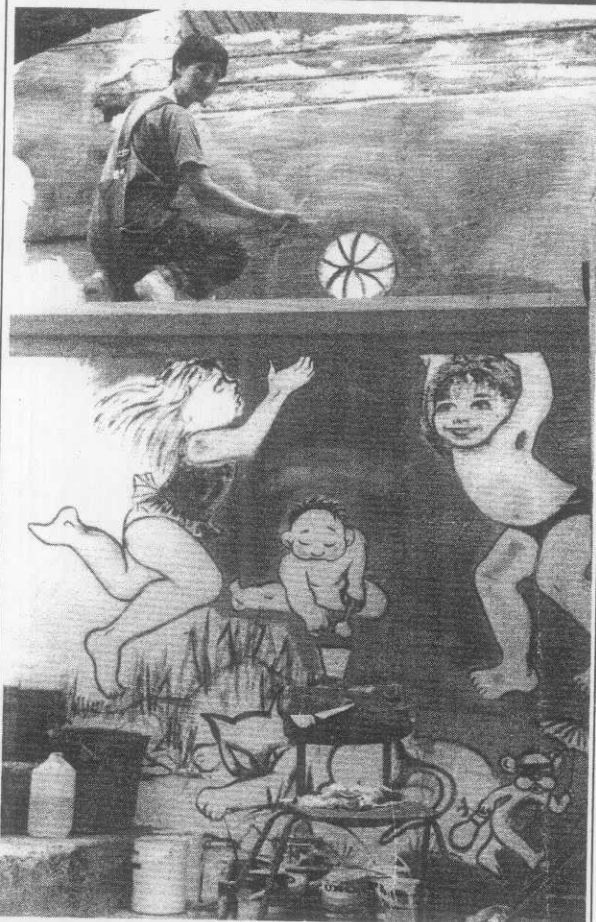


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Bridget McNamara of the Limerick Corporation Arts Project Scheme, works on the mural at the Ennis Road swimming pool.



Participants in the Limerick Corporation Arts Project Scheme: (front), Eamon Murphy, writer; Gus Quin, photographer; (back), John Hanamy, Street Theatre; Paul Healy and Zargolian Browne, musicians.

ARTISTS

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TAKE THEIR PLACE IN COMMUNITY

By BILLY KELLY

VISUAL ART, music, drama and writing are being brought into the communities of Limerick city thanks to an innovative project being run by Limerick Corporation.

The Arts Project Scheme is being run by the Corporation in conjunction with FAS and it gives one year's temporary part-time employment to sixteen artists from the various fields.

While on the scheme the artists are developing their own skills and publicising their work while making their talents available to the various communities and the city at large.

Arts scheme co-ordinator, Joan MacKernan, said this week that the response from the community has been very positive. "We intend to continue and expand our Arts Community Programme with further music and art workshops in schools, hospitals and the library", she explained.

The artists themselves are also very positive about the project. They feel their contribution is worthwhile and that they are gaining valuable personal and working skills from their involvement with people at a local community level.

There are five musicians on the scheme: Paul Healy, Mike Ryan (Zargolian Browne), Nicky Kiely, Nigel Nix and Gus Quin. They have played lunch time music in city parks and plazas and have brought life to the streets, as well as

performing at various fund-raising events and festivals.

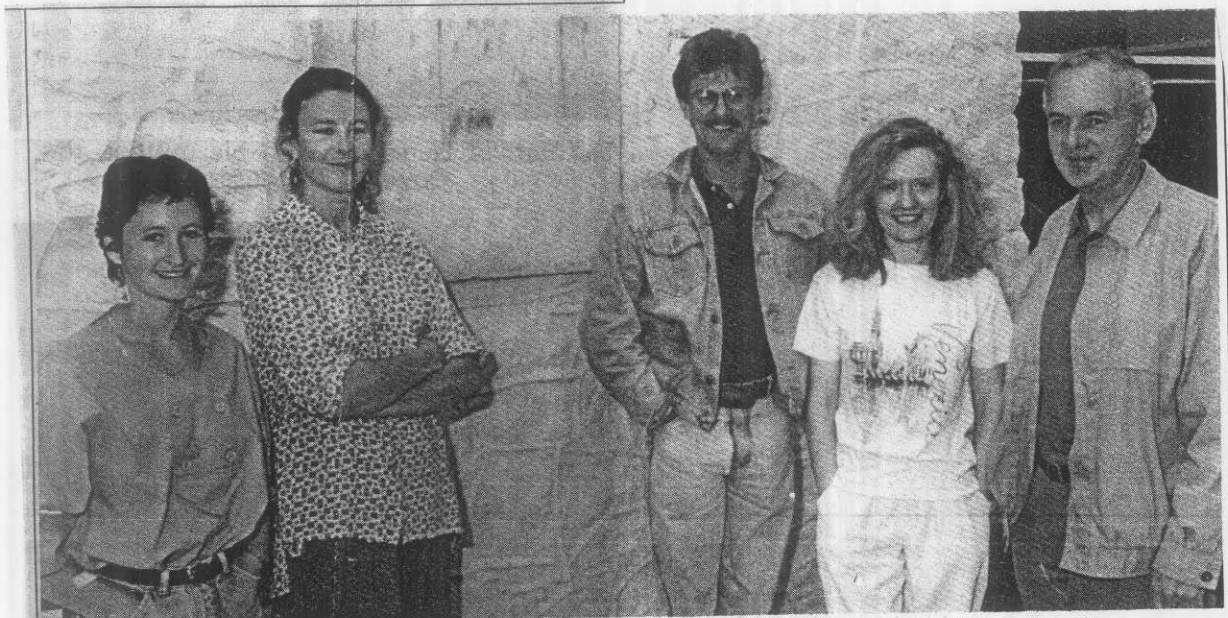
John Hanamy, a street entertainer, has done similar work and with his colleague, Robert Hutchinson, is involved in Pretentious Productions. They hope to set up a comedy club in the city at the end of the summer.

There are six visual artists involved. Sandra Doolin and Ruth Wood held art workshops in St. Mary's and St. Senan's schools. Ruth and Jaki Stewart run art classes in St. Joseph's and the Regional hospitals. Bridget McNamara has just finished a magnificent mural on the wall of the Ennis Road swimming pool and is now working with Jaki Stewart on a mural in the Moyross Resource House.

Noel Fitzgerald is producing a portfolio of drawings of Limerick buildings. And, Gerry O'Mahony, who has publicly exhibited his work, is available to the public in the city library and is open to any questions on his work or art in general.

The writer is Eamon Murphy who is engaged in historical research and has just completed a play on the sieges of Limerick. The fourteenth participant is Richard Ahern who is working on local history projects for next year's tercentenary celebrations.

The Limerick Corporation Arts Project Scheme started last May and runs until the end of next April. The co-ordinator, Joan MacKernan, can be contacted at the City Hall.



Visual artists involved in the Corporation's Arts Project Scheme: Bridget McNamara, Thondgate; Ruth Wood, Killaloe; Gerry O'Mahony, Fitzgerald Place; Jaki Stewart, Patrickswell, and Noel Fitzgerald, Clareview.

L. LEADER 1990, AUG. 4TH