

Successes of science week: Innovative tech start-up by two Irish students

Irish inventors and engineering students Alice Shaughnessy (17) and Jack O'Regan Kenny (18) found Irish start-up 'Mirr' this summer.

Mirr: looks like a mirror, works like a tablet.

It is a novel smart mirror with patented touchscreen technology. Stream Netflix, listen to Spotify or check the weather all while keeping unused screen space fully reflective.

“Mirr is unlike anything we have experienced. It feels like something out of a movie. You can drag an app around the screen and the parts not covered by the app remain reflective, so a make-up user can have say half the screen reflective and the other half be a tutorial.” – Jack O'Regan Kenny

Alice says, “The applications are endless. Everyone comes up with a unique way that they could use Mirr in their daily lives. It's like the smartphone. How can you pin-point one use-case to sum it all up? So it's up to you. Put it in your kitchen, living room, bathroom. There's nowhere Mirr can't go in your home!”

The duo are evidence of the successes of Science Week and extra-curricular STEM activities. Before merging their talents this summer to develop Mirr, Alice and Jack had a series of individual achievements in various STEM activities both at home and abroad.

Alice Shaughnessy, an engineering student at NUI Galway from Oranmore, Galway has won overall technology awards at BT Young Scientist and SciFest. She has also competed at international STEM competitions: Regeneron's ISEF and Hong Kong's GYSTB.

Jack O'Regan Kenny is a TU Dublin mechatronic engineering student from Mullingar, Westmeath. He is heavily involved with coder dojo and has had successes at SciFest and BT Young Scientist.

Mirr was the brainchild of Jack, which he entered in the Student Enterprise Awards in 2019 and won the 'Best Commercial Potential' award at the national level.

The project was revived when Jack and Alice met this summer at Patch, a summer accelerator for extraordinary young people. The 6 week programme is run out of DogPatchLabs and supported by Stripe.

They have come a long way in a few short months.

Mirr is competing in the international remote accelerator ‘Pioneer’ where it remains in the top 10 in Europe and top 25 Globally.

As of this week, Mirr has been accepted into Enterprise Ireland’s New Frontiers Programme at TU Dublin. As part of this programme, they will receive 6 months of mentorship and €15,000 to further develop their product.

“We would encourage anyone to get them and their families involved in Science week this week. So many of the amazing annual events have found ways to host alternative events online! You never know what you can learn” Alice Shaughnessy

Coinciding with Science Week, the pair are launching Mirr’s new website this week. You can join the wait list to pre-order or find more information at mirr.tech

ENDS

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Websites:

<https://mirr.tech/>

<https://aliceshocks.com/>

<https://jackoregankenny.com/>

Mirr Social Media:

https://www.instagram.com/mirr_ire/

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjWx-AmKbL_BCb5GYzmdzgQ

<http://www.linkedin.com/company/mirr-ire/>

<https://www.facebook.com/mirr.ire/>

https://twitter.com/mirr_ire

Patch accelerator:

<https://dogpatchlabs.com/patch/>

Pioneer.app accelerator:

<https://pioneer.app/>

<https://pioneer.app/leaderboard#global>

New Frontiers Programme:

<https://www.newfrontiers.ie/>

<https://www.dit.ie/hothouse/newfrontiers/>

BT Young Scientist

<https://btyoungscientist.com/>

Scifest

<https://scifest.ie/>

Regeneron International Science and Technology Fair (ISEF)

<https://www.societyforscience.org/isef/>

Hong Kong's Global Youth Science and Technology Bowl (GYSTB)

<https://ce.hkfyg.org.hk/teachers-zone/competition/gystb/>

Student Enterprise

<https://www.studententerprise.ie>

CoderDojo

<https://coderdojo.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/coderdojomullingar/>

Science Week

<https://www.sfi.ie/engagement/science-week/>