



**Host: Jonathan McCrea**

Jonathan is a multi-award-winning TV and radio broadcaster with 10 years of experience in broadcasting and journalism. He is the founder of Whipsmart Media, SCI:COM conference and is also the creator of Futureproof, Newstalk's award-winning flagship science programme.



**Interval Act: Matt Parker**

Matt is an artist working with and producing archives that amplify hidden connections between every-day technology and the environment. His work is influenced by the sonsphere, unsound, ecology, the economy of noise, infrastructure studies and the internet.

**JUDGING PANEL:**



**Michelle D. Cullen** is a Managing Director in Accenture's Global Enterprise Enablement, a multi-functional organisation, providing corporate business services to Accenture. She is also the MD sponsor for Inclusion & Diversity. Michelle is passionate about the business and social benefits of diversity to create better, more inclusive solutions. She holds a PhD in Communications from DCU.

**Graham Love** is the Chief Executive of the Higher Education Authority. Previously he led the Health Research Board and held senior management positions in a variety of organisations including Science Foundation Ireland. He is a former member of the Science Gallery Board and Science Europe's Governing Council. Graham holds a PhD in cell biology.

**Ann O'Dea** is CEO and co-founder of Silicon Republic, one of Europe's leading technology and innovation news services, reporting online since 2001. Ann is the founder of Inspirefest, and the driving force behind Silicon Republic's *Women Invent* campaign, which champions women role models in STEM and aims to tackle the gender gap in the knowledge industries.



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# FameLab Ireland 2018 Finalists



## #01 - CHRIS LALLY

### - Antibiotic Resistance

Chris is a PhD student at Cúram, NUI Galway, and has studied neuroscience and biotech. He has also spent some time in the biopharma industry making chronic pain medicine for – not humans – but cats and dogs! His interests extend outside the lab and he's a big fan of sci-fi, tech news, philosophy and comedy.



## #02 - KATE FINUCANE

### - A Lighthouse in the Stars

Kate is currently in her third year studying astrophysics at Trinity College Dublin. She really enjoys public speaking, especially when she gets the opportunity to talk about something she is passionate about. Speaking of which, her hobbies include learning about space, thinking about space, and talking about space to anybody that will listen.



## #03 - SIMONE IADANZA

### - Digital Apocalypse: Initiated

Simone graduated from Politecnico di Milano, Italy in 2016, after which he enrolled in a PhD in nanophotonics at CIT and Tyndall. His research interests are varied and include optoelectronics and nanofabrication, photonic crystals, silicon photonics and semiconductor laser dynamics – all of which just means that he really, really, really loves lasers.



## #04 - ALINA OSTROWSKA

### - Autophagy: Recycling in an attempt to survive

Alina is a final year biomedical science student in NUI Galway majoring in biochemistry. She was awarded the All Ireland Scholarship in 2014 and works as a piano teacher and student ambassador. A travel enthusiast and curious by nature, she thrives on making the uncomfortable comfortable.



## #05 - SHARON OMIWOLE

### - Willy Wonka and the Coffee Factory

Sharon is a medical student with a keen interest in science. She credits her father, a doctor, for inspiring her to pursue medicine. She has dedicated her spare time to volunteering in clinics, retirement homes, day-cares and homeless shelters. She strives to live a life of purpose and help others.



## #06 - DARAGH BRADSHAW

### - A Social Curse Needs a Social Cure

Daragh is a batman enthusiast studying for his PhD at the Centre for Social Issues in the Psychology Department at the University of Limerick. His current research explores ways of supporting families of children whose fathers have been imprisoned.



## #07 SAMANTHA CALTHROP

### - RNA and the Origins of Life

Samantha is an undergrad at UCC studying biological, earth and environmental sciences, and is a self-described hopeful ecologist. She's really looking forward to gaining some sci-comms experience and FameLab marks her first foray into this world!



## #08 - EOIN MURPHY

### - The Difference a Moment Can Make

With a background in biotechnology, Eoin jetted off to Canada to continue his studies in leukaemia research. He spent some time as a teacher and is no stranger to educating audiences. Eoin is currently a full time PhD student and is a science ambassador for NUI Galway.



## #09 - MAUREEN WILLIAMS

### - Protect the Parasites!

Maureen hails from the centre of the Sunshine State: Orlando, Florida, where she grew up in the water. She's found a new home working in Irish waters at TCD, and her PhD links aquatic ecology, parasitology and zombies.



## #10 - RONALDO DO AMARAL

### - To Genetics and Beyond!

Ronaldo researches skin wound healing at the Royal College of Surgeons as a post-doc where he focuses on the regeneration of damaged tissues and organs. Hailing from Brazil originally, Ireland ignited in him a great passion for science communication.