



CALLAN OPEN DOORS

Celebrating Art and Creativity in Callan

21-24 May 2026

Friday 22 May

COMMUNITY EVENTS

BUNNY HOP | Droichead Family Resource Centre Creche | 10.00 – 13.00

For DFRC creche attendees only.

Bunny Hop is a music-and-movement class that invites children ages 1-5 to sing familiar and new action songs using a wide range of musical instruments. The class is music-led, and the children get to express themselves through song, movement and instruments.

GATHER BY TRICKSTER | The Abbey Meadow - rain alternative Bunscoil McAuley Rice school hall | 11.45 | Free event | All Welcome

As part of Callan Open Doors. During the early weeks of May, Trickster will visit the school for a number of playful, imaginative storytelling sessions — where the students will dig into the stories, memories and magic of their own place. Together, they'll conjure a Resident Guardian, a giant, extraordinary puppet, born entirely from the children's ideas and creativity. Callan's Resident Guardian will take its first steps into the world at the Abbey Meadow as part of Callan Open Doors.

DRUMMING WITH CONOR | Droichead Family Resource Centre | 14.30 – 17.00

For DFRC After School Club attendees only

Drumming facilitator Conor Graham will bring the rhythms of African drumming to DFRC After School Club, inviting the children to join him for a fun afternoon of music making and percussion.

COLLABORATIVE CARDBOARD CONSTRUCTIONS, workshop with Paul Bokslag The Powerhouse | 13.30 – 17.00 | For Ossory Youth Club members only

Under the guidance of artist Paul Bokslag, young people will collaborate to build sculptures, using a child-friendly chomp saw and repurposing cardboard boxes. By applying basic techniques, they will turn flat materials into 3D structures.

DROP IN OPEN STUDIO | KCAT Arts Centre | 13.00 – 16.00 | Free event

Drop-by anytime | All ages are welcome

KCAT is a multidisciplinary arts centre dedicated to nurturing creative ambition and equity in the arts. Drop in for art making at our Open Studio. Try out drawing, printmaking, or collage to create a piece to take home. Facilitated by Mairead Holohan and Martina Rosi.

MEET & MIX | KCAT Arts Centre | 18.00 – 19.00 | Free event

Drop-by anytime | All ages are welcome.

A social night to meet KCAT exhibition artist Jan Michelle, learn about her practice and work, and for creatives and community in the area to get to know each other.

THEATRE & MUSIC

THE DEEDS OF LORD BARNARD by Iarla O'Neill | Workhouse Union | 19.00

Duration 40 minutes | Tickets €7 | This is an outdoor performance.

Dress suitably | Patrons are welcome to bring a garden chair or stool

BOOK TICKETS

Set in a time of the Great Famine, "The Deeds of Lord Barnard" follows the desperate attempts of a pair of farmers as they try to outsmart their wicked landlord and his hungry spaniels. Poignantly presented in the gardens of the old Callan Workhouse, the hapless heroes try to decipher the will of the Gods... to varying degrees of success. Performed by Iarla O'Neill, Rose Creagh, and Muiris Wallace; a troupe of theatre-loving friends from different pockets of the Irish countryside who sing, dance, and play together, exploring the nature of the contemporary rural through theatre and music.

FENNELLY'S TRAD SEISÚIN | Fennelly's of Callan | 18.30- 21.00 | Free event

Join us musicians, listeners, hummers and toe tappers on Friday in the cosy embrace of Fennelly's sitting room (or if it's sunny, in the garden courtyard) for our monthly trad music get together. Being together to celebrate the arrival of summer and the resilience of our community through music reminds us to be present in the cycle of the year and embrace togetherness. There will be food and wine, come early or drop by, all welcome. Bígi linn.

