

**Kanturk Arts Festival 2017**  
**Schools Art Competition**

Theme: **What If?**

(310 Entries)

Five Categories:

Three Primary:

2<sup>nd</sup> Class

3<sup>rd</sup> Class

4<sup>th</sup> Class

Two Second Level:

Junior Cycle

Senior Cycle

The overall winner was selected from the five Category Winners

Each Category was narrowed down to:

Winner

Highly Commended

Commended

# **Adjudicator's Report**

## **Theme: What If?**

### **General Remarks:**

I'm delighted to have been asked, once again, to adjudicate the Schools' Art Competition. This marks the ninth year of the Arts Festival, and indeed, this competition. Each year so far, has had its own identifying qualities, and this year is no exception.

The standard of entries received this year has been more uniform than in other years. The 310 entries divided up fairly evenly for primary level, but for post-primary, there was a surprise, namely a huge entry of first-years and a very small entry from Transition year students. These were the only entries from second-level! Criteria for the category divisions, varies from year to year, and this may have been a factor, who knows?

I am happy to pay tribute to the Teachers, the Volunteers and the entrants. This competition depends on the generosity of each of these three groups of people.

The importance of the involvement of the teachers cannot be stressed enough. The encouragement, practical assistance and the administration of their pupils' entries, has been a large part of the success of this event, over the years.

Behind-the-scenes work, by the volunteers, from many months ago, could easily pass, unnoticed, yet, if they didn't chip in their time and effort, we wouldn't see the works displayed for the pleasure of the town.

It goes without saying that if there were no entrants, there would be no competition, or exhibition, so I must thank them too for their involvement and ask those still eligible next year, to submit – you never know how close your work comes to being commended, or indeed, winning!

Kanturk Credit Union's continuing involvement is also to be noted and applauded. It means a lot that a local business is supporting local effort. Development of local talent ultimately feeds back into the local community and benefits that community!

*John Philip Murray, Lissardagh, 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017*

## Overall and category winners

This year's **Overall Winner: Laura Enright**, is a pupil in 4<sup>th</sup> class at Kanturk Convent Primary School.

This year's theme for the competition, "What If?", allowed students free rein as to interpretation. Some chose material goods, or fantasies, others saw the opportunity to see far beyond themselves. Our overall winner falls into the latter category.

Laura has kept the number of elements in her picture to a minimum, allowing each part to tell its own story without distraction. Laura's pastel centres around a bright, optimistic, head and shoulders image of a young girl, who looks directly at us with bright green eyes and a slightly serious smiling expression. (A difficult thing for even an experienced painter to achieve!) Laura has positioned the girl against a backdrop of multi-coloured circles, forming a unified visual carpet. Her subtle, 'eye-catcher' is a side-on view of a small white bird, taking off, positioned between the young girl and ourselves. The white bird looks to me like a dove, the universal symbol of Peace. So, very gently, Laura has embedded a little message of hope in to her picture. We are not being hectored, but there is great strength in this picture.

A worthy winner!



## Primary:

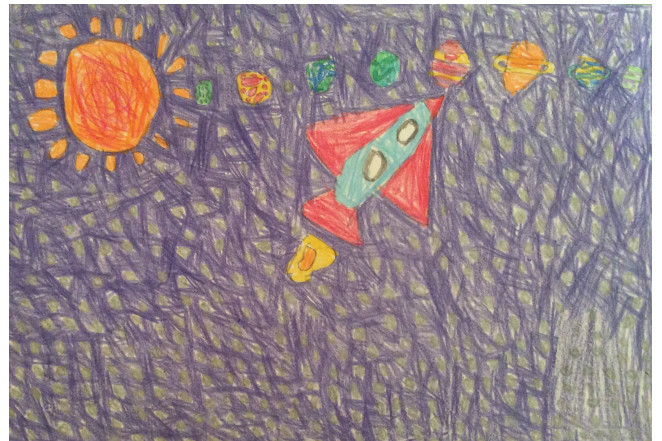
### 2<sup>nd</sup> Class winner:

“What if?” for the winner of the second class category, Darragh Crowley, is captured in a vivid portrait of a formidable-looking pirate, complete with eye-patch, stringy beard and hair, the requisite scars and grim frowning mouth, all topped by a jaunty bandana of red with yellow spots. The two-tone colouring of the face is consistent with the strong areas of bright colour in the pirate’s clothes and background. Fearless drawing, just like his subject!



