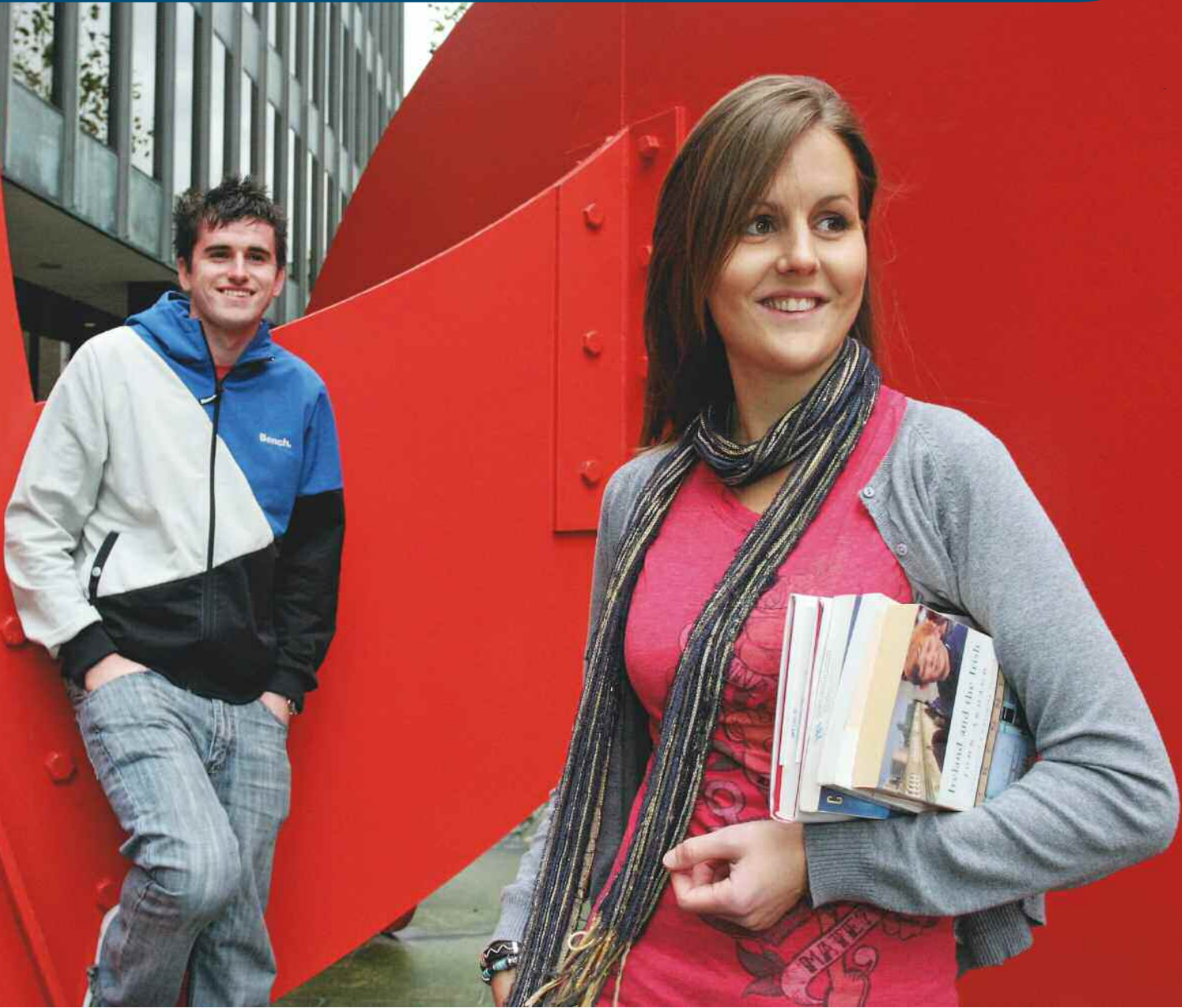


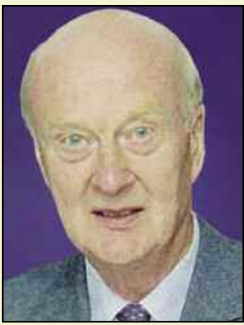
Bank of Ireland 

Millennium Scholars Trust

# Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholars Trust 2009

BANK OF IRELAND  
MILLENNIUM  
SCHOLARS  
TRUST





## A source of motivation and inspiration...

The Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholars Trust is now entering its tenth and final year of awarding scholarships. To date, the Trust has supported a total of 574 students in furthering their education at third-level. Millennium Scholars come from diverse backgrounds, some entering college directly from secondary school, mature students returning to education later in life and young artists challenged to meet the cost of developing their talents at home and abroad.

Over half of the Millennium Scholars chosen since the scheme started in 2000 have already graduated. These hard working and committed graduate scholars are now contributing to the work place or to their communities and are positive and exemplary role models for their families and their wider communities. The achievement of these scholars is often a source of inspiration and motivation for others to pursue their own third-level education ambitions.

We would like to thank the National College of Ireland who play a key part in the continuing success of the Millennium Scholars Trust. Their vital work has developed and grown the body of scholars and graduates.

The Trust relies on and benefits from a number of other contributing groups. There are nearly 1,000 Nominating Bodies that identify, submit and support suitable applicants to the Trust. Educational Panels, coordinated by NCI, review and assess the applications and interview potential scholars before putting forward recommendations to the Trustees. We appreciate the crucial role of all the individuals involved, who give of their time to achieve the objectives of the Trust.

We are also grateful to the Bank of Ireland staff who volunteer their time as mentors to the scholars. Mentors recognise and help develop the skills and strengths of the scholars as they progress through their studies.

I would like to extend a very special thank you to my fellow Trustees, and to a number of people in the Bank of Ireland group, whose advice and personal interest in the development of the Trust have greatly contributed to its success.

