

# Bríd Festival

Sligo 2025 Jan 29th-Feb 3rd



Sligo County Council  
Comhairle Chontae Slíghigh

Sligo.

The Arts Sligo  
Arts Council





**Bríd Festival Sligo Jan 29th – Feb 3rd  
2025**

**‘Bríd Festival Sligo’ a creative arts festival celebrating St Brigid, her energy, spirit and ingenuity.**

**A forward thinker ahead of her time, St Brigid’s creativity, enterprise, mysticism, and links to ecology are the influences behind this year’s Festival.**

**The Bríd Festival Sligo is funded and supported by Sligo County Council Arts Service & Creative Ireland (Sligo)**

# Programme of events

**January 25th, Feb 1st & Feb 3rd**

**Sligo Woodland School, LETS Organic Gardens,  
Cleveragh Dr, Demesne, Sligo F91X314**

Creative Sessions for all ages

Jan Saturday 25th, 2-4pm St Brigid lantern making workshop

Feb Saturday 1st, 11am -1pm Willow arch and nature weaving workshop

Feb Monday 3rd, 3-5pm Nature lead intentions and lantern walk in the woods

Events are free, booking required, booking via website [www.sligowoodlandschool.com](http://www.sligowoodlandschool.com)

**Brid Festival Sligo Launch**

**January Wednesday 29th, 11am -2pm**

**Ard Voltas Art Space, Ballisodare**

A gathering for artists, creatives, makers and community. This event invites creatives and community to come together and share in the making of a living tree sculpture.

We will weave rush and willow with Bridget O Connell and sculpt copper leaves with sculptor Rob Ireson. The artworks created will be added to the newly installed An Crainn Voltas/the Voltage Tree sculpture.

Workshops are free, booking required, booking via link on ArdVoltas Instagram page



## **Seed Talk & Seed Sharing**

**January Thursday 30th, 11am -12noon**

**Sligo County Library, Stephan St. Sligo Town F91X264**

Join us to learn all about seed harvesting with Áine Bell, head gardener from the North Mayo Heritage Centre. As part of this event, we invite you to take from our mobile seed library. Bring new life back to your garden and plant for the year ahead with seeds from our mobile seed library. The seed library was created by learners from the Sligo Community Training Centre.

The event is free. To reserve a place, email [sligolib@sligococo.ie](mailto:sligolib@sligococo.ie) or phone 071 9111675

## **Ceramic Workshops**

**January Thursday 30th**

**MADE Sligo Craft Collective Shop,**

**No. 3 Wine St. Sligo**

Jan Thur 30th, 2.30- 3.30pm

FREE, Ceramic nature based tile workshop with artist Rachel Quinn

Jan Thur 30th, 3.45-4.45pm

FREE, Ceramic portrait sculpture workshop with artist Tom Callery

Booking required, email [catherinefanning@hotmail.com](mailto:catherinefanning@hotmail.com)  
(email heading ceramic workshops)

## **Exhibition Opening**

**January Friday 31st, 2.30pm**

**Abhainn Studio, Pier Road, Enniscrone. Sligo**

**Meet and chat with artist Ruth Le Gear**

Ruth's practice involves an engagement and meditation with the landscape, through the creation of water essences. Her work revolves around this dialogue, this communion with nature and is part of an obscured tradition of bards, storytellers, healers, wise women and artists.

## **Ink Making & Eco Printing**

**February Saturday 1st, 12noon- 2pm**

**Hamilton Gallery, No. 4 Castle St. Sligo**

Interactive demonstration session and talk by artist Aideen Connolly. Learn how to make your own oak gall ink and eco print.

No booking required, walk-ins welcome.

## **Eco Art Installation Exhibition by Aideen Connolly**

**February Saturday 1st open for viewing gallery hours**

**Hamilton Gallery, No. 4 Castle St. Sligo**

A temporary eco art Installation exhibition by artist Aideen Connolly. A collection of artwork that focuses on the natural world, using natural materials that explores ecological dynamics.

## **St Brigid Supper**

**Festive foods, insights into Imbolc traditions and customs, acoustic session by singer/ songwriter**

**Erin Luna Gallagher**

**February Saturday 1st, 6-9pm**

**Oak Moon Cafe & Banking Hall Yeats Building, Hyde Bridge St. Sligo**

A traditional custom associated with St Brigid was a festive supper. In line with tradition we invite community to join our supper table and partake in some St Brigid's traditional festive foods, savory breads, chesses, bannocks scones with freshly churned butter, colcannon and apple cake.

As part of the evening you can take part in some St Brigid traditions such as passing through the 'crios bride'. Pass through the straw rope crios bride and obtain the protection of Brigid and freedom from illness for the coming year. Bridget O Connell will be on hand to share insights into the traditions and customs associated with Imbolc/St Brigid.

To round off the evening, singer and songwriter Erin Luna Gallagher will perform an acoustic session. Her versatile voice that carries powerful belts, emotional expression and soothing tones will bring our festive supper to a close.

**Free event, booking required via link in Bríd Festival Sligo social media pages**

## **Mono Printing with grasses & seeds**

**February Sunday 2nd, 11.30am – 1.30 pm**

**Facet Studio, Pier Road, Enniscrone. Sligo**

Studio print workshop with artist Bernie Colhoun

Free workshop, booking required, contact

Bernieberniecolhoun@gmail.com

## **St Brigids Poems**

Commission Poems for children are wonderful gateways to a world of imagination and language.

Poems, with their rhythmic patterns and vivid imagery, are perfect for capturing young minds. Linking with the Primary Colours Arts Education programme four Sligo Artist Panel writers, Crona Gallagher, Margaret Kilcoyne, Maeve McCormack and Maeve McKenna, were commissioned to write poems for children as part of this year's festival.

Commissioned poems are available online

See Bríd Festival Sligo social media pages

## **Giolla Bríd Publication**

**Publication by artist Karen Webster**

**On display at Sligo Libraries & festival events**

'Giolla Bríd' is a collection of work that explores the relationship between Brigid and nature with a particular focus on the story of Giolla Bríd and the seaweed. Karen explores seaweed not only as a traditional resource but also as a habitat and as an art material.

## **Children's Poetry Competition Sligo**

**Deadline date: Friday 31st January**

The Sligo Bríd Festival Children's poetry Competition invites Sligo county primary school children to create a piece of poetry inspired by St. Brigid's diverse legacy as patron saint of creativity, healer, environmentalist and protector of the land. Entries to be emailed to [catherinefanning@hotmail.com](mailto:catherinefanning@hotmail.com) Email heading: Bríd Festival Children's Poetry Competition See Bríd Festival Sligo social media pages for full details.

## **Open Access Pilot @ Pulled Print Studio**

**ATU Sligo Innovation Centre, Ash Lane Ballytivnan.  
Sligo F91YW50**

Linking in with this year's Bríd Festival Sligo, Pulled Print Studio are offering Sligo based creatives the opportunity to avail of five weeks of print studio access. Full details on how to apply for this awarded opportunity will be shared online from Jan 29th. Follow the Bríd Festival Sligo and Pulled social media for more details. This Open Access Pilot is funded and supported by Sligo Arts Service CPD Programme.