### 3<sup>rd</sup> Class winner:

The winner in this category is Edel O'Donoghue. Her “What if?” takes the viewer into a gentle space. She describes a rocketship floating near a perfectly aligned solar system. All of this action happens within the upper third of the page, the whole of which is covered by a purple/blue/violet sky/space. This has been realised by careful, yet beautifully free, colouring, which indicates a pattern of slightly lighter coloured nebulae to shimmer across the surface.



### 4<sup>th</sup> Class winner:

The winner of the fourth class category is Laura Enright, also the overall winner, about whose work I have written earlier.





## Second Level:

### Junior Cycle Winner

The winner of the junior cycle category is Sarah O'Keeffe. Sarah's picture comprises three colourfully attired girls with their backs to us. They are facing a multitude of equally colourful hot air balloons in flight. Pleasingly, the balloons vary in size, so that girls and balloons become part of a lively all-over pattern. Each individual girl and balloon is rendered with care and precision. For example, in the case of the girls, this manifests itself in the tonal variations of their shiny hair. Thus, we are able to enjoy this picture from afar, for the overall pattern-making, while still being able to see the skilful drawing of the individual items, from close-up.



### Senior Cycle Winner

The winner of the senior cycle category is a clever painting by Samantha O'Dea. Her "What if?" blends the notion of time with landscape. One of these apparently unmoving, the other ticking away relentlessly. The setting is roughly divided into three bands, a dull blue sky, a plain, mountainy green land and a rocky foreground, out of which protrudes a leafless tree. There is a surreal hand at the centre of the composition, balancing a pocket watch, which has been equipped with the double wings of a dragonfly. Further away, a woolly mammoth is striding.....either, towards us, or the signifier of time.....Who knows?



## **Overall Winner**

Name	School
Laura Enright	Convent Primary School, Kanturk

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Class**

Name	School
------	--------

### **Winner**

Darragh Crowley	Kilbrin
-----------------	---------

### **Highly Commended**

Rhys Casey	Kilbrin
Conor Harrington	Kilbrin
Eoin Scully	Kilbrin
Rosemarie Moynihan	Lismire
Emma Higgins	Kanturk Girls NS

### **Commended**

Cathal Foley	Banteer
Eimear O'Connor	Kilbrin
Isabella Llerena	Lismire
Zoe O'Connor	Kanturk
Holly Harris	Banteer
Karolina Dlubala	Kanturk
Oran Lyons	Banteer

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Class**

Name	School
------	--------

#### **Winner**

Edel O'Donoghue	Banteer
-----------------	---------

#### **Highly Commended**

Rory Sheehy	Banteer
Karolina Woloszy	Kanturk
Brannagh McMahon	Eoin Baiste
Naglis Vaivada	St. Colman's Boys NS

#### **Commended**

Gavin Finn	Lismire
Rachel Jordon	Kanturk
Ryan O'Leary	Scoil Eoin
Marianne Nilson	Kilbrin

## **4<sup>th</sup> Class**

Name	School
------	--------

### **Winner (and overall winner)**

Laura Enright	Convent Primary School, Kanturk
---------------	---------------------------------

### **Highly Commended**

Kaylagh O'Reilly	Kilbrin
Oisín Bourke	Banteer
Sean Murphy	Banteer
Juliette Farressy	Banteer
Lana Dugdale	Banteer
Macdara Neenan	Banteer
William Corbett	Kanturk

### **Commended**

Michael Barry	Kanturk
Charlie Barry	Kanturk
Paddy Duggan	Kanturk
Darragh Flynn	Banteer



**Junior Cycle**  
**(All First Year)**

Name

School

**Winner**

Sarah O'Keeffe

**Highly Commended**

Sophie O'Callaghan	Scoil Mhuire
Hayley Buckley	Scoil Mhuire
Gemma Gunne	Scoil Treasa
Holly Lynch	Scoil Treasa
Nancy Linehan	Scoil Treasa
Joshua Drumm	Scoil Mhuire
Amy Lehane	Scoil Treasa
Amy Browne	Scoil Treasa
Michelle O'Neill	Scoil Mhuire
Niamh Dineen	Scoil Treasa
Rosa O'Sullivan	Scoil Treasa
Michelle O'Keeffe	Scoil Mhuire
Maoiliosa O'Brien	Scoil Mhuire
Laura Archdeacon	Scoil Mhuire
Clodagh O'Keeffe	Scoil Mhuire

**Senior Cycle**  
**(all Transition Year)**

**Name**

**School**

**Winner**

Samantha O'Dea

Scoil Mhuire

**Highly Commended**

Paula Lissauskaite

Scoil Mhuire