

# Young people 'Let the Light In' during Boyle workshop

By Darragh Kelly

The County Roscommon Youth Theatre Group (CRYTG) was making more than a few 'strange shapes' in Boyle as members participated in a two-day workshop held in St. Joseph's Hall.

Students of CRYTG, both senior and junior members, attended the workshops making life-size 'lanterns' in human and fish form. It's planned to showcase their exhibits at a later exhibition in King House in Boyle next month as part of Cruinniú na nÓg.

Supported by Roscommon County Council and its arts office, the life-size figures, made with wire and a form of 'rice paper' illuminate in the dark. Model artist Tom Meskeil from Charlestown was on hand over the two days to guide the young people in making the unique figures.



Shows Catherin Sheridan working on the creations as part of Lig on Solas Isteach- ag tabhairt and Ghutha Solais (Let the Light in- Giving the Light Voice) Lantern Sculpture Workshop in Boyle in preparation for Cruinniú na nÓg (June 11th). Pic. Brian Farrell



Participants parade their work outside St. Joseph's Hall, Boyle as part of a Lig on Solas Isteach- ag tabhairt and Ghutha Solais (Let the Light in- Giving the Light Voice) Lantern Sculpture Workshop in preparation for Cruinniú na nÓg (June 11th). Pic. Brian Farrell

The project is part of the Cruinniú na nÓg celebrations taking place on June 11th next. The workshops were free to participants and the free form nature of the exercise allowed them to use their imaginations in a broad and liberal way.

Boyle native Catherine Sheridan (nee Simon) is the artistic director of the CRYTG. She said the workshops, entitled 'Let the Light In - Giving

the Light Voice' was embraced by all the participating young people over both days.

"The figures that have been made represent the person's own imagination. They can represent 'forgotten people,' or people who are marginalised, celebrating movement and the resilience of the human spirit.

"They really enjoyed both days. It is a wonderful way for them to be expressive. People

took ownership of their own creations. It was also a great team-building exercise for participants," says Catherine.

Tom Meskeil who oversaw the efforts of participants was high in his praise of the of those present: "I have worked with similar groups in Longford but the enthusiasm of those present was great. The CRYTG is a fantastic group and it was great to collaborate," he remarked.

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