Each year many deserving and worthy applications are received by the Trust and while it is not possible to support all those who apply, I would like to wish every applicant the very best of success.

What all scholarship recipients experience is a significant obstacle – whether adverse life circumstance, social disadvantage, financial hardship or serious disability. What the scholars have in common is the belief that education will provide them with the opportunity to move beyond their current circumstances and create opportunities previously only dreamt of. The Trust is about fulfilling those dreams.

Mark Hely Hutchinson  
Chairman of the Trustees

## NATIONAL COLLEGE OF IRELAND

### Special expertise and commitment to education

National College of Ireland administers the Trust on behalf of the Trustees and the Bank of Ireland and advises on all educational aspects of the scheme.

National College of Ireland (NCI) is a not for profit, third-level education institution informed by research and characterised by the diversity of its student body and its strong links to business and the community. Based on the principles of access, opportunity and excellence, the mission of the College is to help students achieve their potential by offering them the opportunity to acquire the skills and the self confidence to change their lives, contribute to a knowledge based economy and become responsible, active citizens.

For more than 50 years, National College of Ireland has provided its graduates with the skills and knowledge to meet the existing and emerging needs of the Irish economy. It has transformed education in a way that is simple, but with extraordinary results. Today, National College of Ireland is a third-level education provider committed to advancing knowledge in its specialist areas of business, HRM, accountancy, finance, computing and community studies. Full and part-time courses in these areas are offered through the College's three Schools; the School of Business, the School of Computing and the School of Community Studies. All full-time programmes are covered under the free-fees initiative and the Higher Education Grant Scheme. A selection of programmes are also available at over 30 off-campus centres.

National College of Ireland is particularly well qualified to administer the Trust based on its mission and belief that widening participation in higher education will make a difference, not just to the lives of individuals and their families, but to the overall social and economic well-being of our society.

