

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## BARNSTORM THEATRE COMPANY 2024

MAGS WHITELEY has been involved in theatre for some years starting with the Kilcumney Players before joining Barnstorm's Adult Theatre Club and as a member of the Barn Owl Players; where she has played many iconic female roles, Nora in JM Synge's In The Shadow of the Glen, and Maggie in John B Keane's Big Maggie. She has been involved in Barnstorm's Curriculum Live series as assistant director, stage manager and actor playing Kate Keller in All My Sons by Arthur Miller; Bessie Burgess in The Plough and the Stars by Sean O'Casey; Lady Bracknell in The Importance of Being Earnest and featured in Lunchtime Theatre plays.

ALMA FEELEY is an-award-winning communications professional and speech writer with more than 25 years' extensive experience supporting global, national and regional companies and public service organisations. She has proven expertise in strategic communications, media relations, reputation management and crisis and issues management. Alma's work has twice been acknowledged by the Public Relations Consultants Association for excellence in PR practice and she is twice winner of the Excellence in Communications Award at the Kilkenny Business Awards. Alma describes herself as " a storyteller, using my skills to define and tell great stories across influential media". A Kilkenny native, Alma loves theatre – in particular, musical theatre - and classical music, and is metathesiophobic (fear of mime artists and clowns).

MICHELLE BROWN – a native of Roscommon, travelled throughout Australia, New Zealand and Asia before moving to Kilkenny in 2001 to start her career with Deutsche Bank, which was subsequently acquired by State Street. She has over 20 years' experience in working in the Financial Industry and is a Vice President in Transfer Agency. She has a Bachelor of Agricultural Science - (BAgrSc) Agribusiness and Rural development from UCD and while she no longer works in the Agricultural industry she enjoys supporting on her family Christmas tree farm, that runs a choose and cut business during December. Her main hobby is beekeeping but enjoys all sports and was involved in coaching her local athletic club for many years. Throughout her years in State Street she has been involved in many charitable events with Make a Wish, Oxfam and the Ronald McDonald foundation.

ORLAITH TREACY is a curator and creative producer from Kilkenny. Orlaith is passionate about engaging communities in active participation and collaboration in the arts. Orlaith creates, develops and collaborates with artists, arts organisations and communities on projects that draw people together in public spaces and places. Orlaith has an MA in Curating Contemporary Art from [Limerick School of Art and Design](#). In 2021, she completed a postgraduate level 9 course in [Cultural Event Management with IADT Dun Laoghaire](#). She has received support from the Arts Council of Ireland, Kilkenny County Council Arts Office and Creative Ireland. She is currently Creative Producer with [Carlow Arts Festival](#) largely focusing on ASSEMBLY, the arts participation and community engagement strand of Carlow Arts Festival.

MALCOLM NOONAN is an Irish Green Party politician who has served as a Minister of State since July 2020 and as a Teachta Dála (TD) for the Carlow–Kilkenny constituency since February 2020. Before entering politics, Noonan worked for twenty years as a community and environmental activist with Friends of the Earth. He was a member of Kilkenny County Council for the Kilkenny local electoral area from 2004 to 2020 and was Mayor of Kilkenny from 2009 to 2010, working hard over that time to help create sustainable communities. He is involved in the local arts scene as a musician and illustrator, and volunteers with local festivals. Malcolm has been Chairperson of the St Patrick's Day/Tradfest Committee in Kilkenny. Malcolm is married to Jennie, a community and family support worker to the Traveller Community. They have four children.

MARY CODY is a native of Cork city. She moved to Kilkenny in 2005 to take up the position of senior journalist with the Kilkenny People. She has a deep love of theatre and has been involved in amateur theatre since her arrival in Kilkenny. An active member of Barnstorm's amateur acting group, Barn Owl Players, she has performed in several productions including Brian Friel's *Dancing at Lughnasa*, staged at the Watergate Theatre in 2012. Mary is involved in other community groups, including Project Women which focuses on what it means to be a woman in Ireland today. She is an active fundraiser for a number of charities, and has completed marathons and other events to raise awareness and funds for a variety of causes. Mary graduated from University College Cork with an honours degree in Law and has written for numerous publications and media including RTE, The Irish Times, The Irish Independent and The Irish Examiner.