Do not miss this important opportunity to meet creative colleagues and agency representatives and contribute to bringing the creative industries agenda to the forefront of rural development.

This newsletter is a collaboration between two distinct Creative Industries Funding sources.



newsletter

Nine Fermanagh, Leitrim/North Roscommon and Sligo craft & design companies have been selected to take Stockholm by storm and participate in a very important trade mission to Sweden. Under the auspices of Source: developing rural creativity, the cross border LEADER funded programme to develop rural creativity, producers from Fermanagh, Leitrim, Sligo and North Roscommon will be exhibiting their products and ambitiously seek trade and export selling opportunities on a Source group stand at 'Formex' - an international trade fair which takes place in Stockholm this August!

'Formex' is a unique opportunity for the Source participants. 'Home sales are so important but for my business to thrive, export sales are the key to my future growth', says Angela Kelly, jeweller, based in Florencecourt. David McLoughlin of Benbulbin Pottery agrees 'Formex is the leading trade fair in Scandinavia. Through the years, it has developed into the ideal and unequalled meeting place for all of the Scandinavian design, handicrafts, decorating and gifts industries. This stimulating environment attracts agents, wholesalers, importers, designers, producers and purchasers from all around the world.'

Dan Hillman, hobbyhorse craftmaker, based in Mohill, Co. Leitrim has special reason to look forward to the exhibition; his product has been prestigiously selected for the Formex Inspiration Expo - a competition highlighting the finest quality products in executive and design. Dan is looking forward to opportunities beyond the exhibition. 'In addition to Formex, we visit key craft retail outlets and galleries as well as having the opportunity to meet and network with craft producers and buyers from Stockholm and beyond'. Other Source producers whose work will be exhibited at Formex include, FERMANAGH - Louise & Wayne Hardman, Wove in Hove textiles, Pip Sides Photography, Genevieve Murphy who will be displaying some of her 'Pulp Passion' collection of hand-crafted handbags, Brendan Bannon, Woodturner and Gail Mc Gowan, photographer, LEITRIM/NORTH ROSCOMMON - Eunan Sweeney's photography, Sandra Vernon's unique hand-made lights, Peter Fulop's

ceramics, Angela Hope handbags, Brigitta Varadi hand-made felt accessories; SLIGO - Tom and Grainne Callery of Breeogue Pottery, Rachel Quinn, ceramicist, The Cat and the Moon jewellery and Ciara Layden photography.

Catherine Ryan, Manager, FLAG is delighted to have facilitated the first export experience for many of the participants 'Sweden is a very appropriate market for the Source areas of Leitrim, north Roscommon, Sligo and Fermanagh craft products. It demands a superior quality of design. Sweden has a enviable design culture which encourages cross-fertilisation of ideas, influences and inspirations as well as focusing on best practice in design, craft and retailing - it is more of an informal approach which celebrates design by across all disciplines'.

The programme is funded by the LEADER Transnational Action II Programme and managed by Fermanagh Local Action Group (FLAG), Arigna LEADER (Leitrim and North Roscommon) and Sligo LEADER Partnership.

Formex trade fair in Stockholm will run from August 31st to September 3rd.



Planning for Scandinavian sales storm are (back row L to R): Tom Callery, Breeogue Pottery; Gail McGowan, Photography; Peter Fulop, ceramics; David McLoughlin, Benbulbin Pottery; Rachel Quinn, Ceramics; Wayne Hardman, Wove in Hove. (Front row L to R): Brigitta Varadi, Hand Felted accessories; Angela Kelly Jewellery and Gail McNamara, Source Project coordinator.



The SOURCE developing rural creativity project was officially launched on Tuesday 21st March 2006 at the Factory Performance Space, Quay Street, Sligo. The launch proved very successful and was attended by creative people and businesses, development agencies and the general public.

At the launch, Pauline Keegan, Director of Rural Development, at DARD Northern Ireland said: "One of the department's key aims is to provide support and encouragement to people living and working in rural areas to develop initiatives aimed at improving and developing rural communities economically, socially, culturally and environmentally.

"I congratulate the Partners on their vision in developing the 'SOURCE' project which will provide the business and marketing skills for the creative workers, craftspeople and designers that undoubtedly exist within the rural areas of Leitrim, Fermanagh and Sligo. The project will bring together a diverse range of people from both sides of the border sharing a common focus on the development of the creative sector which will provide opportunities for the development of mutual understanding and new working relationships on a cross border basis."

The finale of the evening was an exceptional performance of excerpts from Macbeth by the County Sligo Youth Theatre. They showcase some of the performing arts talent that exists in the region which the SOURCE project hopes to develop.



