





Pride



**PRIDE Champions:
Showcasing the
impact of LGBTQ+
Youth-led Projects**



 léargas

Introduction

Léargas manage international and national exchange programmes in education, youth and community work, and vocational education and training. These exchanges connect people in different communities and countries, and bring an international dimension to the work of organisations across Ireland. We are the National Agency for Erasmus+ in Adult Education, School Education, Vocational Education and Training, Youth, and Sport.

As part of our role, we are committed to promoting inclusivity by celebrating diversity and by offering equal opportunities and access to EU programmes. We proudly support projects that raise awareness of LGBTQ+ rights, amplify LGBTQ+ voices, and provide opportunities for self-expression, creativity and education.

Youth Empowerment

In 2022, the European Commission launched the [European Year of Youth](#) (EYY), calling all young people to make their voices heard to build a greener, more inclusive, and digital future. Léargas was the National Coordinator for the EYY in Ireland and organised various events to celebrate young people and raise awareness on the opportunities available through participation in EU programmes, such as Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps.

LGBTQ+ Microgrant Case Studies

To celebrate the EYY, Léargas funded [over 100 projects](#) through Microgrants, namely funding for short-term projects. Since inclusivity is one of our core values, we funded a number of activities and events that supported LGBTQ+ rights and fostered a positive sense of inclusion within the participants' local communities. In this document, we have selected four examples of brilliant youth-led projects developed through the Microgrants scheme that are dedicated to young people in the LGBTQ+ community all over Ireland.



Outcomers

Event Name: Dundalk LGBT+ Youth Pride

Date: 14th July 2022

Description

[Dundalk Youth Pride 2022](#) brought together more than 100 LGBT+ young people from across the Northeast region. Participants came from several youth groups including Youth Work Ireland (Cavan, Meath, Monaghan), Boomerang Café and New Leaf, as well as young people who came along on their own.

Throughout the day, young people participated in different workshops and activities. For instance, Irish trans influencer, [Jacob Donegan](#), who has been documenting his gender transition journey online, was invited to give a workshop around identity, being your authentic self and self-value. Another workshop was held by a paramedic from the National Ambulance Service who taught participants emergency first aid and discussed the power of helping others.

The Dundalk Youth Pride also included a circus performance from Fizz Wizz, arts and crafts spaces, a graffiti wall, music and socialising time. The day ended in Dundalk Youth Centre, with a BBQ and gig where young people performed for each other in a positive and safe environment.



Youth Work Ireland Tipperary

Event Name: Outstanding LGBTI+ Pride Exhibition & Festival

Date: 8 - 15th July (Exhibition for Pride), 14th - 18th October
(Exhibition Schools), October 22nd (trip to Dublin) 2022

Description

The Outstanding LGBTI+ Allies group hosted Tipperary Town's first ever Youth Pride Festival in July 2022. The group hosted a Pride Experience Installation in the Youth Work Ireland Tipperary building by collaborating with two artists. The space reflected the journey of the LGBTI+ community from the 1970's to the present time. The space was open to the public throughout the week and youth projects and clubs were invited to visit.

Tipperary is a large rural county with young people living in areas where there is no public transport, and this can leave them feeling vulnerable and alone. Outstanding LGBTI+ Allies work to bring these young people together to support each other and provide them with opportunities to be who they are and to celebrate the same. This funding allowed young people to be part of the festival and, most importantly, to have an input into the creation of the Pride Experience Installation through the various workshops with the artists. As a reward, the group took a trip to Dublin and went on a Queer Walking Tour of Dublin hosted by Tonie Walsh, founder of GCN and Ireland's Queer Archive.



SHOUT LGBT+ Youth Project

Event Name: 'The Rainbow Ball' – An Inclusive Event
Celebrating LGBT+ Young People in Galway

Date: 21st January 2023

Description

The Rainbow Ball was a youth-led event that empowered young people to celebrate and express themselves and focused on LGBT+ inclusion, diversity, and awareness. It was the first event of its kind that engaged people across co. Galway. The Rainbow Ball gave young people a positive space to be their authentic selves within their local community. It provided a safe space for LGBT+ young people, questioning young people and allies to dress up, dance and celebrate as their authentic selves. This fostered a positive sense of self, a place of belonging and a sense of community and encouraged LGBT+ young people to become active and confident members of the Galway community. The topics addressed in the event were celebration, empowerment, LGBT+ inclusion and diversity.



Bradóg Youth Service

Event Name: Pride Launch Party

Date: 17th June 2022

Description

This event aimed to showcase the artwork project undertaken by the LGBTQ+ core group as well as to officially launch a Progress Pride Flag outside Bradóg Youth Service. The event also celebrated LGBTQ+ young people already using the service, their allies and young people's diversity in general.

The main outcome was that the local communities, schools and families learnt more about the services offered by Bradóg Youth Service and became aware of the importance of inclusivity for such service.

BRADÓG
YOUTH SERVICE

PRIDE
Launch
Party

Official Flag Unveiling
LGBTQ+ Art Display
Special Guest ..
Drag Artist
MIZZA
BBQ - DJ - Lollipop
Apparel Workshop

THIS EVENT IS FUNDED AND SUPPORTED BY

 **léargas**
An Roinn Leanaí, Cosúlachtaíocht, Míchumais, Líonraíochta agus Oige
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

 **EUROPEAN**
YEAR OF
YOUTH

ALL YOUNG
PEOPLE &
FAMILIES
WELCOME
FRIDAY 17TH
JUNE 5-7PM
BRADÓG YOUTH
SERVICE
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