

## The 2008 Ireland InVOLved Awards Ceremony

November 27, 2008

The awards ceremony for this first annual initiative took place last night in the Shelbourne Hotel in Dublin.

The event was a great success and Volunteering Ireland and sponsor BHP Insurances were delighted to host 30 short listed individuals across ten categories. Newstalk's Claire Byrne, as Master of Ceremonies, did a brilliant job of presenting the 30 nominees and announcing the 10 overall category awardees. Minister of State in the Office of the Taoiseach and Government Chief Whip, Pat Carey spoke eloquently about the impact that volunteers have on Irish Society and presented the final award to Marie Carroll, of Bayside Gymnastics, who will go on to represent Ireland at the European Parliament in Strasbourg, France on the 5th of December for International Volunteer Day.

We are delighted to celebrate the contributions of everyone volunteering in Ireland and especially want to congratulate the ten individuals selected as over all category awardees:

Arts, Culture & Media: Helen Prout, Cork Youth Film Arts Group, Cork

Health & Disability: Ann Lynskey, Ability West, Galway

Children & Young People: Mary Carmel O'Donoghue, The Blue Box Creative Learning Centre, Limerick

Campaigning & Awareness Raising: Ailbe Smyth, National Lesbian & Gay Federation, Dublin 2

Community: Brian Mooney, IRD Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo

Education & Training: Mary Nally, Third Age Foundation, Co. Meath

Social Work: Anthony Fitzgerald, Depaul Trust, Dublin 7

Animals & Environment: Seamus Connor, Clean Cost Project, An Taisce, Bray

International Development: Maureen Forrest, The Hope Foundation, Cork

Sports & Recreation: Marie Carroll, Bayside Gymnastics, Dublin 5

To see the film about Marie and her work visit [UnlockYourPotential.ie](http://UnlockYourPotential.ie)