

Basic Income for the Arts in Ireland - What have We Learned after 20 months?

When? Wednesday, June 5, 2024, 6:30-8:00 PM UK Summer Time (GMT +1)

Where? Online (Zoom)

UBI Lab Arts, UBI Lab Leeds and UBI Lab Network, in association with Basic Income Ireland present:

Please join us for the fourth in our special series of discussions dedicated to reflecting on what we can learn from the Irish Basic Income for the Arts Pilot Scheme, as it unfolds.

The Government of Ireland is running a Basic Income pilot that began in September 2022. 2000 artists and cultural workers will receive a weekly unconditional income of €325 weekly for a period of three years. This third session will be an opportunity to check-in with some of the artists involved in the pilot scheme and learn from them about how it is affecting them and their creative communities. You can watch the recordings from our previous sessions here:

[First Session Dec 2022](#) | [Second Session June 2023](#) | [Third Session Dec 2023](#)

We will again be joined by artists Shane Finan, Alisha Doody and Tadhg Ó Cuirrín, who will give us personal insights from the perspective of recipients and members of the 'control group' who applied but will not receive the basic income. We will also be joined by Basic Income Ireland who will give an update about their work and the political context of Ireland.

Following a brief refresher about Universal Basic Income, other pilot schemes, and the work of UBI Lab Arts, the wider UBI Lab Network, and Basic Income Ireland we will open up a discussion with the artists based around the following prompts:

- How do you feel after the first 20 months of the pilot? What is your experience as part of the intervention or control group of the pilot? Has your creative practice been affected in any way? Do you think that the BI recipients in this pilot feel under pressure to perform better than before?
- How do you feel about the interim report? Does your experience mirror the statistics? Are there any surprises, anomalies or omissions? Has anything changed in terms of how you feel about the data collection and support from the pilot management?
- How do you now think that the pilot has been received by the wider creative communities and general public in Ireland? Have you received any comments or questions from people at home or abroad?
- Have there been any further opportunities for people in the pilot to discuss or share their experiences?
- Do you think that a BI could enhance diversity in the arts community and encourage more people to be an artist? Has your experience with the pilot affected your opinion about the difference between BI for people in the arts sector (BIA) versus BI for all people (UBI)?

- How do you think that your experience and that of others in the pilot might be helpful in promoting the idea of BI? Do you have any suggestions about how support for UBI among the participants might be mobilised / expressed in the remaining period of the pilot? Are there any plans to hold any kind of end-of-project event that would showcase and celebrate either BIA or UBI?

There will also be opportunity for questions from the audience.

The session will take place on Zoom. Places are free but booking is required.

Please register for this event at the Action Network website:

<https://actionnetwork.org/events/basic-income-for-the-arts-in-ireland-what-have-we-learned-after-20-months/>