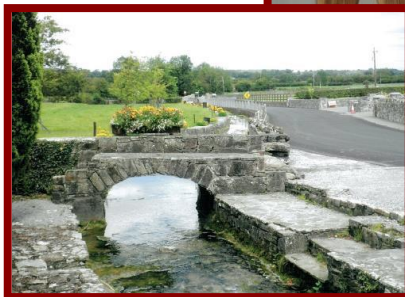


The Cathaoirleach Awards 2018



**Galway County Council & Galway County PPN
Supporting Communities**

Tá an cháipéis seo le fáil i nGaeilge chomh maith. Féach ar www.galwaycountypnn.ie/awards/

Introduction

On behalf of Galway County Council I am delighted to be hosting the 2016 Cathaoirleach's Community Awards (previously the Mayor's Awards).

'Community & voluntary activity is thriving in County Galway and it is important that this is acknowledged and rewarded. I am delighted to be working with the Galway County Council & Galway County Public Participation Network on these Awards and I am looking forward to presenting the awards to the winners on the night'.

Cllr. Eileen Mannion

Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway

What are the Cathaoirleach's Community Awards?

The Awards recognise and celebrate the work that individuals, groups, organisations & schools in County Galway (excluding the City) contribute to their communities. There are 9 Award categories in total. We are now seeking nominations for each Award category.

What are the 9 Categories?

1. Environmental Award

This category recognises *groups or schools* who have worked within their community to improve the environment around them or reduce their impact on the environment.

2. Sports Award

This category recognises *groups or schools* who have focused on increasing the number of people participating in sport.

3. Arts & Culture Award

This category recognises the work that *groups* have done to encourage and promote arts and culture in their community.

4. Heritage Publication Award

This category recognises the efforts that *community groups* have made to research, record and promote the heritage of their area.

5. Best Contribution to Heritage Award

This category recognises the efforts that *community groups and schools* have made to the heritage of their area.

6. Best Contribution to the Irish Language

This category recognises the efforts that *community groups & schools* have made to preserve, promote or increase the use of Irish. This award covers both Gaeltacht & non Gaeltacht areas.

7. Social Inclusion Award

This category recognises the efforts of community groups which have sought to be inclusive in their work in the community. Groups make an impact in their community by addressing social issues that improve the quality of life of groups such as the *Elderly, People with Disabilities, Ethnic Minorities, Migrants, members of the Traveller Community, Women, Men, Young People, People experiencing Homelessness & those living in Rural Isolation.*

8. Community Facilities Award

This category is open to groups involved in the management of community facilities. A community facility provides for the social, recreational, economic and/or cultural needs of the community. Such facilities can be used for a range of community initiatives. The group should demonstrate the positive impact their facility has made within their local community.

9. Volunteer of the Year Award

This category recognises the outstanding contribution that an *individual* volunteer has made to their community in 2017 & 2018. This category is open to a volunteer who makes significant contributions towards representing their communities. The Volunteer should have brought about positive change & added value to community life through leadership on a community related issue & development of local initiatives.

How do I Nominate?

1. There is one nomination form for all categories.
2. State which category you are making the nomination for on the form. An individual or group can be eligible ONLY under one category.
3. Please apply online www.galwaycountypn.ie/awards/ or email awards@galwaycoco.ie for a nomination form.
4. Read the questions carefully. Section A is information regarding the group or person being nominated. Section B is information regarding the person making the nomination.
5. You may upload extra information or photos at the end of your online application form. If emailing extra information and photos please drop them into a word document and convert to pdf or into a power point presentation and convert to pdf. The assessment will be based on the information provided on the form and any extra information given.
6. Closing date for receipt of nomination forms is **4pm Thursday, May 3rd, 2018.**

What Happens then?

1. The Awards will be independently assessed after the closing date.
2. Each category will be short listed to 5 nominees and a winner will be chosen.
3. The shortlisted nominees will be invited to the Cathaoirleach's Community Awards Ceremony on May 31st in the Station House Hotel, Clifden where the winners will be announced and presented with their Awards and prize money. All nominees shortlisted in their categories will receive a certificate signed by the Cathaoirleach.

What is the Prize?

All winners will be presented with a specially commissioned prestigious Cathaoirleach's Community Award hand crafted by a local Galway craft producer.

Winners will also receive a prize of €500 to use for their work.

Are there any Conditions?

The following conditions apply:

1. The Cathaoirleach's Community Awards will be held on the evening of May 31st in the Station House Hotel, Clifden. The shortlisted nominees must be present on the night where the winner will be announced. Short listed nominees will be notified in advance.
2. Nominated groups & individuals should based and operate in Galway County (excluding the City).
3. Groups and individuals may nominate themselves.
4. When nominating an individual or group, please ensure that the nominee had been notified and that they agree to their nomination.
5. Nominations will only be considered on the official nomination form and received by the above closing date.
6. Nominations can be made online at www.galwaycountypn.ie/awards.

Judging

Awards will be decided by an independent judging panel. The judges' decision will be final and made on the information supplied as part of your nomination form (and supporting documentation) only.

For queries please contact:

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**Deadline for receipt of
Nominations is 4pm, Thursday,
May 3rd, 2018.**