



Press Release

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Winners announced for the 17th annual Museums + Heritage Awards

MULTAKA-OXFORD VOLUNTEER TEAM (HISTORY OF SCIENCE MUSEUM AND PITT RIVERS MUSEUMS, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD MUSEUMS) WINS VOLUNTEER TEAM OF THE YEAR

- ***Sir David Attenborough mentions the importance of funding in his acceptance speech for the Special Recognition Award –***

From *Heavenly Bodies: Fashion and the Catholic Imagination* at The Costume Institute at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York winning *International Project of the Year*, with a budget of more than £1m to *Wonder Women of Space Exhibition* at the Herschel Museum of Astronomy in Bath winning *Limited Budget Project of the Year*, the 14 winners of the 17th **Museums + Heritage Awards** were announced this evening (Wednesday, May 15, 2019) in London.

Multaka-Oxford Volunteer Team (History of Science Museum and Pitt Rivers Museums, University of Oxford Museums) won **Volunteer Team of the Year - In partnership with AIM** and Liverpool Women's History Group (National Museums Liverpool) was Highly commended.

Talking about the Multaka-Oxford Volunteer Team, Diane Lees CBE, Director General of the Imperial War Museums and Chair of the 2019 judging panel, noted: *"The genuine mutual benefit to both organisation and volunteer is clear to see with this winning team. They have shared their experience, insight and expertise to collaborate and to reach new audiences, helping the museums to be more relevant and accessible to their communities."*

The awards celebrated innovative and ground-breaking initiatives from museums, galleries and heritage visitor attractions across the UK and overseas.

In addition, a **Special Recognition Award** was presented to **Sir David Attenborough**, who said: "I'm truly delighted by this award. Museums are among my favourite places. I don't need to say to you how important they are to our own civilisation and culture and the trouble is that they are always under attack. I have been involved with them for most of my life, one way or another, and I have never known them actually not being under attack and underfunded. So, if I have contributed to one museum or any other museum in preserving those ideals that are so important to all of us, I'm very grateful indeed that you should think so, if this award is a sign of that thought. Thank you very much." (the footage can be downloaded at <https://awards.museumsandheritage.com/special-recognition-award-2019/>)

Anna Preedy, Director of the annual Museums + Heritage Awards commented: "These awards recognise the amazing achievements, creativity, innovation, hard work and utter commitment evident throughout the museums and heritage sector. The awards have become the benchmark for excellence and the shortlistees and winners represent the very best of the best."

2019 Winners:

Innovation of the Year - Sponsored by THE HUB

Winner: They Shall Not Grow Old (14-18 NOW and Imperial War Museum)

Highly commended: Inside Out - Scottish Submarine Centre (Scottish Submarine Trust)

Restoration or Conservation Project of the Year - Sponsored by ROCHESTER BRIDGE TRUST

Winner: Painted Hall Project (Old Royal Naval College)

Joint highly commended: Temperate House Precinct Project (Donald Insall Associates on behalf of Royal Botanic Gardens Kew)

Joint highly commended: Kew Gardens Great Pagoda (Austin-Smith:Lord on behalf of Historic Royal Palaces).

Educational Initiative of the Year

Winner: Leeds Curriculum (Leeds Museums & Galleries)

Joint highly commended: Battle Bus (London Transport Museum)

Joint highly commended: RAF Museum RAF Centenary Programme (RAF Museum)

Shop of the Year turnover less than £500k

Winner: Retail Transformation at the Florence Nightingale Museum (Florence Nightingale Museum)

Shop of the Year turnover more than £500k

Winner: BALTIC Shop Refurbishment (BALTIC Shop, BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art)

Limited Budget Project of the Year

Winner: Wonder Women of Space Exhibition (Herschel Museum of Astronomy, Bath).

Highly commended: Chichester Roman Week 2018 (The Novium Museum)

Marketing Campaign of the Year - Sponsored by BVA BDRG

Winner: Look at this Absolute Unit (The Museum of English Rural Life)

Highly commended: Bash Street's Back at The McMenace (The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery & Museum, Leisure & Culture Dundee).

Individual Volunteer of the Year - In partnership with AIM

Winner: John Jenkins (The D-Day Story)

Joint highly commended: Carl Clee 'Our Bee Man' (National Museums Liverpool)

Joint highly commended: Gordon Clitheroe (Pickering Beck Isle Museum)

Volunteer Team of the Year - In partnership with AIM

Winner: Multaka-Oxford Volunteer Team (History of Science Museum and Pitt Rivers Museums, University of Oxford Museums).

Highly commended: Liverpool Women's History Group (National Museums Liverpool)

Temporary or Touring Exhibition of the Year - Sponsored by Displayways

Winner: Spanish Flu: Nursing During History's Deadliest Pandemic (Florence Nightingale Museum)

Joint highly commended: China's First Emperor and the Terracotta Warriors (National Museums Liverpool)

Joint highly commended: Ladies of Quality & Distinction (The Foundling Museum)

Partnership of the Year - Supported by ACE

Winner: Dippy on Tour, a natural history adventure (Natural History Museum, Dorset County Museum and Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Ulster Museum in Belfast)

Highly commended: Multaka-Oxford (Oxford University Gardens, Libraries & Museums)

International Project of the Year, less than £1m

Winner: Gapu-Monuk Saltwater: Journey to Sea Country (Australian National Maritime Museum)

Highly commended: Escher Op Reis / Escher's Journey (Fries Museum /XPEX Experience Experts)

International Project of the Year, more than £1m

Winner: Heavenly Bodies: Fashion and the Catholic Imagination (The Costume Institute at The Metropolitan Museum of Art)

Permanent Exhibition of the Year

Winner: Being Brunel (SS Great Britain Trust)

Highly Commended: Endeavour Galleries Project (National Maritime Museum)

For more information, please visit <https://awards.museumsandheritage.com>

Social Media #MandHAwards @MandHShow

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