*Cover photo: Millennium Scholars 2008 – Alan McHugh, studying Humanities at St. Patrick's College and Aisling Stafford, studying Medicine at UCD.*

*Below: Millennium Scholars 2008 – from left, Aisling Stafford, studying Medicine at UCD and Tracy Obasohan studying Financial Services at NCI.*



# Scholar Profiles



**Sinéad Casey** (19) from Waterford is studying a Bachelor of Science degree in Biological and Chemical Science at University College Cork. She has a great passion and enthusiasm for science and her goal is to enter the field of research in medical microbiology. Sinéad has faced many obstacles in her life, yet she has played an active part in her school and her local community. She is a member of the Civil Defence and a member of the Waterford City Development Board. Sinéad knows what she

wants to achieve and has outstanding academic and personal qualities that will help her reach her goal. A Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholarship will alleviate some of the pressures Sinéad faces in achieving her educational ambitions.



**Alan McHugh** (19) from Kilbarrack, Dublin has chosen to study a three year Bachelor of Arts degree in Humanities at St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra. Alan's sister is a 2006 Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholar. Alan has a deep desire to learn, however his circumstances forced him to become independent at a young age. He is motivated by his goal to become a secondary school teacher, a profession where his strong interpersonal skills and self motivation will serve him well. Alan has huge

potential to achieve excellent results in his degree and his application and focus will help him achieve his aims. A Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholarship will alleviate some of the financial costs associated with Alan's college studies.



**Ronan Raftery** (23) from Co. Dublin, is in the final year of an Honours Bachelor degree in Acting Studies at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. Ronan is a passionately committed and exceptionally gifted actor. He has had to deal with significant financial costs throughout his time at the Academy, but despite the barriers he has faced, Ronan has excelled in his studies. He is determined to finish his course and fulfil his career aspirations. He has the talent and drive to make an exciting

and dynamic contribution to theatre. The Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholarship is providing the financial security Ronan needs to complete his training and begin his career with as solid a foundation as possible.



**Chrissy Dooley** (38) a mature student from Callan, Co. Kilkenny is beginning a four year Bachelor of Arts degree in Local Studies at the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. A single parent of three children, Chrissy left school without any formal qualifications. Over the last four years she has made impressive efforts to improve her education. Chrissy is passionately interested in history and the course, which is primarily history based, will offer her the opportunity to reach her full

potential and qualify as a professional historian or archaeologist in the future. The Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholarship will help alleviate some of the financial barriers Chrissy faces in completing her course.



**Ciara Murphy** (19) from Beara, Co. Cork is studying a four year Bachelor of Engineering degree in Electronic Engineering at the University of Limerick. Ciara is profoundly deaf from birth and depends on lip-reading. Ciara has a great interest in and flair for engineering. She finished as runner up in the Young Scientist 2007 having entered the competition on her own initiative. She finds the subject both challenging and interesting and plans to develop her career in this field.

Ciara has captained her local football team to All-Ireland success and she holds certificates in Personal Survival Techniques and Sea Safety Awareness. Ciara has immense strength of character and purpose. She has overcome many serious obstacles to become a truly inspiring role model. The Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholarship is alleviating some of the financial costs associated with Ciara's college studies.



**Gavin Hennessy** (21) from Tralee, Co. Kerry is in his second year of a four year Bachelor of Science degree in International Development and Food Policy at University College Cork. He is from a single parent family, raised with his sibling and four cousins and is the first in his family to progress to third-level education. Gavin has outstanding leadership qualities. He is co-founder of the International Development Society at UCC and more recently helped

organise a party of student volunteer aid workers to document and research an Algerian refugee camp in the Sahara Desert. His ultimate career goal is to become a front-line worker for the United Nations. Gavin has a great capacity for work and is involved with a wide variety of voluntary and development based activities. He has already made a difference to many people's lives and the Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholarship is supporting him to complete his studies so that he can achieve his admirable goals.



**David Murray** (31) from Blanchardstown, Dublin is studying a three year Bachelor of Science degree in Horticulture at Blanchardstown Institute of Technology. He plans on setting up his own landscaping business after completing his degree. David has overcome many obstacles in achieving his educational goals. He has worked hard to complete the necessary requirements to secure a place on his course. David takes great pride in his work and involves himself on

a weekly basis in volunteer activities including gardening and sport in his local community. The Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholarship will ease some of the financial challenges that David now faces in his third-level studies.



