



Junior Chamber Galway Young Entrepreneur 2004



NEWS

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Galway Man, JCI Ireland National President 2004 Eugene Garvin encourages nominations for the Young Entrepreneur Competition 2004

'I would encourage young businesses to get involved in this competition because those who have got involved in the past have not only received invaluable publicity but they are encouraged and rewarded for their entrepreneurial accomplishments.'

Eugene Garvin, from Kingston Galway, National President JCI Ireland spends all of his spare time working in a voluntary capacity on Junior Chamber business, between national meetings, training events, motivating members and visiting all the other branches nationwide, representing Ireland at the regular European and international meetings as well as attending conventions. Of course everywhere he goes he is an ambassador for Galway and will always carry copies of the very popular JCI Galway Tourist Guide to distribute and to encourage people to holiday in Galway.

Garvin was born in the sixties in Galway City, grew up in Newcastle and was a student at the Jesuit College, Sea Road. He continued on to University College Galway where he graduated with a First Class Honours Degree in Electronic Engineering and joined Nortel Networks as a Graduate Design Engineer, where he still works, now as a Senior Development Manager working on Nortel Network's range of Contact Center Applications.

Eugene joined Junior Chamber in Galway in 1995 and served on the local council as Membership Officer in 1996 and in 2000 as joint Development Officer before taking the role of Chapter President of Junior Chamber Galway in 2001. He chaired the Galway Young Entrepreneur of the Year Project in 2002 and left his mark on the project which has built in status over the years.

Eugene joined the National Board of Junior Chamber Ireland in 2003 as Director of Business Affairs and became President of Junior Chamber Ireland at the AGM in Galway in January 2004.

His main aim for this year has been to expand the organisation into parts of the country where it has never existed before as well as re-kindling the organisation where it has declined in recent years. It has required a lot of hard work but with the help of members and other voluntary officers, only 6 months into 2004 the fruits of all the effort are already apparent. The JCI branch in Tullamore has been re-established and work is underway on completing the re-establishment of branches in Sligo, New Ross, Athenry, Athlone and

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Castlebar. 'My goal is to bring this wonderful organisation (and the opportunities it provides) to as many young people around the country as possible. Junior Chamber is an excellent means for individuals to develop themselves and it also provides tangible benefits to the communities in which it is located. Unfortunately, many young adults around the country cannot find an appropriate outlet for their talents and free time and Junior Chamber needs to reach out to them,' said Garvin.

Eugene sees Junior Chamber as 'one of Ireland's best kept secrets' and last year he engaged Anglo Irish Bank to secure sponsorship with a view to increasing the profile countrywide. With Anglo's support, more professional marketing material was produced and a very comprehensive website developed.

As Senior Development Manager working on Nortel Networks range of Contact Center Applications Eugene has a very demanding position. In spite of long hours at work under pressure, he manages to juggle his one year opportunity as president between his personal and work life. All his holiday leave this year will be taken up with Junior Chamber activities.

Later this year the World Convention will take place in Fukuoka in Japan, Eugene will attend with a delegation from Ireland. At that event the new World President will be elected and for the first time in thirty years Ireland has a candidate, a Cobh man, Kevin Cullinane who (all going to plan) will be elected President 2005. Its exciting times for Junior Chamber International Ireland.

Eugene will finish his year as National President in January with huge sigh of satisfaction. Previously, he was honoured with the title of JCI Senator, in acknowledgement of his contribution to JCI, Eugene, will have a life long connection with the organisation and has stated that he will continue to make himself available to help out as required. 'I look forward to my retirement in JCI and to watching a new generation of young entrepreneurs and leaders develop themselves within the organisation and in doing so help make Galway and Ireland a better place to live in. My only regret is that I didn't join earlier,' concluded Garvin.

Where next?

'As the Immediate Past President, I will still be heavily involved in the organisation next year and it promises to be a busy one! Barring a catastrophe we should have an Irish World President and next year's major International conferences are quite close to home (Poitiers, France for European Convention and Vienna, Austria for World Convention) so that should make for some larger than usual Irish delegations. My successor will be continuing the expansion program started this year and I will continue to be involved in that. JCI Ireland won't be re-built in a year so there is still much work to be done.

Background

Junior Chamber International Ireland is a not-for-profit worldwide organisation of young leaders and entrepreneurs aged 18 - 40. Representing countless occupations, it develops new skills while contributing to the local community, laying new foundations and establishing new businesses and social networks. Through training, members master the

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roles of managers, visionaries, coaches, ambassadors and learners by participating in hands-on training workshops. JCI members can learn and grow by participating in countless and varied projects that benefit communities locally and worldwide.

Members in Galway join for many reasons, to network, to chair projects and thus develop their leadership skills, to meet like-minded people, to attend the many interesting seminars and training events, to have the opportunity to travel and most of all to do things they wouldn't otherwise have the opportunity to do. This year the chapter has chaired and been involved in many interesting projects benefiting the local community. To name just a few 'Ten Outstanding Young People', 'The Galway Tourist Guide', 'School Interview Techniques', 'Easter Egg Project', 'The Galway Telethon' and currently the 'Young Entrepreneur of the Year Competition'.

Inviting nominations for the Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2004

Junior Chamber in association with the Galway Advertiser is currently inviting nominations for the Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2004. The closing date for applications is Friday the 29th of October. The adjudication process will take place during the second week of November when the finalists will be announced. The overall winner will receive his/her award at a special ceremony on November 18th.

If you feel you would benefit from the experience this prestigious competition has to offer then contact Fiona Glynn at 087 2382326 / Wendy Freeney at 086 4011788 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 Friday 29th October, 2004

Junior Chamber International Galway meets at 8pm on the second Tuesday each month at the Ardilaun House Hotel, Taylor's Hill, Galway

For more information please go to www.jci-ireland.org and www.juniorchambergalway.com

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