Pictured at the launch (L-R), Paddy McGinn, Joint Manager, Border Action, Gerry Mullaney, Chairman, Sligo Leader Partnership Company, Loman Conway, Secretary, Sligo Leader Partnership Company, Tom Hobson, IFI, Pauline Keegan, Director of Rural Devt, DARD, Trevor Armstrong (Chairman of SOURCE Mgmt Committee and FLAG) and Pdraig McLoughlin, Chairman Arigna Leader.

profile

Alma Mc Manus qualified in clothing studies through the Association of the Clothing and Footwear Institute [ACFI]. She has over twenty years experience in the clothing, design and manufacturing sectors and has worked with a number of well known companies and designers in Northern Ireland and overseas.



Alma believes that no matter who you are or what you do the way you present yourself has a major impact on your success. Clothesology equips clients with the tools and techniques to dress with confidence and practical help in the art of looking good. Its aim is to help women and men develop a strong first impression that delivers immediate value with substantial long term benefits.

Alma's work has been profiled in the Belfast Telegraph, Newsletter, Irish News, Fermanagh Herald, Northern Woman and Radio Ulster. Clothesology was established in 2000.

SOURCE developing rural creativity Official Launch

profile

The Living Architecture Centre

Peter Cowman is originally from Dublin and studied Architecture there. He is the originator of the "living architecture" concept and believes that "our homes engage us on a physical as well as an emotional level". Nourishing both aspects of our lives and offering the opportunity to live more deeply and harmoniously is the essence of a sustainable life. He has developed the "Be your own Architect" Course and the concept of "Living Architecture" evolved from this. He has since designed the Handbook Of House Design & Construction, which has now been published in CD-ROM format and lectures extensively around Ireland.



Jobs boost announced for Fermanagh

A cross border project to grow the creative industries sector will see 20 new jobs created in Lisnaskea over the next 12 months with an investment of over €200,000 in a new enterprise facility. Announcing the important jobs boost in Manderwood Park, Lisnaskea, Co. Fermanagh on July 19th, Gerard O'Neill, DARD explained that following a very detailed grant process, Manderwood Park Ltd was chosen as one of three infrastructure projects to be awarded funding under the EU INTERREG IIIA Programme for Ireland/Northern Ireland Measure 1.4 Rural Initiative - Source, Developing Rural Creativity programme.



Mr O'Neill outlined 'This funding will see the development of seven workspace units dedicated to the start up and growth of creative businesses. Creative industries is a diverse and exciting sector including those involved in craft, design, fashion, software & computer services, architecture, the performing arts, advertising & P.R., publishing and the media. According to our research, it also has the potential to have close economic relationships with other sectors such as tourism, hospitality, museums and galleries, heritage and sport which will be vitally important in our regional perspective.'

Catherine Ryan, FLAG, partner in the cross border partnership of LEADER companies that instigated the Source, developing rural creativity programme commended those involved in this very important jobs and infrastructure creation initiative - 'Focusing on the potential of the creative industries sector, the Source project is a major stimulus initiative aimed at developing the potential of the creative industries sector in Counties Fermanagh, Sligo and Leitrim. The first of three such announcements over the coming weeks, FLAG are delighted to be involved in creating 20 new jobs in Lisnaskea with at least 5 new business starts is very exciting. Creative and craft activities can make a huge contribution to the economy of our disadvantaged rural areas and businesses. We must thank our funders for their foresight and support - the EU INTERREG IIIA Programme for Ireland/Northern Ireland Measure 1.4 Rural Initiative and Mr. John McElwainne, Manderwood Park Ltd for his entrepreneurial and community spirit in investing his resources in realising this project'.

source will shortly launch the Leitrim and Sligo infrastructure projects:

Leitrim: The Leitrim Sculpture Centre, Manorhamilton

Sligo: Solri, Skreen

For further details contact 071 9641156

Website Launch

source are delighted to invite you to the forthcoming launch of www.ruralcreativity.com

Launch by: **Eddie Shanahan,** Chairperson of the Kilkenny Group

Eddie Shanahan is an advisor to 'creatives' in fashion, homewares design, advertising, photography and film/video projects in both the Irish and international markets

Venue: **Clarion Hotel, Sligo**
Date: **7th September '06**
Time: **7pm**
Contact: **Jacinta Freeman**
071 9641899 for details



Fermanagh, Leitrim/North Roscommon and Sligo companies in Scandinavian Sales Storm

John Gleeson

from iThink Technology which is based in Riverstown, Co. Sligo has quickly established his company as one of the leading IT solution providers in the North West, he has already developed an SME client base drawn from the manufacturing and hospitality sectors. The company recently became the first designated Microsoft Small Business Specialist in the North West region and this will allow them to promote themselves as having proven expertise in delivering high-value, strategic solutions for small businesses. John recently participated in the Marketing Yourself Workshop and stated: "The workshop was excellent and gave me



lots of ideas on how to market the company. Bryony ensured that the workshop was very interactive and enjoyable."

Profile