

APPLICATION FORM

LIBRARY DATA

Library name: Galway Public Library

Address: Library Headquarters, Island House, Cathedral Square, Galway City, Ireland

City: Galway

Country: Ireland

Phone: (+353)(0)91 561666

Webpage url: www.galwaylibrary.ie

Contact 2.0: Facebook page, Blog's url, etc. Galway Public Libraries, galway.blogspot.com. @librariesgalway

Contact person: Bernie Kelly

Title: Senior Executive Librarian

E-mail Address: bkelly@galwaycoco.ie

LIBRARY DESCRIPTION

Please, mark the characteristics of your library (mark all those appropriate):

Metropolitan library

Rural library

Library service with branch libraries

Mobile library

Children and Young Adults Library

Library with less than 1,000 inhabitants

Library between 1,000 and 5,000 inhabitants

Library between 5,000 and 10,000 inhabitants

Library between 10,000 and 20,000 inhabitants

Library between 20,000 and 30,000 inhabitants

Library between 30,000 and 100,000 inhabitants

Library between 100,000 and 200,000 inhabitants

Library between 200,000 and 500,000 inhabitants

Library with more than 500,000 inhabitants

MORE INFORMATION

Please, tell us a bit more about your library, pictures are also welcome:

Short description: Galway City and County Library Services are provided by Galway County Council on behalf of the two Galway local authorities, Galway City Council and Galway County Council. We aim to provide a public library service for the whole community. We provide access to informational, educational, cultural and recreational library materials and services in a variety of formats and technologies. We aim to be responsive to the public library needs of our community; and to uphold the public's freedom of access to information.

The Galway Library Service consists of 29 libraries in total across the City and County. The 3 libraries in the City are purpose built, full time libraries, which the County Council operates on behalf of the City Council. There are a further 7 full time and 19 part time library facilities throughout the County, including on the Islands. A mobile library service brings books to many smaller towns and villages. There is a school's library service which distributes books to over 200 primary schools. We have approx 75 staff in total with a more or less even split between part-time and full-time.

Current library programs:

Summer Reading Challenge: This is a free programme, open to all children. Each child who registers for the programme at their local library joins in the fun of reading lots of exciting books during the

summer. (July and August) Children will receive their own Summer Reading Challenge Card to record their progress and the Summer Reading Challenge Stamp will be added to their card at the library for each book read. Fun rewards will be provided along the way. At the end of the programme, all children who have participated will be invited to attend an awards event.

Galway Music Residency: ConTempo String Quartet, continuing its commitment to bringing performances to rural centres throughout County Galway. Lunchtime concerts at 1pm in various libraries, free to everyone. These have proved very popular over the last number of years with office workers, parents with small children and older persons providing an appreciative audience.

One Book, One Galway: Wilderness by Roddy Doyle. The Home School community liaison service from Galway City schools join forces with Galway City Library service in this reading initiative. Over 500 children from both primary and post-primary schools in Galway city take part in the reading initiative. The aim is to bring children together for a community wide reading experience which gets the community talking, fosters community spirit, promotes tolerance and understanding and develops appreciation for reading as the gateway that makes all other learning possible.

There are also a series of events in both schools and libraries to complement the themes of the book. The events include art projects, quizzes, guest speakers and other literacy-based activities.

Please tell us about the kind of activities you would be interested in doing with your sister library:

- Book displays**
- Reading of same books in bookclubs**
- Exhibitions about each others culture/literature/lifestyle**
- Sharing library development programmes**
- Talks/lectures on each others literature**
- Musical evenings showcasing our musical heritage**
- Donation of duplicate books**
- Discussion on challenges/opportunities facing public libraries**
- Celebrate Europe Day, 9th May**

- Readings of poetry in English with translation into other languages
- Reading committee on good books

Languages your staff speaks:

English, Irish

Languages users speak/read:

English, Irish, Polish, French, German, Spanish,

Preferred countries for cooperation:

Croatia, Poland,

Please, tell us a bit about the features of the library that ideally you would like to cooperate with:

- Staff who are innovative in encouraging the use of the library for maker spaces and tech spaces.
- Staff who are eager to expand their knowledge on how other public library systems work.
- Librarians who are willing to exchange ideas and discuss new ways of delivering our services.
- Libraries with similar types of service (urban, rural, mobile and a branch network of part-time branches as well as full-time libraries)
- Libraries that have had to reduce services because of reduced staff numbers

EUROPEAN UNION PROGRAMS

Please, indicate if you are searching partners in other countries for any European Union project:

YES

NO

If yes, for which projects?:

Please, indicate if you are participating in any European Union program:

YES

NO