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Winners announced at RTÉjr Animation Dingle Awards 2024

- Ireland's premiere animation festival, with **JAM Media** announced their winning films of 2024.
- 137 short, animated films from 17 countries were exhibited on the Dingle Peninsula on the west coast of Ireland.
- The winning films were announced at The **RTÉjr Animation Dingle Awards** on Friday night in The Dingle Skellig Hotel in County Kerry, Ireland.

This year's Animation Dingle Festival has once again proven to be a resounding success! From early last year, we engaged the animation community, with over 700 registered animators answering the call and participating in the selection process, culminating in a weekend filled with creativity and inspiration in the beautiful setting of Dingle.

We extend our gratitude to our partners, **Screen Ireland and Enterprise Ireland**, whose steadfast support and collaboration again, brought this 12th edition of the festival to life.

Special recognition is due to our main sponsors **RTÉjr, Bank of Ireland, and Disney** and are most grateful for the support from Coimisiún na Meán, The IDA, Cultural & Creative Industries Skillnet and The French Embassy of Ireland.

Together, with the unwavering support of our partners and sponsors, Animation Dingle continues to serve as a platform for nurturing and showcasing the exceptional talent and creativity of Ireland's animation industry.

"RTÉjr are so privileged to sponsor this year's Animation Dingle Awards. The quality of work from this year's nominees is absolutely jaw dropping. I am so excited to see what they all do next and all of us at RTÉjr wish them every success along their journey." said **Suzanne Kelly**, Group Head of Children's & Young People's Content at RTE from Dingle.

Here is a complete list of winners:

1. **Young Animator of the Year (YAOTY)** sponsored by Disney, the award went to **Max Hendrikson** from Mount Temple Comprehensive School.
2. **Best Irish Student sponsored by RTÉjr:**
Awarded to *Every Other Weekend* by **James Naughton**, IADT
3. **Best International Student** sponsored by **CBBC:**

Awarded to *Stabat Mater* by **Hadrien Maton, Quentin Wittevrongel, Arnaud Mege, Coline Thelliez, William Defrance** of Pôle 3D

4. Best 2D Award sponsored by **Cartoon Saloon:**

Awarded to *Every Other Weekend* by **James Naughton**, IADT.

5. Best 3D / CGI Award sponsored by **Boulder Media:**

Awarded to *Stabat Mater* by **Hadrien Maton, Quentin Wittevrongel, Arnaud Mege, Coline Thelliez, William Defrance** of Pôle 3D.

6. Best Animation Award sponsored by **MILKSHAKE!**

Awarded to *Golden Ties* by **Michelle Bardon**, IADT

7. Best Stop Motion Award sponsored by **Aardman Animations**

Awarded to *The Curse of Dracular* by **Jack Paterson**, Norwich University of the Arts.

8. The Best Writer, jointly Sponsored by Animation Ireland and National Talent Academy for Animation

Awarded to *Pinokidoki*, directed by **Jack Casserly** from Technological University of the Shannon, Athlone

9. Best Design/ Art Direction awards sponsored by **JAM Media**

Awarded to *Unseen - Alone in Space* by **Patrick Faulkner** of University of Ulster

10. Best Music/ Sound Design sponsored by **EGG Postproduction Studios**

Awarded to *Bluelight* by **Jean-Ellis Gbessia**, IADT

11. The Best Director Award sponsored by **Toon Boom**

Awarded to *The Sun is Bad* by **Rachel Mow** from Savannah College of Art and Design

12. Best Irish Professional Short sponsored by **the Kerry College**

Awarded to *Worry World* by **Jessica Patterson**

13. Best International Professional Short sponsored by Nickelodeon

Return to Hairy Hill by **Daniel Gies**, Canada

14. The Big Pitcher Winner, Michael Berrill Doran with their project **Ultra Cat, Mega Dog** won a 3-month paid internship with **Jam Media** and will get to pitch at Cartoon Springboard later this year.

15. Best Sting sponsored by Monster Entertainment! went to - *CH_001 An Phiast V014* by **Theodore Goodwin**, TUS Athlone

16. Winner of the Best Game Sting, sponsored by 2K was *An Phiast Hover Racing* by **Rian Lambe**, BCFE

Murakami Award 2024 sponsored by Brown Bag Films was presented to **Michael Algar**.

Renowned animator producer Michael Algar was honoured at the festival for his exceptional contributions to the world of animation. The Murakami Award, named after the legendary Japanese animator Jimmy Teru Murakami (村上輝明) (1933-2014) a founding father of Irish animation, recognises individuals who have demonstrated unparalleled innovation, vision, and impact in the field of animation.

Reflecting on the awards **Maurice Galway**, Director of Animation Dingle said

“After 12 years of the festival, I continue to be inspired by the exceptional talent displayed by the young animators in Ireland. Every year, our awards showcase the incredible creativity, passion, and dedication of these emerging artists. It is heartwarming to see such talent flourishing in the animation community. We are committed to supporting and nurturing these young artists as they continue to push the boundaries of storytelling and animation both in Ireland and internationally.”

Across the Festival programme, there was fantastic participation from international studios, broadcasters and streamers from Ireland, UK, USA, France, South Africa, Canada and included: BBC, CBC, Disney, Netflix, Pixar, Nickelodeon, Milkshake!, Paramount, Industrial Brothers, Atomic Cartoons, Skybound Entertainment Animation, The Gotham Group, Aardman Animation, Magic Light Pictures, and Polygon Pictures, GFM Animation, Indie Sales, Ellipse Animation.

Irish studios were well represented at the festival including; Brown Bag films, Boulder media, Cartoon Saloon, Jam Media and so many more.

<https://animationdingle.com/rtejr-animation-dingle-awards/>

Over €38,000 was raised at the Animation Dingle Art Auction in aid of UNICEF Ireland

To continue to donate, you can visit <https://www.idonate.ie/fundraiser/AnimationDingleArtAuction2024>

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