**Tracy Obasohan** (23) originally from Nigeria and living in Dublin, is studying a Bachelor of Arts degree in Financial Services at the National College of Ireland. Tracy plans to become a financial analyst or adviser and one day hopes to undertake an MSc in Financial Analysis. Tracy has much potential, achieving first class honours in the Higher Certificate in Business, enabling her to progress into year two of the Bachelor of Arts in Financial Services. Tracy has contributed greatly to her community,

acting as class representative, and doing voluntary work for the St Vincent de Paul and Concern. Tracy is also involved in her college peer mentor programme: a facility to help integrate first year students into college life. The Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholarship is easing some of the financial challenges associated with Tracy's third-level educational expenses.

## Nominating Bodies of Scholars 2008

Assumption Grammar School, Ballynahinch  
 Beara Community School, Castletownbere  
 Blanchardstown Area Partnership  
 Bunclody Vocational College  
 CBS Kilkenny  
 Callan Community Network  
 Cambridge House Grammar School  
 Carlow College St Patrick's  
 Colaiste An Spioraid Naoimh, Bishopstown  
 Colaiste Chroi Mhuire, An Spideal  
 Colaiste Na Trocaire  
 College of Dance  
 DCU Access Service  
 Deelee College  
 Doras Luimini Limerick  
 Dublin Inner City Partnership  
 Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology  
 Dundrum College  
 Finglas Cabra Partnership  
 Friends' School, Lisburn  
 Galway Youth Federation  
 Grosvenor Grammar School  
 Guildhall School of Music and Drama  
 Hartstown Community School  
 Kylemore College, Ballyfermot  
 Limerick Community Based Educational Initiative  
 Limerick Institute of Technology  
 Loreto College, Crumlin  
 Loreto Secondary School, Navan  
 Mercy Secondary School, Mounthawk  
 Mercy Secondary School, Ballymahon

National College of Ireland  
 Our Lady's Secondary School, Castleblaney  
 Pearse College of Further Education  
 Presentation Secondary School, Sexton Street  
 Presentation Secondary School, Waterford City  
 Royal Academy of Dramatic Art  
 Royal Irish Academy of Music  
 Sacred Heart School, Tullamore  
 Scoil Mhuire, Carrick-on-Suir  
 Society of St Vincent de Paul, Ballina  
 St Dominic's Secondary School, Ballyfermot  
 St Fintan's High School, Sutton  
 St Joseph's College, Athlone  
 St Louis Community School, Kiltimagh  
 St Louise's Comprehensive College, Belfast  
 St Mary's Secondary School, New Ross  
 St Oliver's Community College, Drogheda  
 St Patrick's College, Drumcondra  
 St Paul's Secondary School, Greenhills  
 Students' Union, NUI Galway  
 Tallaght Partnership  
 TRAIL  
 Trinity Access Programmes  
 UCC Department of Music  
 UCC Plus (Formerly UCC Access Programme)  
 University of Limerick Access Office  
 University of Ulster, Magee

## Review of the Year 2008

Established in 2000, the Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholars Trust has marked the beginning of the new millennium in an immensely valuable and original way. Over the last nine years, 574 students throughout Ireland's 32 counties have been awarded scholarships worth a total of more than €8 million.

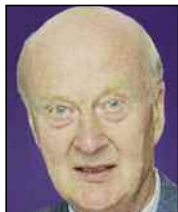
In 2008, 63 Millennium Scholars graduated from third-level. To date a total of 299 scholars have graduated, with more than 60 due to graduate in 2009.

In 2008, almost 500 applications were received from a hugely diverse range of talented and worthy candidates. As there are only a limited number of scholarships available, and the calibre of applicants each year remains very high, the Trust is faced with difficult decisions in making selections. In 2008 over 160 candidates were interviewed for nearly 80 scholarships.

Almost 1,000 organisations are now registered as Nominating Bodies with the Trust. Each year Nominating Bodies play a key role in promoting the Trust, identifying suitable candidates, coordinating the nomination process and supporting applications.

The Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholars Trust greatly values the annual support of Nominating Bodies in enabling the Trust to meet its social objectives and to provide life-changing educational opportunities for many individuals.

## Board of Trustees



**Mr Mark Hely Hutchinson**  
 former Chief Executive of Bank of Ireland Group and former Chairman of Inner City Enterprise. Mr Hely Hutchinson is Chairman of the Board of Trustees.



**Mr Laurence Crowley**  
 Chairman, Gaisce – The President's Awards and former Governor, Bank of Ireland Group.



**Mr David Holden**  
 former Head of Group Corporate Communications, Bank of Ireland.



**Mr Noel Dorr**  
 Chairman of Governing Authority, NUI Galway and former Secretary General of the Department of Foreign Affairs, nominated by An Taoiseach.



**Mr Dan Loughrey**  
 Head of Group Corporate Communications, Bank of Ireland.



**Mr Paul Haran**  
 Chairman of the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland; Principal, College of Business & Law, UCD and a member of the Court of Bank of Ireland.



**Ms Mary Redmond**  
 Consultant Solicitor in Employment Law at Arthur Cox and a former member of the Court of Bank of Ireland.

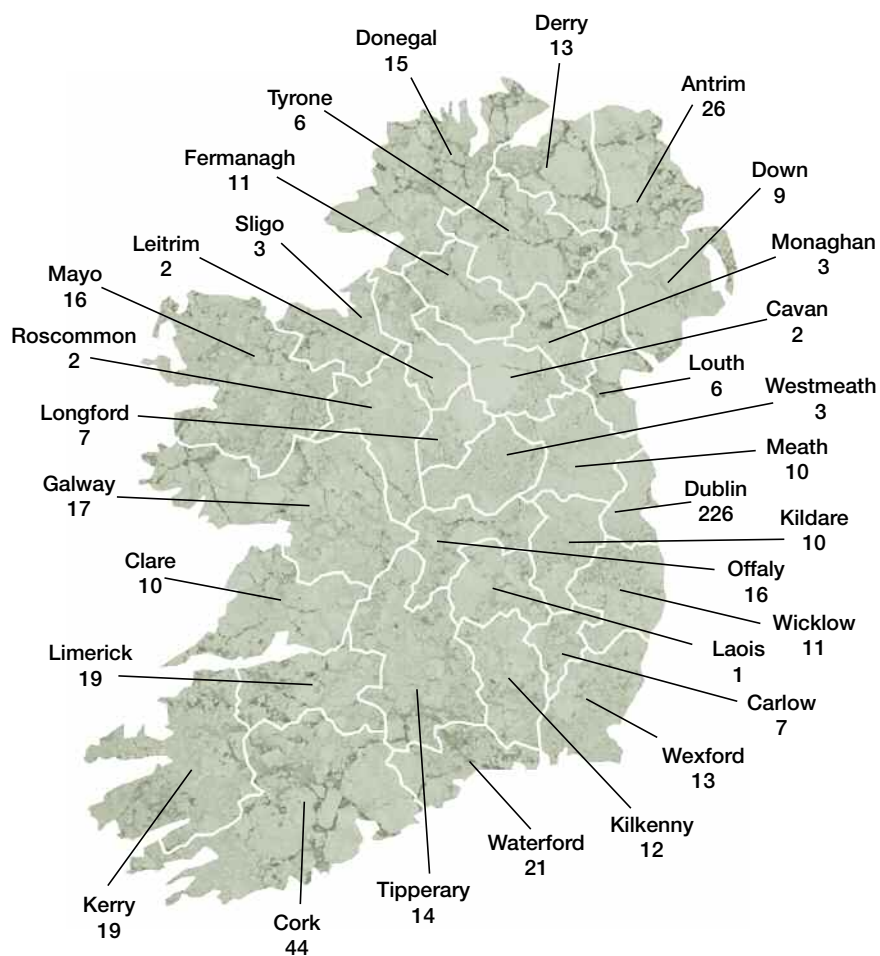
# Summary of Scholarships 2000 - 2008

## New Millennium Scholars – 2008\*

Sarah Jane Allen, Waterford  
Ashleigh Bolger, Carlow  
Sinéad Burke, Meath  
Maureen Busingye, Dublin  
Lucy Byrne, Meath  
Diarmuid Casey, Kerry  
Sinéad Casey, Waterford  
Ann Cleare, Offaly  
Derek Clougher, Dublin  
Cabral Des Santos, Dublin  
Andrew Dillon, Dublin  
Joseph Dowman, Dublin  
Donna Doyle, Wicklow  
T.J. Duffy, Monaghan  
Elaine Egan, Roscommon  
Clare Finnegan, Dublin  
Sinead Finnerty, Dublin  
Siobhan Flaherty, Galway  
Maire Flavin, Dublin  
Lindsay Forsythe, Antrim  
Roisin Gell, Kilkenny  
Kevin Gibson, Cork  
Stacey Gillespie, Dublin  
Mary Ann Hedderman, Dublin  
Gavin Hennessy, Kerry  
Sabrina Jordan, Mayo  
Robert Kayitare, Dublin  
Suzanne Kehoe, Wexford  
Stuart Kelly, Dublin  
Paul Kinsella, Dublin  
Frances Lawless, Dublin  
Tsin Ming Eric Lui, Antrim  
Margarita Malina, Limerick  
Sinéad Marmion, Down

Paul McCormack, Dublin  
Roxanne McGee, Offaly  
Alan McHugh, Dublin  
