



Galway Young Entrepreneur 2003

Junior Chamber Galway

In association with Galway Advertiser



Press Release

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Junior Chamber Galway begins search for Young Entrepreneur of the Year...

Are you an innovative, aspiring, ambitious entrepreneur...waiting to be recognised and awarded for your success? Well, now's your chance to avail of the recognition, training, prestige and publicity associated with Galway's premier competition for business owners...the search has begun for the Junior Chamber Galway Young Entrepreneur 2003.

Now in its' fifth year, the Galway Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award competition was launched last night (Wednesday 10th September) by Mayor of Galway Cllr. Terry O' Flaherty in The Livingroom, Bridge St., Galway. The launch was attended by last year's winner, Mike O'Connor of Bellissimo, representatives from Price Waterhouse Coopers as well as former competition entrants and winners, a cross section of the local business community, business support and consultancy agencies, and Junior Chamber members, who all gathered to receive information on this years' competition. Speaking at the launch, Mayor of Galway Cllr. Terry O'Flaherty encouraged young entrepreneurs to put themselves forward, primarily for the experience and opportunities it offers, whether they are winners or not. She acknowledged and praised the efforts of Junior Chamber, Price Waterhouse Coopers and the Galway Advertiser for running a competition which actively seeks to recognise and reward those who have taken a risk to go it alone in business.

Giving Recognition and Encouragement

The competition aims to recognise and encourage entrepreneurial accomplishment in the Galway region, and works on the same ethos of opportunity upon which Junior Chamber is based. 'The competition highlights the accomplishments of entrepreneurs and rewards entrepreneurial endeavour in Galway, and thus acts as a means of encouraging and developing indigenous, sustainable employment, which is vital to the region in the current economic climate,' said Fiona Glynn, President of Junior Chamber Galway who thanked both the Galway Advertiser and Price Waterhouse Coopers for their continuous support over the years, which has contributed greatly to the growth and success of the competition.

Guest speaker of the night was last year's winner of the Galway Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Mr. Mike O'Connor, of Bellissimo. He spoke of the encouragement he received through the award he had won the previous year, through which he came to realise the benefits of being involved in such a great competition. He encouraged other young business people to participate as he had found the process most beneficial. Mike O'Connor's success story is truly inspiring for anyone considering setting up their own business.

Junior Chamber Galway - "Entrepreneurs in Action"

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Galway Advertiser and Price Waterhouse Coopers

The winner of the competition receives a Price Waterhouse Coopers Consultancy package to the value of €5000, which is a hugely significant addition to any company, offering an invaluable amount of financial advice and consultancy, essential to the continual and further development of any business. The prize also includes extensive coverage in the Galway Advertiser, an aspect of the prize which has attracted many entrants and winners to the competition, and gives a huge amount of company promotion to the winner of the competition.

Competition details

The competition is open to anyone between the ages of 18 and 40 years, who are owners/managers and are primarily responsible for the performance of their business. The nominated business must also be operational for a minimum of one year and located within County Galway. Entrants are encouraged to nominate themselves or if you know someone suitable maybe you could nominate them. Entry is free of charge.

Over the next month entrants will be assessed by an independent panel of judges by means of written application forms and interviews. They will examine each company under such areas as innovation of business practices, operating success, growth and strategy. Finalists will be announced on 6th October ...so watch this space! They will then be short-listed and the award recipient will be announced at an awards ceremony in The Radisson SAS Hotel, Galway on the Thursday 9th of October. The Award Ceremony which will be open to the public, will be an evening event, with guest speakers who will recount their experiences in the entrepreneurial world. The last leg of the judging takes place in the Radisson SAS with finalists giving a short presentation on their business, and their story so far. The highlight of the event will be the awards dinner, culminating in the announcement of this years winner of the Junior Chamber Galway Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

Previous Winners

Previous winners of the competition include Gene Browne, of The City Bin Company (Winner 1999) Michael Dawson Arqtech Laboratories (winner 2000) and David Welby of Fitness 2000, (winner 2001).

If you feel you would benefit from the experience this prestigious competition has to offer then contact Fiona Glynn at 087 2382326 / Ann Martyn at 091 509744 or Deirdre Timoney email dtimoney@siebel.com for more information. You can also write to Junior Chamber Galway, Young Entrepreneur Competition, P.O. Box 99, Galway, for an entry form or visit our website @ www.juniorchambergalway.com/gye. Closing date for receipt of applications is Monday 29th September, 2003.

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For further information please contact:

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