**Waterford Film Centre submission to new Arts Plan**

**About**

**Waterford Film Centre i**s a non-profit, members based organisation dedicated to the development of film as an artistic medium in the South East of Ireland. To this end, we support filmmakers, community and youth groups through education and training, equipment provision and information.

WFC has a Facebook group page where ongoing projects/training/technical queries are discussed. The members include over 30 local emerging and established filmmakers, photographers/videographers and writers.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/443807555822460/453793031490579/?notif_t=group_activity&notif_id=1459423121565527>

We are presently seeking a base and are actively researching organisational structures, funding sources etc.

**Steering Committee:**Joan Dalton – Theatre and Opera producer  
Mary Gough – Film First Assistant Director on numerous Irish and UK Films and TV shows.  
Conor Nolan – Screenwriter and Arts Officer   
Stephen Butler – Music producer and film producer  
Mick Daniels – Businessman and Documentary Maker  
Ollie Breslin – Artistic Director of Waterford Youth Arts and Imagine Arts Festival

**Waterford Film Centre - What it should be and how it will work.**

Waterford is the only city in Ireland without a full-time film/video/audio facility open to members. While the city Arts Office (Greyfriars) does contain high-end equipment such as the Ursa 4K Camera, Canon DSLR's, Tascam Audio Recorder/Mic and various studio and LED/Kino Lights – there are not yet ways for members to hire the equipment – nor is there a sound-proofed, rigged space for greenscreen / set-construction / studio work.

**WFC – The Headquarters**

Location is of key importance. For a building to be suitable, it must meet the needs of a multi-purpose, technically proficient sound-proofed studio with training rooms, secure equipment storage area and editing/audio suite.

**FIVE YEAR PLAN**

6 months – 1 Year

For the WFC to succeed in short term it would be helpful if the council could provide a suitable building – preferably within the city environs – and preferably not in need of major structural alterations. Members could add their technical knowledge and physical labour to help get the interiors up to spec – e.g. setting up and wiring an editing suite for sound and vision. Once the WFC headquarters is viable and secure, equipment could be transferred from the Arts Office to this new, permanent home.

Year 2

Subsidised training courses begin – along the lines of those already being supplied by Cork / Galway Film Centres and Filmbase Dublin.

Such as:

After Effects

Photoshop

Digital Editing (Premiere CC, Final Cut Pro)

Hands-on DSLR tutorials

Documentary Research/Production

Screenwriting Masterclass

Short Film Bursaries

Also, with online video and film projects increasingly using greenscreen – it would be hoped the WFC will by this time be able to generate additional income from media-production companies that require studio hire.

Year 3-5

To survive and stay competitive, the WFC must be continually looking for ways to update and improve equipment, software and skills. Therefore, additional grants will be sought for purchase, repair and future-proofing.

Ultimately what's most important about the WFC is it's goal of keeping talented film-makers in Waterford. To stop the talent drain. The WFC will achieve this goal if it becomes a professionally-run, industry respected facility which consistently produces world class content – and educates and encourages the next generation of budding Spielbergs.