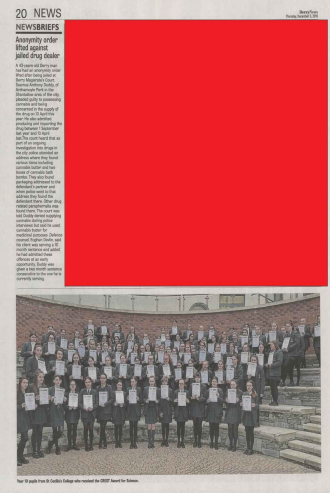


Media Source Press
Circulation 9,448
Topic CITB



Derry students win Gold and Bronze at WorldSkills UK

North West Regional College (NWRC) students Brendan Duddy and Suzanne Ramage have been named among the best in the UK after winning gold and bronze at **WorldSkills UK LIVE**.

Brendan, who is an apprentice with Errigal Contracts, won gold in the plastering and drywall systems category, and is now in with a chance of being selected for the squad who will travel to compete internationally at **WorldSkills Shanghai** in 2021.

Foundation Degree Science student Suzanne Ramage picked up bronze in the lab technician section, this is the first year the college has competed in this category.

Dorothy McElwee, vice-

principal and head of curriculum at NWRC, said: "On behalf of everyone at the college I would like to congratulate all of our competitors and their trainers who have put a huge amount of time into preparing for the event. We are delighted to have two students return with gold and bronze medals.

"This success is recognition of the world class teaching and training facilities across all of our campuses and affirms NWRC's position as one of the leading colleges for achievements in skills training."

Brendan said: "I am delighted to have won the Gold medal on behalf of NWRC and my training provider Errigal Contracts. The whole experience in



Former NWRC student Brendan Duddy pictured centre who won a gold medal at the recent Worldskills competition in the Plastering and Drywall section.

Birmingham was amazing and my thanks to everyone who supported me in what was a very tough and competitive experience."

Suzanne said: "Competing in Birmingham over the three days of competition is something I will never forget. I am so grateful for the support of the staff of the science department who helped me prepare for the Worldskills finals and I'm delighted to have returned with a bronze medal."

Over 500 of the UK's top

apprentices and learners took part in the national finals at **WorldSkills UK** featuring 70 different skills across industries including digital, technology, engineering, construction, and hospitality.

Each of the competitors secured their place in the finals following a fiercely competitive round of qualifiers in which over 3,000 people took part.

The **WorldSkills UK** Competition in plastering is run in partnership with **CITB**

/SkillBuild, and the laboratory technician category is run in partnership with Middlesex University.

Dr Neil Bentley-Gockmann OBE, chief executive, **WorldSkills UK**, said: "Congratulations to Brendan Duddy and Suzanne Ramage for such a fantastic achievement."

"The competition was fierce and the standards very high. All of Brendan and Suzanne's hard work and dedication has been rewarded and we at **WorldSkills UK** salute you."



Suzanne Ramage, a student at the NWRC Strand Road Campus in the Lab Technician section