

Global Youth Work Module Team Profile



Sally Daly – National Youth Council of Ireland

Sally has worked in the fields of community and youth work over several years. She has been with NYCI since 2017, initially with the Intercultural and Equality programme and currently with the Global Youth Work programme. She co-ordinates the Level 8 Certificate in Global Youth Work and Development Education and really enjoys working as a trainer and facilitator and supporting relationship building. She has worked with refugee communities and supporting integration outcomes in Irish and UK contexts. She is particularly interested in youth worker's and young people's critical capacities as local and global citizens, and on creating greater understanding of local and global interdependence. She is also very interested in supporting connections with nature, the environment, and mindful ways of being and doing.



Valerie Duffy – National Youth Council of Ireland

Valerie manages the Youth 2030 Global Youth Work Programme at the National Youth Council of Ireland. She has over 25 years of experience working on Global Citizenship Education projects in Ireland, Northern Ireland, the Euro-Mediterranean region, and Zambia. Valerie has worked in formal and non-formal education settings and has written several educational resources. She has been a founding member of Coalition 2030, focused on the Sustainable Development Goals at local, national, and global levels. Valerie enjoys working with others through education and activism to address some of the greatest challenges of our time. She is a strong advocate for young people engaging on issues affecting their lives at all levels of society inside and outside of Ireland. Valerie is a graduate of University College Dublin.



Leo Gilmartin – National Youth Council of Ireland

Leo is a professional community and youth worker and educator. He has been involved with the youth sector in Ireland since participating as a young person, to studying community and youth work in Maynooth University. He is passionate about the global dynamics and connections to the lives of young people and communities through non-formal education. He has been involved in the development of global youth work resources that look to bridge the gap between global and social theories to the everyday lives of young people and youth work practice.



Jamie Gorman

Jamie is a community worker and youth worker who combines expertise in facilitation, research, training, and organisational development to support social change work. He's passionate about creating spaces for dialogue, learning and collaboration as we figure out how to live well together on the planet in these times. He has lectured in community work and youth work, the sociology of youth and environmental social policy at Maynooth University Department of Applied Social Studies. He has also worked at the Galway City Community Network and is a former chairperson of Friends of the Earth Ireland. He holds a PhD from Maynooth University, Ireland and is currently based in Mparntwe/Alice Springs on Arrernte Country, Australia. You can find more of Jamie's work [here](#).



Triona Hanney-Byrne

Triona has recently completed an undergraduate degree in Community and Youth Work from Maynooth University. Her current role is with the Dublin North, Northeast Recovery college as a project coordinator using a community development approach to providing transformative education for anybody with an interest in mental health and substance use recovery. Triona has always been passionate about using education for the purpose of liberation. In her previous role with the Global Youth Work Team in NYCI, Triona worked with educational programmes that aimed to empower young people to develop knowledge and skills to use critical thinking as a method to understand their own beliefs and values and how they as an individual connect to the wider world.



Eimear Manning – National Youth Council of Ireland

Eimear Manning (she/her) was awarded a Master of Science in Environmental Sustainability from UCD. She works as the Youth & Climate Justice Development Officer in the National Youth Council of Ireland. Eimear manages youth-led projects centred on issues of climate

change, climate justice, and meaningful youth inclusion. She advocates for the importance of youth-inclusive initiatives, as well as how we can (and why we should) engage young people in our work. Currently, she is sitting on a Drafting Committee creating a new Council of Europe Recommendation on Young People and Climate Action. Eimear was also nominated by the Department of Education to be Ireland's representative on the UNECE Education for Sustainable Development Steering Committee Youth Platform.



Valery Molay

Valery is an environmental policy and global systemic justice practitioner. She is passionate about strengthening the capacity of young people and disadvantaged communities to meaningfully participate in environmental and global justice policy development. Valery has a particular interest in areas of climate justice, racial justice, youth rights and regenerative economic models. She has 5 + years' experience in creative design, critical thinking facilitation model, advocacy, research, and policy development. Her passion is to create space for active dialogue as she believes that "Human beings are not built in silence", but in word, in work and in action-reflection, this is the only way positive societal impact comes about.



Diandra Ní Bhuachalla – National Youth Council of Ireland

Diandra is a youth representative with 12 years of experience. She works with the National Youth Council of Ireland's Youth 2030 Global Youth Work team, coordinating the UN Youth Delegate and Climate Youth Delegate programmes respectively. Diandra is the European Economic and Social Committee's Youth Delegate to COP28 and COP29, along with a Future Generations Global Ambassador with the Office of the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales and Foundations for Tomorrow. She is a former UN Youth Delegate for Ireland (2021-2022), and holds a BSc (Government) Hons, an LLB, and an MSc International Public Policy and Diplomacy from University College Cork.



Dr. Hilary Tierney – Maynooth University

Hilary is Associate Professor and Programme Lead for Community Work and Youth Work in the Department of Applied Social Studies in Maynooth University, Ireland. She was the coordinator of the original Erasmus+ funded "Youth Work and You" project and is delighted to work with Val and all the great NYCI team on the Global Youth Work module. Hilary's teaching and research interests focus on youth work/global youth work theory and practice, professional identity formation, critical pedagogy, and informal/ non-formal learning in youth work. She gets to work every day with amazing people who are committed to social change, developing our capacity for critical curiosity, and creating a world worth living in.