



Engaging the Senses: Symposium & Workshop

Exploring multi-sensory, interactive arts for young children with complex needs

Helium Arts in partnership with Kildare County Council Arts Service invites you to join us at 'Engaging the Senses' on **Wednesday 30 May 2018** at **Riverbank Arts Centre in Newbridge**. This symposium and practical workshop is for arts, healthcare and early years professionals interested in exploring multi-sensory, creative play through the arts for very young children with complex needs.

'Engaging the Senses' is informed by outcomes and learning from Helium Arts' Pop Up Picnic, a multi-sensory performance project created in partnership with the Jack and Jill Children's Foundation.

"This should be everywhere – all of our children should get to experience this."
Liaison Nurse, Jack and Jill Children's Foundation, on the Pop Up Picnic

Morning symposium | 9.30am-1pm

- **Keynote address by Tim Webb**, Artistic Director of internationally acclaimed Oily Cart, a London-based theatre company for audiences with complex disabilities
- **Presentation by Sinéad Roe**, Senior Occupational Therapist with HSE Sligo Early Intervention Service, exploring the long-term benefits of multi-sensory play on participation, learning and development
- **Sharing of work developed on the Pop Up Picnic** led by director Joanna Williams and performers Thomas Johnston and Niamh Lawlor
- **Panel Discussion "Integrating sensory performing arts in health and community settings"**
Chaired by Lucina Russell of Kildare County Council Arts Service. Panel: Tim Webb, Oily Cart; Mary Joe Guilfoyle and Margaret Naughton, Specialist Liaison Nurses with the Jack and Jill Children's Foundation; the Pop Up Picnic creative team and a participating parent.

Join us for lunch at 1pm. There is an **optional afternoon workshop** (2-4pm) exploring how practitioners can engage multiple senses when developing early years work, facilitated by the Pop Up Picnic creative team. Workshop places are limited. Please advise Helium Arts if you wish to attend: communications@helium.ie

Full programme: www.helium.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Engaging-the-Senses-Programme.pdf

Information on Helium Arts' Pop Up Picnic: <http://www.helium.ie/programmes/early-years/pop-up-picnic/>

RSVP by 15th May communications@helium.ie

Engaging the Senses is produced by Helium Arts in partnership with Kildare County Council Arts Service. This symposium is funded by the Arts Council, Kildare County Council and Creative Ireland, and is supported by Riverbank Arts Centre.