

<b>Report on</b>	International Women's Day 2019
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2019
<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Tony McCance
<b>Contact Officer</b>	Joanne Robinson/Caroline Sheehy

<b>Is this report restricted for confidential business?</b> If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	Yes	
	No	X

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>
1.1	To update members on activities delivered through Culture & Arts Services to mark International Women's Day 2019
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Background</b>
2.1	On the 8 <sup>th</sup> March the world came together to support, raise awareness, inspire and motivate women as part of International Women's Day. The theme for 2019 was Balance for Better – Think equal, build smart, innovate for change. The purpose of the day was to focus on various themes such as innovation, the portrayal of women in the media and the importance of education and career opportunities.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main Report</b>
3.1	Celebrations took place at Ranfurly House Dungannon and the Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre Cookstown, for International Women's Day, on Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March.
3.2	<p><u>Ranfurly House Event</u></p> <p>Master of Ceremonies for the evening was local woman, Carol Doey, who entertained a full house.</p> <p>The evening opened with the Deputy Chair, Councillor Francis Burton, welcoming the audience via video screen. The first half of the event consisted of local business women and advocates of mental health; Annette Kelly and Aisling Conway.</p> <p><b>Annette Kelly (Carrickmore) – Little Penny Thoughts.</b> Compiler of Little Penny's Book of Thoughts. Annette is a Mind-set mentor/speaker and workshop facilitator. She is an advocate of mental health and creator of Little Penny Thoughts facebook page; a page with 322,000 followers. It is based on the premise of posting a quote every day to promote positivity and to provide inspiration</p> <p><b>Aisling Conway (Kildress) – Heal Your Life with Aisling</b> Aisling shared her personal story with the audience and demonstrated the power of Louise Hays theories in her life. She reflected on the importance of self-love and</p>

	<p>demonstrated ways in which she uses her theories to support others through her classes' and one to one sessions to improve emotional wellbeing.</p> <p><b>Nuala Mc Keever, Comedian and Journalist</b> inspired the audience sharing a personal account of her life, both the achievements and the challenges that she has faced and how she has overcome them.</p> <p><b>Lynsey Hakin, Colour Me Beautiful Consultant</b>, was the final speaker who effectively demonstrated, with volunteers from the audience, the particular colours that people should wear based on their hair, eye and skin tone.</p> <p>The show came to a close with a stunning performance from The Ward Sisters from Loughmarcroy. The Wards Sisters are emerging country artists and welcomed the chance to showcase their talent on International Women's Day, prior to their sell out show at Ranfurly House at the end of March.</p> <p>The evening was extremely uplifting, with a huge injection of humour from both Carol Doey and Nuala McKeever. Positive feedback was received from those in attendance.</p> <p><b>3.3 <u>Burnavon Arts &amp; Cultural Centre Event</u></b></p> <p><b>Balance for Better Talk</b></p> <p>A special talk for Key Stage 3 &amp; 4 students was held on the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup> March. The 3 speakers were key female leaders within their respective fields all working within the Mid Ulster area. The talks covered the themes of "Balance for Better" with each speaker sharing their own life experiences.</p> <p><b>Art &amp; Craft Workshops &amp; Demonstrations</b></p> <p>A series of art and craft workshops and demonstrations were available for local women to participate in. The workshops and demonstrations celebrated local female artists and the creative industries that they work within, including Willow Weaving, Textile Art, Pastel Painting, Jewellery Making and Flower Arranging.</p> <p><b>Art Exhibition</b></p> <p>In celebration of International Women's Day, the Burnavon's March (1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>) exhibition showcases the work of female artists from the Collection of The Arts Council of Northern Ireland. The exhibition features a range of artworks from emerging and established female artists and includes photography, painting, printmaking and drawing. Collectively, the exhibition brings together artworks which tell the stories of women from different cultures, life experiences and times.</p>
<b>4.0</b>	<b>Other Considerations</b>
<b>4.1</b>	<p><b>Financial, Human Resources &amp; Risk Implications</b></p> <p>Financial: Within Arts &amp; Culture Programme Budget</p> <p>Human: Staff support</p>

	Risk Management: N/A
<b>4.2</b>	<b>Screening &amp; Impact Assessments</b>
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: Equality and Good relations is considered as part of the programming of activities at both venues.
	Rural Needs Implications: Rural needs are considered as part of the planned activity at both venues
<b>5.0</b>	<b>Recommendation(s)</b>
5.1	Members are asked to note activities delivered at both Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre, Dungannon and The Burnavon Theatre to celebrate International Womens Day 2019.
<b>6.0</b>	<b>Documents Attached &amp; References</b>
6.1	None