

Ireland's Young Filmmaker of the Year Awards 2021

Report by Shannon Doyle and Laragh Frawley

In Ireland's Young Filmmaker of the Year Award 2021, Emily Reilly, Grace Donovan, Cerys Thompson, Laragh Frawley and Shannon Doyle, won the audience award in which they entered for and filmed during their TY photography class. The winner of the audience award was voted for by the senior finalists in Ireland's Young Filmmaker of the Year 2021 and the audience award announcement premiered on 27th of March.

The short film entitled "The Essay" that won the award, explores how a teenager copes with the loss of freedom caused by the pandemic.

The story depicts a girl living through lockdown trying to avoid the boredom of not being able to go anywhere, meet anyone or do anything. She makes a list of hobbies she feels she could do only to realise that she is completely useless at them all, leading her to feel worthless.

The students came up with the idea for the film when discussing the essay that they knew at least one of their teachers would make them write about, "How quarantine affected them" and what they did during the lockdown. They decided to make a short film about it after sharing their personal experiences with the pandemic.

The biggest challenge they faced while making the short film was filming it with the covid restrictions. They were limited as to where they could film it, when they could film it and how they could film it as there were restrictions.

However, the best thing about making the film was that they got to have fun filming with each other. They were also very thankful for the recognition of their hard work and the effort they put into this short film.

To view the short film, click on the link below!

<https://youtu.be/0PBzsjOn6TU>