



GAISCE
THE PRESIDENT'S
AWARD

WINTER E-ZINE



IT'S A BRAND-NEW YEAR! GET READY FOR A GREAT 2024 WITH GAISCE.

Welcome to the Gaisce Winter E-Zine, with all the latest updates and info about what's coming up in the next few months.

We want to thank everyone who has made 2023 an amazing year - Gaisce Participants, Awardees, President's Award Leaders and Gaisce Partners. Your hard work hasn't gone unnoticed, and we're excited to see the amazing things you will achieve this year!

We're also looking forward to welcoming new Participants and PALs during the year.

Athbhliain faoi mhaise dhui from all of us at Gaisce- The President's Award.



Bronze Award Ceremony at Holy Family School Cootehill. Attended by Development Officer Mary Yore.



Bronze Award Ceremony at Propser Meath, Ashbourne. Attended by Gaisce CEO Avril Ryan and Development Officer Mary Yore.



Bronze Award Ceremony at Blakestown Mountview Youth Initiative. Attended by Minister Roderic O'Gorman and Learning Manager, Eve O'Brien.



Bronze Award Ceremony at Salthill Hub. Attended by National Development Manager, Paul Darby.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Online Events

- **February 7th: Gold Portfolio Support Session (19:00 - 20:00)**

This online session is to support Participants and PALs with the Gold Portfolio Challenge Area. Get ideas, ask questions and get motivated to progress with your Gold Portfolio!



[!\[\]\(a03a7eb2f4046e1d3c76772003e549ea_img.jpg\) Register free on eventbrite.](#)

- **April 24th: Going For Gold Information Session (19:00 - 20:00)**

This online session provides inspiration and direction for Participants and PALs on all aspects of the Gold Award, including the standard Challenge Areas, as well as the Gold-specific Challenge Areas; Gold Portfolio and Gold Residential.



[!\[\]\(5361750c22c4e047a52f4eac1ec2d4cc_img.jpg\) Register free on eventbrite.](#)

Gold Portfolio Submission Date

March 31st is our new annual submission date. Those who submit on time will be eligible for the Gold Award Ceremony in Summer 2024 after processing. Due to capacity, some may be placed on a holding list for 2025.

MARCH							2024	
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
							1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
31								

UPCOMING PAL TRAINING

Our PAL training dates are for prospective PALs who would like to get involved in Gaisce. Active PALs can join a session if they need a refresher.

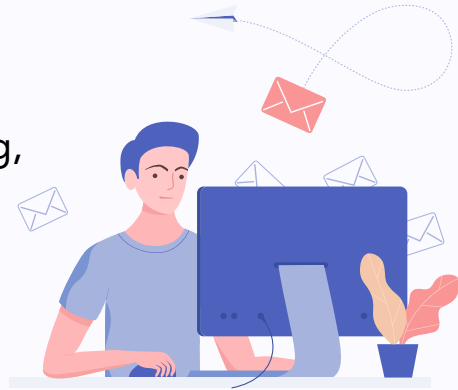
If you're interested in doing a session, please email info@gaisce.ie.

Date	Time	Location
January 25th	09:30 - 13:00	Online
February 22nd	18:00 - 21:00	Online
March 21st	09:30 - 13:00	Online
April 25th	09:30 - 13:00	Ratra House, Dublin
May 16th	09:30 - 13:00	Online
June 13th	18:00 - 19:30	Online

REMINDERS

Social Media

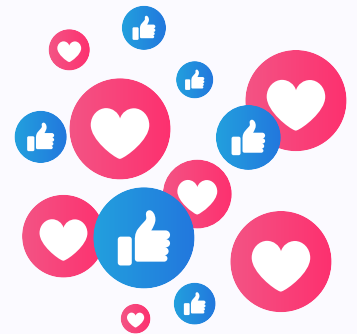
Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn and Tiktok for the latest updates. Tag us @GaisceAward / @Gaisce - The President's Award. Share what you're doing, we'd love to see it!



Throughout 2024 we will be holding monthly social media competitions to win some Gaisce merch. Spread the word and keep an eye on our socials for your chance to win some Gaisce goodies!

Website

Visit our website (gaisce.ie) for blog updates, contacting Gaisce, about the organisation and more. You can visit the Gaisce Learning Hub (learngaisce.ie) to find all your PAL and Participant Resources. Did you know, you can translate our website to Irish by using the language selector on the top right?



Whitelisting Emails

We're hearing that some PALs are experiencing difficulties receiving some of our communications. Due to common email security, these may end up in your spam/junk folder. You can find [guides online](#) on how to whitelist emails or you can contact your school secretary or IT department. If you need further assistance, you can contact info@gaisce.ie.





Lá Gaisce (Oct 2023)

The 2023 Lá Gaisce was one of our most successful yearly celebrations to date! We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all our wonderful PALs and participants who helped to make the day such a success. We saw unprecedented support and engagement from schools and youth organisations across Ireland.

During the day, so many of our PALs and participants shared their Gaisce journeys with us on social media and let us know how they were celebrating Lá Gaisce. We had such great engagement; we were even trending on Twitter in Ireland! We heard from PALs and participants from all over Ireland, and it was tough to choose which ones were in the running to win our Gaisce goodies!

TDs and Senators showed their support for us and the young people of their constituencies on social media and we were delighted to see the support of so many people from so many walks of life.

We're already working on how to make Lá Gaisce 2024 even better so stay tuned on how you can celebrate with us and make an even bigger splash!



Gaisce Gold Residential 2024

We are currently hosting a Gaisce Gold Residential for a group of lucky Gold Award Participants spanning two consecutive weekends.

The first weekend took place at the University of Galway, with the second set to take place in Gaisce HQ.

The theme of the Residential Project is 'Global Citizenship', and we are engaging in several topics within this theme. The residential programme consists of team bonding sessions, project work and guest speakers.

A vital part of the project is to allow Gold Participants to connect with other Gold Participants across Ireland. During the two weekends, the young people are collaborating as part of a team towards a shared goal by participating in a team project. Team tasks are set during the weekends to help connect with others in the project and build new networks.



PAL Appreciation Awards

On January 27th at Farmleigh House, Phoenix Park, we are proud to host the 2024 President's Award Leaders Appreciation Awards once again!

The PAL Appreciation Awards is a ceremony dedicated to showing appreciation for our hard-working PALs. The event will celebrate PALs who will be receiving their Civic Merit Award for five years of active service with Gaisce. We will be honouring PALs who have recently retired from work as President's Award Leaders, and lastly, we will be recognising PALs who have supported a Gold Gaisce Participant in 2023.

We are excited to host guest speakers Dr Tony Holohan and Adam Donovan of Citywise, Gaisce's representative on the Shared Island Youth Forum. Comedian Tara Flynn will be the MC for the event.

With this celebration, the month of January is marked as PAL Appreciation Month! Check our socials for some shoutouts from Participants and a new video of Participants talking about the impact their PAL has made.



Global Citizenship Action Forum

On April 16th 2024, Gaisce will be hosting an online symposium aimed at promoting global citizenship action through the Gaisce Award.

As a Gaisce PAL, you play a key role in encouraging young people to have an active role in their communities and work to make our world a more peaceful, sustainable and fair place.

Collective global action has never been more urgent. This symposium will build your knowledge and awareness around what it means to be a global citizen, global citizenship issues and how we can empower young people to take action.

At this event, you can expect:

- Key contributions from leading figures in the global citizenship field.
- Case studies of how young people and PALs have engaged in global citizenship through the Gaisce Award.
- Engaging dialogue and discussion around the topic.

Stay tuned for more information on this exciting event!



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