



# Museum of Childhood Ireland

## Músaem Óige na hÉireann

[museumofchildhood.ie](http://museumofchildhood.ie)

Charity Number: 20205452

**Press Release 01.03.2021**

“Project 2020/ 21 TOGETHER, LE CHÉILE”



Children's Voices at home and abroad during the pandemic from the Museum of Childhood Ireland team. <https://museumofchildhood.ie/project2020/>

Patricia Roberts, Chairperson of Limerick Civic Trust:

"We are delighted to showcase this exhibition and to host the Museum of Childhood Ireland at the People's Museum of Limerick. Pery Square is slowly becoming an outdoor gallery / museum space, which has been a welcome distraction for many locals during these difficult times and we are thrilled to add to that experience. As children go back to school, the museum is hoping to engage more with the local schools, offering information on Limerick's heritage along with heritage activities starting with our scavenger hunt of People's Park. We cannot wait to open our doors and to welcome people back into our building again, but until then we are so proud to be able to offer opportunities to explore our heritage and culture in a safe and positive way."

The Museum of Childhood Ireland are accepting contributions for the 2021 edition of this children's voices during the pandemic project and we'd be delighted to hear from children/ youth in Limerick, up to 18 years of age, to have them add their voices to this historic, worldwide project.

"Anyone who is in the area is welcome to drop their work through the letterbox (personal details, other than first name and age on back of artwork only please!) at the People's Museum or if preferred you can email them to: [info@museumofchildhood.ie](mailto:info@museumofchildhood.ie)" Majella McAllister, Chairperson, the Museum of Childhood Ireland.

A little background:

Tarraingíonn scéal scéal eile. One story begets another. In this strange and unsettling time of Pandemic, the well-being and mental health of all our children is of paramount importance. Project 2020/21 Together, Le Chéile from the Museum of Childhood Ireland, provides a platform for children of all ages to express their hopes, fears, thoughts and observations, as they navigate life during this global pandemic.

The project was first devised and implemented by the Museum of Childhood Ireland for St. Patrick's Day 2020. As entries from children around the world

poured in, they curated and launched it online on June 4th 2020, introduced by author Myra Zepf, with bespoke frames for the children's work designed by author/ illustrator Carol Ann Treacy.

At the first lockdown, the museum reached out to children and invited them to share their thoughts and feelings regarding this time, using art, drawing, poems, or short stories, hoping it might help them as they tried to make some sort of sense of Covid-19, from their perspective.

The collected works formed the basis of the first online exhibition.

It is hoped that the online exhibition and physical exhibitions in themselves will further provide a sense of community and togetherness, a shared experience, and a source of inspiration to other children to take part and have their voices heard.

The museum is delighted that the exhibitions have ranged from home / school exhibitions using a small number of the images, to Gallery / Museum exhibitions across the globe, of some/ all the images. When limited to choosing just a few works, the museum team endeavour to select work representative of all the themes submitted: Fear, Anger, Loneliness, guilt, joy... and always provide a link to the online exhibition. It's important that the children's work is shared and contemplated, so we can try to understand the effect this pandemic has had and continues to have on them.

The project which was shortlisted to the final six for an international award alongside the Rijksmuseum, the Glucksman, the Glazer, the Warhol, and the National Gallery of Singapore had its first physical indoor exhibition with workshops, at the Art Center, Highland Park, Illinois, USA. (Sept-Dec 2020)

The first ever outdoor physical exhibition was 'planted' at Killarney House and Gardens, Killarney National Park, Killarney, Co Kerry. Ireland. ( Dec -Jan 2020) and the project was showcased at the Udaaya Museum, Kathmandu, Nepal, as an outdoor physical exhibition / workshop. (January- February 2021)

It was featured as an online festival exhibition in December with INACS, the Istituto Nazionale Arte Cultura Spettacolo, Italy, and will be online with ViMuseo from March 17th 2021.

Further exhibitions at home and abroad are planned for throughout 2021.

From March 1st 2021 we are delighted to announce that the exhibition will be with our friends at the People's Museum, Pery Square, Limerick, Ireland.

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With grateful thanks to Sapphire Signs Killarney, Co Kerry for sponsoring the Corriboard printing of the children's work for the Kerry and Limerick exhibitions.

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For more information visit <http://museumofchildhood.ie/project2020/>

The Museum of Childhood Ireland Project is a completely voluntary body, with a working project board formed of members from diverse fields: Historic Research, Academic Research, Education, Children's Rights, Children's Voices, Museums, Art, Architecture, Poetry, Writing, Music, Publishing, Exhibitions, Events.

Our aim is to establish an all island of Ireland and diaspora social history museum dedicated to ALL the stories of childhood past to present.

In May 2016, the Museum was formally registered as a company (limited by guarantee) and charitable status was obtained. Registered number: 20205452

Museum of Childhood Ireland Project: Hearing the voices of all our children, all our childhoods, past, present, and future.

### **The Museum of Childhood Ireland Project**

<http://museumofchildhood.ie/>

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