



Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne, Maine Valley Family Resource Centre and NEWKD Castleisland shine at Creative Technology Week 2026

Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne was honoured at Tech Féile during Kinia's Creative Technology Week 2026 with the Gaelscoil claiming two awards and a further four nominations on Friday 24th at TechFéile.

The Dingle school claimed the award for Mobile Filmmaking (Scannánaíocht Mhóibíleach) where students recorded a unique detective story trí Ghaeilge and teacher Pádraig Ó Dubhaigh was awarded Educator of the Year (Oideachasóir na Bliana) recognising continued outstanding commitment to his students. The Mobile Filmmaking Award category proved a very competitive space with three additional teams from Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne also nominated with excellent creative entries. A further nomination was also received in the Organisation of the Year (Eagraíocht na Bliana) category.

Kerry was also well represented at TechFest with Maine Valley Family Resource Centre, led by Lisa Foley claiming two awards on Saturday, April 25th: Organisation of the Year and the Creative Technology Award. NEWKD Castleisland was also honoured during the event winning the Mobile Filmmaking Award with Jennifer O'Sullivan Coffey receiving a nomination for Educator of the Year for her continued dedication and support.

The events were part of Kinia's annual showcase of young digital innovators, celebrating groundbreaking projects in Creative Technology, Smart Energy, Green Tech, Mobile Filmmaking, Podcasting and Robotics. The awards were presented in front of a record breaking attendance of over 1,000 young innovators from across the country in the Explorium, Sandyford.

Kinia, an education-focused non-profit and social enterprise, is dedicated to reducing educational inequality by building digital skills and access to technology career pathways for young people across Ireland. The organisation's impact continues to grow with over 428,000 children and young people have benefited from Kinia's work to date with 25,606 educators engaged and 3,079 schools and youth centres supported nationwide.

The awards were presented during Creative Technology Week celebrations, which saw a record breaking attendance of over 1,000 young innovators from across Ireland display their projects as part of 2 days of events in the Explorium, Sandyford. Young people attended, engaged in hands-on workshops such as Machine Learning and AI, and competitions, such as the new Kinia Hydrogen Grand Prix (H2GP), where young minds competed in racing hydrogen-powered vehicles. A new education programme, Hydrogen Grand Prix was also added into the 2026 schedule; a global racing series and empowers the next generation of engineers, problem-solvers and clean energy champions.



The past year saw continued growth with over 2,000 educators engaged and through the wide range of programmes available 21,821 young people gained access to transformative learning opportunities. Over 63% of these figures relate to students from socio-economically disadvantaged communities and 90.3% of STEM engagement involved girls and young women. Total reach extended to 414 schools and youth services, reinforcing the organisational commitment to equitable access to quality education in every corner of Ireland.

Speaking during the programme of events Marianne Checkley, CEO of Kinia added "We want to extend a huge congratulations to everyone from Kerry and a big thank you for all the hard work and effort put into the projects. It's fair to say that Kerry was very well represented this year and we look forward to continuing to work closely with students and educators in the future. It's great to see representatives like Pádraig, Lisa and Jennifer getting the recognition they deserve."

Creative Technology Week continues to be a highlight of the year, both for us at Kinia and also the community of educators and young people attending. We are thrilled to have welcomed over 1,000 attendees this week across the three main events and the addition of the H2GP National final was a resounding success and we look forward to seeing this grow in the future.

We remain dedicated to reducing educational inequality by building digital skills and access to technology career pathways for young people across Ireland. We are continuing to work towards our ambitious plan of upskilling 50,000 educators and reaching 800,000 young people by 2030 and these events are a huge part of helping us deliver our message."

For more information about Kinia, their impact and how you can get involved, visit www.kinia.ie.