

# *Junior Chamber Galway*

*Cumann Sóisearach na Gaillimhe*



## **INVITATION**

We would be delighted if you or your representative could attend  
**Junior Chamber Galway's Outstanding Young Persons Awards ceremony**  
**hosted by the Mayor in City Hall at 6.30pm on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June.**

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## **NEWS**

Issued Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2003

### **City Hall to host Junior Chamber Galway's Outstanding Young Persons Awards Ceremony**

Junior Chamber Galway will recognise three of Galway's outstanding young people at a mayoral reception in City Hall, College Road on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm. The Young Person of the Year Award is a National Award run by Junior Chamber Ireland to recognise the achievements of some of the state's young people, in ten different categories.

Three finalists have been chosen to represent Galway and will be recognised for their various achievements and officially nominated to go forward to compete in the national heats of "The Outstanding Young Person" competition, which will take place at Junior Chamber Ireland National Convention in Galway in October.

#### *The Galway finalists are:*

Ruairí O'Toole was nominated in the category for personal improvement and/or accomplishment. Ruairí was born with Down syndrome and had a major heart-saving operation when he was two years old. While attending St. Joseph's Special School he trained as a competitive swimmer and has won medals locally, nationally and internationally. With the help of his brothers he developed a great interest in kayaking and as a result of great determination is competing in the Special Olympics 2003 as part of the Irish kayaking team.

Gearóidín Burke has been nominated for academic leadership and/or accomplishment. Gary as she is better known was born with visual impairment and was diagnosed as having non-correctable eyesight with permanent damage of the optic nerve. She attended the National University of Ireland and received a first class honours degree in International Commerce. She is now studying as a trainee tax consultant with KPMG, Dublin one of the top firms in Ireland.

Liam Dilleen has been nominated for business, economic, and/or entrepreneurial accomplishment. While studying for a degree in civil engineering at NUIG an opportunity arose for Liam to set up his own business which resulted in the well-known Terryland Furniture store. Liam buys his stock directly from manufacturers around the world and after four years of working in the business and travelling to source furniture he had firmly established Terryland Furniture as one of the top furniture stores in Galway. In order to further expand he set about extending his premises by 14,000 sq. ft. with a new layout, décor and new stock. From January 2003 the EZ Living franchise replaced Terryland Furniture plans are already in place for a second store based in Limerick.

The outstanding young person is an international competition. The national winners will represent Ireland at the Junior Chamber International World Congress in Copenhagen in November 2003.

For more information on this competition or any other Junior Chamber events/projects check out the junior chamber website at [www.juniorchambergalway.ie](http://www.juniorchambergalway.ie) or phone Rosemarie on (087) 2772883.

### **Background Information**

Junior Chamber Ireland, in association with Pepsi, invites nominations of candidates between 18 and 40 years of age from the Galway area. The Young Person of the Year Award is a National Award run by Junior Chamber Ireland to recognise the achievements of some of the State's young people, in the following ten categories:

- ◆ Business, economic, and/or entrepreneurial accomplishment
- ◆ Political, legal, and/or governmental affairs
- ◆ Academic leadership and/or accomplishment
- ◆ Cultural achievement
- ◆ Moral and/or environmental leadership
- ◆ Contribution to children, world peace, and/or human rights
- ◆ Humanitarian and/or voluntary leadership
- ◆ Scientific and/or technological development
- ◆ Personal improvements and/or accomplishments
- ◆ Medical Innovation

### **In 2002 Junior Chamber Galway nominated the following people:**

#### *Political, Legal, and/or Governmental Affairs*

Mr. James McNabb for his successful campaign in obtaining funds for the Ábalta School for autistic children.

#### *Personal Improvement and/or Accomplishment*

Mrs. Maggie Woods for her positive outlook on life as a survivor of Thalidomide.

#### *Humanitarian and Voluntary Leadership*

Mr. Vincent Casey for his fundraising efforts for the Chernobyl Children's Project.

### **ENDS**

For further information please contact: Máirín O'Reilly, Public Relations Officer, Junior Chamber Galway, 091 769018 / 087 2407903, [mairinor@gofree.indigo.ie](mailto:mairinor@gofree.indigo.ie), [pro@juniorchambergalway.com](mailto:pro@juniorchambergalway.com)