FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: NATIONAL ARCHITECTS IN SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

Celebratory event for participating Donegal Schools at the REGIONAL CULTURAL CENTRE, LETTERKENNY. Friday April 17TH, 2015, 11am-1pm Accompanying exhibition of students' architecture projects at RCC: Friday April 17th 11am-5pm and Saturday April 18th 1pm-5pm

The Irish Architecture Foundation in partnership with the Regional Cultural Centre is holding an event to celebrate the achievements of Donegal students participating in the National Architects in Schools Initiative. Local architects and architecture graduates worked with Transition Year student groups throughout the year on a huge variety of architecture projects - from design ideas for bus shelters to plans for vacant spaces, exhibition pavilions and new school designs.

Participating Donegal schools and architects: Coláiste Ailigh, Leitir Ceanainn with Claire Burke Coláiste Na Carraige, An Charraig with Anna Meehan Crana College, Buncrana, with Breege Galbraith Deele College with Siobhan McCafferty Loreto Community College, Milford with John Curran Magh Ene College, Bundoran with Patrick Dunne

The National Architects in Schools Initiative introduces students to architecture through hands-on workshops. Local architects and architecture graduates are recruited to the initiative to work in partnership with schools, enabling students to learn about professional life and gain direct experience of teamwork, innovation and design thinking.

"Working with a professional architect was a brilliant experience and we learned a lot of interesting new things." Student, Grace Lavelle, Crana College "We shape our buildings, therefore they shape us." Student, Magh Ene College, Bundoran

"The response to the National Architects in Schools Initiative in Donegal has been phenomenal. Students and architects have worked together on some highly innovative design projects, proving that creativity abounds in the Northwest! Rachel McAree, Education Curator, Irish Architecture Foundation.

The National Architects in Schools Initiative is devised and delivered by the Irish Architecture Foundation and is funded by the Arts Council, Department of Education and Skills and the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht under the Government Policy on Architecture implementation programme.

Donegal, Cork, Dublin, Galway and Wexford are regional hubs for the initiative in 2013-2015. The Irish Architecture Foundation is working in partnership with the national network of Teachers' Education Centres.

Check out the project blogs for further updates: **www.mydesignjournal.ie/category/blog/** To RSVP to celebratory event or for further information please contact: **Rachel McAree education@architecturefoundation.ie**

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