Ian McLoughlin, Dublin  
Alison McNamara, Limerick  
Ciara Murphy, Cork  
David Murray, Dublin  
Brogain Ní Chiarain, Antrim  
Jemima Nilan, Galway  
Naomi O'Connell, Clare  
Craig O'Connor, Dublin  
Gavan Ring O'Connor, Kerry  
Brian O'Flanagan, Dublin  
Macdara O'Seireadain, Dublin  
Tracy Obasohan, Dublin  
Jacintha Osborne, Dublin  
Robert Rafferty, Dublin  
Ronan Raftery, Dublin  
Deirdre Rock, Dublin  
Jeremiah Rodgers, Cork  
Paul Sharp, Antrim  
Lisa Sheridan, Waterford  
Vijay Slattery, Limerick  
Bernadette Smith, Dublin  
Aisling Stafford, Dublin  
Rachel Stewart, Dublin  
Leeann Teeling, Dublin  
Neasa Terry, Cork  
Sonia Toland, Donegal  
David Tynan, Kilkenny  
Brigita Tyscenko, Wexford  
Pamela Uddin, Waterford  
Gladys Wairimu, Dublin  
John Walsh, Antrim

## Scholars by County – total to date



\* 11 additional scholarships have been awarded; we are not in a position to issue further details at this time.

## Scholarships by Category

Third-level Entry	294
Mature Students	93
Current Third-level	90
Creative/Performing Arts	91
Postgraduate (year 2000)	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>574</b>

## Age Range

17-22	23-32	33-42	Over 43
381	114	53	26

## Gender

Female	Male
349	225

## Disability

Scholars 69

## Educational Advisory Panel

### Shay Bannon

Principal, Ardscoil na mBraithre, Clonmel

### Eamonn Carey

Manager, FÁS Community Services

### Colm Crean

Head of Faculty Administration,  
Faculty of Social Sciences,  
University of Ulster, Jordanstown

### Attracta Halpin

Registrar, National University of Ireland

### Myrtle Hill

Director of the Centre for Women's Studies,  
School of Sociology, Social Policy and Social  
Work, Queen's University Belfast

### Fionnuala Hunt

Director Laureate,  
Irish Chamber Orchestra

### Bernie Judge

Education and Research Officer,  
Teachers' Union of Ireland

### Roisin Kelleher

Former President, Institute of Guidance  
Counsellors

### Mary McGlynn

Former Director, National Association of  
Principals and Deputies

### Bernie Murphy

Education Consultant

### Derek West

Former Principal, Newpark Comprehensive  
School, Secretary of NAPD Arts and  
Culture Committee

### Christine Whyte

Disability Advisor and Consultant