

# **12<sup>th</sup> International Disability Law Summer School**

## **Disability & Culture**

### **Access to Culture, Recreation, Leisure and Sport for People with Disabilities**

**Online via Zoom**

**31 May – 2 July 2021**

## Overview

While there is a growing understanding of the importance of access to culture, leisure, recreation and sport for people with disabilities, a focus on the rights-based approach as found in Article 30 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities is often missing from discussions on this topic. This year's summer school aims to bring together those who are leading in establishing cultural rights for people with disabilities, advocates and human rights experts in order to learn from each other – and develop ideas in this crucial area.

We turn to art, music, sport and play to find comfort and meaning in difficult times. This global pandemic has also highlighted new ways to make culture more accessible, for example, through live streaming of cultural events. Nevertheless, disabled people are still excluded from accessing culture in different forms and much work remains to ensure full and meaningful participation of disabled people in all forms of cultural life.

In its first-ever online incarnation, the summer school will take place over 5 weeks, from 31 May to 2 July. The programme has been designed to allow participants to dip in and out of the material based on their availability throughout these weeks, and contains a mixture of specially pre-recorded content, live panel discussions with opportunities for Q&A and interactive events (including comedy sets, a storytelling event, and a DJ'd dance party). Participants will receive an email each Monday with pre-recorded videos, live panel discussions will take place each Wednesday from 2-4pm Irish time, and the interactive and group activities will take place on Thursdays and Fridays (each lasting no more than 2 hours).

Each week will address a different theme, including Article 30 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, voices of disabled people in media, disabled people as artists and creators, sport, leisure & play, and access to the arts. We are committed to making summer school as accessible as possible in this online format, so please let us know your access needs on registering, and we look forward to welcoming you (virtually) to the various home offices, bedrooms and living rooms of our speakers from around the world this year!

## **Disability, Human Rights and Culture**

Week One of Summer School will focus on the human right to participate in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport, for disabled people, as outlined in Article 30 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Delegates will receive a recorded welcome address, panel discussion, and introduction to the craftivism activity which forms part of this year's programme. The recorded panel discussion will focus on the negotiation of Article 30 of the UN Convention, and the keynote address and response, delivered live, will highlight how this right can be achieved in practice for disabled people. The participation activity will give delegates the opportunity to write some interpretative guidance for States on implementing the Article 30 of the UN Convention in practice.

### **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2021 (released by email at 9am Irish time)**

#### **Recorded Welcome Address**

Welcome to Delegates

Welcome from NUI Galway: President of NUI Galway, Ciarán Ó hÓgartaigh

Welcome from Summer School Directors: Eilionóir Flynn and Maria NíFhlatharta

#### **Recorded Discussion: The right to participate in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport**

**Chair** Delia Ferri, Maynooth University

**Panel** Janet E. Lord, Harvard Law School Project on Disability

Amy Farkas, Human Rights, Sport and Inclusive Development Professional

Monthian Buntan, Former Member of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

#### **Recorded Introduction to Craftivism** Róisín Power Hackett

Róisín will explain to the delegates how they can take part in craftivism at the summer school, by making, crafting, drawing, sewing or otherwise creating a piece of art to be photographed, audio-described and uploaded to a share drive to form part of a collage which will be shared with delegates in the final week of summer school.

### **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021 14.00 – 16.00 Irish time**

#### **Live session: Participation of Disabled People in Cultural Life**

**Chair** Geetanjali Misra, Co-Founder and Executive Director of CREA

**Keynote Speaker** Sinéad Burke, Educator, Writer, and Founder of Tilting the Lens

**Response** Rosaleen McDonagh, Playwright and IHREC Commissioner

### **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021 14.00 – 16.00 Irish time**

**Participation Activity** – delegates will be split into groups to develop written guidance for States in interpreting the right contained Article 30 of the UN Convention. Each group will be allocated a mentor and given direction on how to write their section of the guidance. Groups will meet again in week two to finalise their draft, and the drafts will be circulated to all delegates for comment in week 3, with the final group meeting in week four to complete their section. Chair Rosemary Kayess, will provide feedback to the delegates on the completed draft guidance in the final week of summer school.

**Artist / Initiative of the week** Krazy Kat Theatre Company

# Stories and Representations of Disabled People

Week Two will focus on voices of disabled people – their representation in various forms of media and their power as storytellers. The recorded session will explore different representations of disability in the media (including comedy, literature and theatre) and the live session will focus on the stories told by disabled people about their lives in different forms (including writing, visual art and mime), and the importance of controlling narratives. This week's interactive event is an open mic storytelling session, and the working groups continue to meet to work on their draft guidance document on implementing Article 30 of the UN Convention.

## **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 (released by email at 9am Irish time)**

### **Recorded Discussion: Representations of Disability in Media**

**Chair** Alberto Vásquez, Human Rights Lawyer  
**Panel** Rosie Jones, Comedian  
Kieran Coppinger and Charlene Kelly, Sanctuary, Actors  
Nidhi Goyal, Rising Flame

## **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021 14.00 – 16.00 Irish time**

### **Live session: Writing our own stories**

**Chair** Shreya Anasuya, Skin Stories  
**Panel** Talila "TL" Lewis, HEARD & Freedom Mapping LLC  
Paul Alford, Inclusion Ireland  
Reshma Valliappan, The Red Door

## **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2021 14.00 – 15.00 Irish time**

**Participation Activity** – delegates will meet again in groups with their mentors to develop written guidance for States in interpreting the right contained Article 30 of the UN Convention in practice. By the end of this week, each group will share their written draft section of the overall guidance document with all summer school delegates for comments and feedback.

