



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council



Galway County
Public
Participation
Network

Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Phoiblí
Chontae na Gaillimhe

Galway County Council

In partnership with

Galway County Public Participation Network

Invite Nominations for

The Cathaoirleach's Awards 2022

Celebrating voluntary activity in communities across County Galway



Introduction

On behalf of Galway County Council, I am delighted to launch the Cathaoirleach's Awards 2022.

There is a huge amount of community & voluntary activity ongoing in County Galway, and it is important that this is acknowledged and rewarded. The Cathaoirleach's Awards are our annual initiative to acknowledge the commitment of individuals and groups who participate in community and voluntary activities and the significant impact their actions have on quality of life in their communities.

I am delighted to be working with the Council & Galway County Public Participation Network on these Awards and I look forward to announcing the winners in due course.

Cllr. Peter Keaveney

Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway

Award Categories

The Cathaoirleach's Awards recognise and celebrate the work that individuals, groups, organisations & schools in County Galway contribute to their communities.

We are now seeking nominations for each Award category numbered below:

1. Volunteer of the Year Award

This category recognises the outstanding contribution that an individual volunteer has made to their local community. Every community has individuals who are boundless in their energy and determination to get things done – so nominate those unsung heroes who encourage, support, lead and inspire others in your community.

2. Arts & Culture Award

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

3. Best Contribution to Heritage Award

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

4. 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.

5. Environment & Climate Action 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.

6. Heritage Publication Award

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

7. Social Inclusion Award

This category recognises *groups or facilities* which support people within the community to participate in social and community activities, particularly those who may be socially excluded.

8. Sports Award

This category recognises *groups or schools* who have focused on increasing the number of people participating in sport, particularly those with low participation rates.

Pride of Place Awards

The 2 communities selected to represent County Galway in the All-Island IPB Pride of Place Awards will be recognised at the Cathaoirleach Awards.

Tidy Towns Recognition Award

This Award will recognise the achievements of Tidy Towns Groups in the National Competition. Note: there is no public nomination process and shortlisting will be done internally by Galway County Council.

Judging Process

All nominations will be adjudicated by an independent Judging Panel. As part of the adjudication process, the Judging Panel reserve the right to re-categorise nominations to an alternative Award Category if deemed appropriate.

The decisions of the Judging Panels will be final.

Awards Process

- Each category will be shortlisted to 5 nominees who will receive a Certificate signed by the Cathaoirleach.
- A winner will be chosen from the shortlisted nominees in each category who will receive a specially commissioned Award hand-crafted by a local craft producer and a cash prize of €500 to use for their work.
- All nominees will be invited to an online ceremony where the winners of each category will be announced.

How do I nominate?

1. There is a separate Nomination Form for Individuals and Groups – nominations will only be accepted on these official Nomination Forms.
2. Groups can self-nominate for a project or activity they are carrying out or can be nominated by a third-party individual or group.
3. Individuals cannot self-nominate or be nominated by a family member – nominations must be made by a Community Group or third-party individual.
4. When nominating an Individual or Group, please ensure they have been notified and agree to the nomination before you submit the Nomination Form.
5. Groups can enter under one Award Category only.
6. Read the questions carefully and ensure you provide as much detail as possible about the Individual or Group's voluntary activities, achievements, the difference they have made to the local community and the reasons why they deserve the Award.
7. You may provide links to social media images or documents to support your nomination.

General Terms & Conditions

1. The shortlisted nominees must be present at the Ceremony where the winners are announced and will be notified in advance (Ceremony for 2022 Awards will be held online).
2. Any nominated Individuals and Groups must be based and operating in County Galway (Galway City-based individuals and Groups cannot be considered).
3. These Awards relate to activities which are carried out on a voluntary basis only (paid work / positions cannot be considered).
4. Nominations must be received on or before the closing date.

**All completed Nomination Forms
must be submitted by e-mail to
awards@galwaycoco.ie**

**The Closing Date for receipt of
Nomination Forms is
Friday 6th May 2022.**