Millennium Forum Case Study



Lisa Heaney

Box office & Access Manager

Millennium Forum

TOURISM NORTHERN IRELAND



Millennium Forum
Access

Dementia Friendly Tea Dances

MOVES & MELODIES

ACCESS AT THE FORUM

Partners and funders of Millennium Forum Access initiatives

Specsavers
HSC Public Health Agency
DfC Department for Communities www.communities-ni.gov.uk
arts council of Northern Ireland
Bank of Ireland
Begin Together ARTS FUND
Business to Arts Developing Creative Partnerships
Access to Arts for All
Derry City & Strabane District Council
Comhairle Chathair Dhoire & Cheantar an tSratha Bain
Derry Cittie & Strabane Destrick Council

MILLENNIUM FORUM
A THEATRE FOR EVERYONE

The Millennium Forum is a Registered Charity that plays a vital role in our economy and health and well being of people within our City and District

We continue to lead the way in Access and Inclusion, ensuring we have an accessible building and provide an inclusive programme of events.

We work towards achieving equality of opportunity and ensure diversity is celebrated.

We have achieved ‘Accessibility Champion Status’ in the Arts and Disability Access Awards.

Millennium Forum

Access

MOVES & MELODIES

Dementia Friendly Tea Dances

ENERGY TRAIN

ENERGY OF LIGHT KIDS AGES 0-6

ENERGY OF LIGHT JUNIORS AGES 6-14

achieve beyond

MEMORY TRAIN

FEEL GOOD FORUM Mind, Health & Wellbeing

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Accessible Projects & Events

In 2026 we have provided 120 Access Events
in our Theatre and in the Community which included:

Relaxed and Dementia Friendly Performances
Audio described performances
ISL and BSL signed performances
Captioned performances
Makaton included in all panto performances First Theatre in Ireland to become Makaton Friendly in 2022
Moves & Melodies
Dementia Friendly Tea Dance
Act Your Age Drama Group
Memory Train
Energy Train and Energy of Light Discos
Sensory Musical Theatre Workshops
Feel Good at the Forum
Achieve Beyond

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Accessible Projects & Events

3254 people living with a disability have participated in our access projects up to November 2026

1406 people Currently registered on our Access Membership Scheme

480 people – have participated in rural access projects.

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Social Prescribing at the Millennium Forum

We refer to it as “Culture on Prescription”

Since September 2024 we have had a weekly activity at our Theatre for Older people to promote inclusion, improve brain health and help remove social isolation in our City and District.

Prescribing people to the arts dramatically improves health outcomes and well-being, counters inequalities and increases social engagement.

Social prescribing link workers, refer individuals to our theatre-based activities and programmes where they benefit from social connection, creative activity, and community support.

As a supplement to medicine and care, the evidence suggests that engagement with the arts can improve a person's physical and mental well-being’

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How We Do It?

We work very closely with Derry City & Strabane District Council, our sponsors and partners. These partnerships are invaluable, helping us ensure sustainability to continue to be a Theatre for everyone.

Our access working group oversee the implementation of our action plan. This group is made up of staff members, board members, professionals, people living with a disability and their carers. This group is crucial in helping us ensure **‘We Get it Right**’

We work closely with our in house charity Access to Arts For All. They fundraise and liaise with our access working group to help us deliver accessible events and projects.

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What's Next?

We are hoping to continue to build creative partnerships with Health Professionals to develop ideas on best way to push forward with best practice for '**Culture on Prescription'**

Future Challenges

Lack of funding opportunities to ensure sustainability of Access projects and events



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