## **Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2021 14.00 – 16.00 Irish time**

### **Open Mic Storytelling 'No work and all play'**

**Master of Ceremonies** Anna Arstein Kerslake

This session provides an opportunity for delegates to tell a short (5-7 minute) true story, live, without notes, to an audience. Delegates who would like to take part choose a story from their own lives, something they personally experienced, that relates to the theme of 'no work and all play' and share that story with those participating in the session. The stories can be funny, sad, shocking, delightful or anything in between – as long as they are true and connect with the theme. Participants can sign up in advance or during the session, and we will include as many stories as we can within the time allowed.

**Artist / Initiative of the week** Drag Syndrome

## **Disabled Artists and Creators**

Week Three will focus on disabled people as artists and creators of culture, their experiences, potential and the supports required to enable them to flourish in creative spaces. The recorded session will highlight the perspectives of artists, and that of commissioners and funders of art, on supporting disabled artists in practice. The live session will focus on the real-life experiences of disabled artists in different disciplines (including visual arts and literature) and with different experiences of disability and impairment. All delegates will have the opportunity this week to give feedback on the different sections of the draft guidance document on Article 30 developed by the working groups, and the interactive activity this week is a stand-up comedy panel involving disabled comedians.

### **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021 (released by email at 9am Irish time)**

#### **Recorded discussion: Supporting Disabled Artists**

**Chair** Eleanor Walsh, Actor  
**Panel** Morwenna Collett, Arts Consultant  
Louise Nealon, Writer  
Jess Thom, Touretteshero

### **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2021 14.00 – 16.00 Irish time**

#### **Live session: Experiences of Disabled Artists**

**Chair** Adam Pearson, Actor  
**Panel** Shivangi Agrawal, Determined Art Movement  
Naoise Dolan, Writer  
Danny Lane, Music and The Deaf

### **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021 14.00 – 15.00 Irish time**

**Participation Activity** – all delegates finalise and submit their feedback and comments on the different sections of the draft guidance document for States in interpreting Article 30 of the UN Convention on the right of persons with disabilities to participate in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport in practice.

### **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021 14.00 – 16.00 Irish time**

**Comedy Panel** Abnormally Funny People  
**Master of Ceremonies** Simon Minty

In this session, a range of disabled comedians will perform stand up, with some interactive activities and exercises encouraging the delegates to join in the fun. This will be followed by a brief panel discussion with the comics, and a question and answer session with the audience.

**Artist / Initiative of the week** Action Space

## **Sport, Leisure and Play**

Week Four will explore sport, leisure and play, as crucial elements of Article 30 of the UN Convention. The recorded session will focus on disabled people's experiences of sport and play from childhood into adult life. The live session will examine disability, sport and human rights, considering the different approaches in inclusive sport, para-sport, and the intersections between disability and other identities in understanding a human right to participate in sport. The working groups will finalise their sections of the overall guidance document for States in implementing Article 30 of the UN Convention, and the interactive activity this week will be an online DJ'd dance party.

### **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2021 (released by email at 9am Irish time)**

#### **Recorded discussion:**

A conversation between Robert Martin, CRPD Committee Member and Angharad Beckett, University of Leeds

### **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2021 14.00 – 16.00 Irish time**

#### **Live session: Sport and Human Rights**

**Chair** Maria Ní Fhlatharta, Centre for Disability Law & Policy, NUI Galway

**Panel** Dominique Bizimana, Paralympian  
Payoshni Mitra, University College London  
Eli Wolff, Director, Disability in Sport International

### **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2021 14.00 – 16.00 Irish time**

Participation activity – working groups meet with their mentors for the final time to make their final changes to the various sections of the guidance document for States on implementing Article 30 of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in practice, before submitting the final versions to Chair Rosemary Kayess.

### **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021 14.00 – 16.00 Irish time**

Online Disco – with DJ Louise Bruton

**Artist / Initiative of the week** Wheelchair Hurling

## **Access to Arts and Culture**

Week Five will explore access to arts and culture for disabled people. The recorded session will consider the experiences of disabled people and unique forms of disability culture, including Deaf culture, the experiences of Little People, and Albinism. The live session will discuss how disabled people access and participate in arts and culture more broadly, both as artists, creators, performers, and as audience members. This week will conclude with a final session from the Summer School Directors and Craftivism Co-ordinator, sharing what we have learned and created throughout the previous five weeks.

### **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021 (released by email at 9am Irish time)**

#### **Recorded Session: Accessing Our Culture**

**Chair** Rebecca Cokley, Ford Foundation

**Panel** Ikponwosa Ero, UN Independent Expert on Albinism  
Eva Þórdís Ebenezersdóttir, University of Iceland  
Majella McAteer, British Deaf Association

### **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 14.00 – 16.00 Irish time**

#### **Live session: Access to Culture for All**

**Chair** Betty Siegel, John F. Kennedy Centre for the Performing Arts

**Panel** Pádraig Naughton, Arts and Disability Ireland  
Cymie Yeung, West Kowloon Cultural District Authority  
Ruth Fabby, Disability Arts Cymru

### **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021 14.00 – 16.00 Irish time**

#### **Wrap Up Session: Law, Craft and Change**

In this session, the delegates will hear from the summer school directors Eilionóir Flynn and Maria NíFhlatharta on the key lessons learned throughout the last five weeks, along with a recorded reflection from Rosemary Kayess on the guidance document for States on interpreting Article 30 of the UN Convention in practice. Róisín Power Hackett will share the final results of the Summer School Craftivism and delegates will learn how to keep in touch after the summer school has ended.

**Artist / Initiative of the week** Croí Glan Integrated Dance Ltd