



Ireland Involved Awards with Specsavers 2009 Fact Sheet

- The Ireland Involved Awards is an awards scheme that makes a difference. It is about showcasing the work of volunteers across the country and celebrating Ireland's volunteers!
- Individuals may be nominated in ten categories: Arts, Culture & Media; Health & Disability; Children & Young People; Campaigning & Awareness Raising; i-Care About My Community; Education & Training; Social Work; Animals & Environment; International Development; Sports & Recreation.
- Thirty individuals (three in each category) will be honoured at an awards event sponsored by the Office of the Taoiseach in Royal Hospital Kilmainham.
- Claire Byrne, co-anchor of Newstalk's Breakfast Show, will be the MC at the awards event.
- The President of Ireland, Mary McAleese will present the award for Irish Volunteer of the Year.
- The Irish Volunteer of the Year will go on to represent Ireland at the European Award for Voluntary Contribution, at the European Parliament in Strasbourg on International Volunteer Day, 5 December.
- 2008's Irish Volunteer of the Year, Marie Carroll, Founder and Director of Bayside Gymnastics, represented Ireland in Strasbourg last year and took home a bronze award.
- Nominating is simple! Call into any of the 34 Specsavers stores in Ireland for an entry form (www.specsavers.ie) or nominate online at www.irelandinvolved.ie

The awards scheme is organised by Volunteering Ireland with sponsorship by Specsavers.

To learn more about the awards in general and all the individuals who were short listed in 2008, please visit www.irelandinvolved.ie





Timetable for the Ireland Involved Awards 2009

Timetable Ireland InVOLved Awards 2009:

13 July Official National Launch Event for Awards (photo shoot)

27 July Nomination period opens

11 September Close of nomination period

5 October Short listed Nominees Notified

5 Oct – 15 Nov Video filming and production time

5 November Awards Event, Royal Hospital Kilmainham

4-6 December European Parliament in Strasbourg, France

