



AIB Get Up & Go National Final

2nd May 2006

The programme was launched in Autumn 2005 and is targeted at providing transition year students with an opportunity to develop the skills required to set up and run a small business. This year's programme saw an increase of students involved by almost 100% to 2,500.

Mr. William Telford, President of Laois Chamber of Commerce presented the prizes to winners in five categories.

The winning entries and schools in each category were:

'Bits & Bobs' Coláiste Lorcan, Castledermot, Co Kildare	1st Stand Presentation
'Rosses Promotions Ltd' Rosses Community School, Dungloe, Co Donegal	1st Accounts
'Classy Clashers' St Mary's, Charleville, Co Cork	1st Originality of Idea
'Fionnteach Muireann' Scoil Mhuire, Clane, Co Kildare	1st Quality of Product
'Y.U.M.' Regina Mundi College, Douglas Road, Cork	1st Marketing

Speaking at the prize giving, Angela Drum, Manager AIB Youth Strategy said, "AIB is delighted to support this particular initiative. Independent Research confirms that Ireland is one of the most entrepreneurial countries in the world and AIB welcomes the opportunity to nurture and foster the spirit of enterprise and business ownership with potential entrepreneurs of the future."

Responsibility for the initiative rests with the Department of Education and Anne Ryan, the National Co-ordinator for the initiative speaking at the final said, "The programme is unique in that it aims to promote the personal, social, educational and vocational development of students and prepare them for their role as autonomous, participative and responsible members of society."

The national finals were facilitated with the help of a number of independent judges who included:

Muireann Ní Mhoráin, Department of Education & Science

Danny Mc Eleney, Donegal County Enterprise Board

Des Ryan, Consumer Information Department ?Financial Regulator

Claire West, Consumer Information Department ?Financial Regulator

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