

**Grow your own Crystal!**  
**National Crystal Growing Competition launched by Synthesis and Solid State  
Pharmaceutical Centre (SSPC)**

Following the success of the 2014 SSPC National Crystal Growing Competition, the Synthesis and Solid State Pharmaceutical Centre (SSPC) today launched its second *National Crystal Growing Competition*. The 2015 SSPC National Crystal Growing Competition is in partnership with the International Union of Crystallography's worldwide crystal growing competition and is open to post-primary students from across Ireland. The student who grows the winning crystal will win an iPad mini!



Professor Kieran Hodnett, SSPC Scientific Director said: “Crystals are all around us, and in every aspect of our lives, from chocolate to medicine to paints and plastics. The SSPC National Crystal Growing Competition not only enables students to grow their own crystals, but also increases students’ awareness and understanding of the importance of crystals in our lives today. The standard and quality of the crystals submitted for the 2014 SSPC National

Crystal Growing Competition was outstanding. It is very encouraging to see such a high level of enthusiasm by the students and their teachers in growing the crystals”.

Jon O’Halloran, SSPC General Manager, said: “The SSPC National Crystal Growing Competition is an active part of the SSPC’s education and outreach programme, which is dedicated to developing the next generation of scientists and crystallographers in Ireland. The SSPC look forward to engaging with Ireland’s schools again on this initiative”.

*Competition closing date: 30<sup>th</sup> November 2015*

The Synthesis and Solid State Pharmaceutical Centre (SSPC), a Global Hub of Pharmaceutical Process Innovation and Advanced Manufacturing, funded by Science Foundation Ireland and industry, is a unique collaboration between 22 industry partners, 9 research performing organisations and 12 international academic collaborators.

To find out more information go to [http://www.sspc.ie/crystal\\_growing](http://www.sspc.ie/crystal_growing) or contact SSPC Education and Outreach Officer Dr Sarah Hayes: [sarah.hayes@ul.ie](mailto:sarah.hayes@ul.ie)

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