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**PRIZEWINNING PAINTING OF ‘BOBBY THE COW’ BROUGHT TO LIFE IN TV COMMERCIAL SPOKEN BY YOUNG CLARE ARTIST**

A painting by young Clare artist, Laurie Hehir - a student at Ennis Art School – has been chosen to illustrate a 30-seconds television commercial promoting the closing date for receipt of entries in the 2020 Texaco Children’s Art Competition.

Being screened here and in Northern Ireland throughout the months of January and February, its purpose will be to notify young artists, parents and teachers that the 66th Competition is underway.

In what could yet be seen as one of the most endearing TV commercials of the new year, its storyline centres upon Laurie’s painting of ‘Bobby’, her grandfather’s Frisian cow for which she was awarded a prize in the Competition last year.

Focusing on the characteristics that endeared ‘Bobby’ to her, the voiceover is spoken entirely by Laurie.

Noting how he ‘inspired’ her to enter the Competition, her painting comes to life as Laurie talks to viewers about Bobby and how he ‘loves to watch butterflies that live on the farm’ and to look up to the stars at night as he is graphically portrayed ‘jumping over the moon’ in the style of the popular nursery rhyme.

The production ends with Laurie holding her painting before walking off-screen to reveal the 28th February closing date for receipt entries in what will be the 66th year of the Competition which is hosted annually by Valero Energy (Ireland) Limited, the company who markets fuel in Ireland under the Texaco brand.

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**Editor’s Notes:**

1. The Texaco Children’s Art Competition is celebrating its 66th anniversary this year. For further information about the Competition, contact Ashley Hall (mobile 086-3127774) or Don Hall (mobile 087-2552699) at Hall PR on 01-660 9377 (office) or email pr@hall.ie. For more information on Valero Energy (Ireland) Limited, contact Bronagh Carron on (+353) 01 6258208 or email [bronagh.carron@valero.com](mailto:bronagh.carron@valero.com)
2. Valero Energy (Ireland) Limited, a subsidiary of Valero Energy Corporation, markets fuel in Ireland under the Texaco brand. There are close to 150 Texaco-branded service stations in Ireland and around 780 in the UK. Valero Energy (Ireland) Limited also provides aviation refueling services at Dublin and Shannon Airports, has an extensive commercial and industrial fuels business and holds an equity stake in one fuel storage facility in the Republic of Ireland. For more information, visit www.texaco.ie
3. Valero Energy Corporation, through its subsidiaries, is an international manufacturer and marketer of transportation fuels, other petrochemical products and power. Valero subsidiaries employ approximately 10,000 people, and assets include 15 petroleum refineries with a combined throughput capacity of approximately 3.1 million barrels per day, 11 ethanol plants with a combined production capacity of 1.3 billion gallons per year, a 50-megawatt wind farm, and renewable diesel production from a joint venture. Through subsidiaries, Valero owns the general partner of Valero Energy Partners LP (NYSE: VLP), a midstream master limited partnership. Approximately 7,500 outlets carry the Valero, Diamond Shamrock, Shamrock, and Beacon brands in the United States and the Caribbean; Ultramar in Canada; and Texaco in the United Kingdom and Ireland. Valero is a Fortune 500 company based in San Antonio, Texas. Please visit www.valero.com for more information.