

EUROPEAN CREATIVE FUTURES



The European Creative Futures is an intensive programme which aims to bring together learners from different backgrounds in art, design, IT, music, theatre, business and communications, to share experiences and, through inter-disciplinary collaboration, learn about entrepreneurship and innovation through creativity.

The project's main objectives are:

- To challenge learners from various and diverse fields of studies to work together, pooling their individual personal and professional resources to achieve a set goal.
- To promote understanding and commonality of purpose between learners from diverse academic disciplines through working in interdisciplinary clusters.
- To promote the development of entrepreneurial attitudes and skills among learners and to widen their professional identity.
- To apply artistic thinking and creative competencies to business planning processes.
- To create a new learning environment for teachers and mentors to test new pedagogical approaches.
- To develop networking, negotiation and business presentation skills among learners.



Benefits

- Promoting inter cultural and inter disciplinar relations between participants from the five countries that take part in the initiative
- Allowing the participants to improve their skills in different areas as diverse as networking, business presentation, artistic thinking or teamwork.

Challenges

- Coordinating efforts with another four European institutions to ensure that the project develops correctly.
- Working to welcome and accommodate students from other countries when they come to participate in the programme events held in Ireland.

Success Factors

- Giving students the opportunity to meet and work with people from other countries and/or academic areas.
- Organizing travels and events which not only give the project more visibility, but also make it more attractive for potential participants.

“I learnt loads of different skills, such as business planning and project management, and actually went on to set up my own business, which is going really well”. Aoife Rigney, former CIT participant in Programme.

Collaboration

The project is part of the Life Long Learning Programme Erasmus, funded by the European Union, five European academic centers take part in this initiative:

- Cork Institute of Technology (Ireland)
- Southampton Solent University (UK)
- Utrecht University (Holland)
- Norwegian Academy of Music (Norway)
- Lahti University of Applied Sciences (Finland)



Evaluation

Since the CIT was allowed the funding for the European Creative Futures Intensive Programme by the Higher Education Authority back in 2012, the initiative has been very successful, attracting a good number of participants and providing them with an excellent opportunity to share experiences, points of view and learn together about entrepreneurship in the creative fields.