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The Aisling Project and DIT Students

Dublin Institute of Technology

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students learning with communities



Students Learning with Communities

The Aisling Project and DIT Students



The Aisling Project

The Aisling Project is an after school initiative based in Ballymun. It was set up in 1997 and currently four projects working in four areas in Ballymun work with 80 young people between the ages of 8 and 13 years. The main aims of the Aisling project are to prevent early school leaving, benefit the community and advance education by running an after school intervention programme for children at risk. Children attend the Aisling project every weekday afternoon where they get a hot meal and a secure environment to do homework and play. Their varied programme allows for the interests, needs and learning of the young people involved.

DIT's Involvement

DIT and the Aisling project are involved in two Students Learning With Community projects. The first project involves DIT Electrical Engineering Students and is running for the third time this year (in semester two) and the other is a new project involving DIT Drama students which started for the first time this academic semester.

Project 1: Electrical Engineering

Several years ago the Aisling Project acquired some Lego Mindstorm NXT kits and over the last three years groups of 1st and 2nd year students (from the B.E. in Electrical Eng. and the B.Eng.Tech. in Electrical Eng. respectively) have been working with children who attend the Aisling project to build and program Lego robots. The children then bring their robots to DIT to compete in the annual DIT Robo-Sumo Challenge (see poster alongside for more details).

Project 2: Drama

Students from the BA in Drama (Performance) are currently coordinating a series of drama workshops for the children and young people attending the Aisling Projects. These workshops will involve the children in fun exercises designed to introduce them to drama and develop performance skills, and will be loosely based on the theme of the children's Christmas play which they will perform in the Axis Theatre in Ballymun in December.

More Information

If you would like more information on either of these projects please contact us at the Programme for Students Learning With Communities on slwc@diti.ie or 402 7616

