Celebrating Student Successes
Foreword

This publication showcases Hull College Group’s strong track record and reputation of producing highly skilled and commendable students who achieve success locally, regionally and nationally. We have included a mix of articles on our students’ successes in recent years; from 2013 to present. Our students have achieved highly in a range of disciplines and competitions; from the national success of our Fashion Degree students, including showcasing in The Clothes Show Live two years running; the triumphs of our enterprising students; to Goole College’s winning poets and writers. We look at our Catering students’ continued successes and at the national awards won by individual students from powerhouse names such as Siemens and the Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI). We have also placed a special focus on our students’ tremendous successes at the World Skills UK finals, with achievements at the 2013, 2014 and 2015 finals. We continue to showcase a number of student successes across the Group and we look forward to continuing to do so throughout 2016 and beyond.

Adding value through Skills Competitions for students at Hull College Group

At Hull College Group, we are passionate about providing our students with a rounded set of rich skills to complement the achievement of their qualifications. To demonstrate this we use a wide range of activities to enhance the overall student experience and add value to the student ultimately with a view to improving their employability skills and subsequent chances of gaining employment. This publication describes how we use Skills Competitions to “Add Value at Hull College Group.”

Skills competitions are an embedded part of the programmes delivered at Hull College Group. The Group’s strategy at all levels is to use skills competitions to provide our students with the experience of industry standards which complements and builds on their vocational programme. Training for competitions alongside vocational qualification learning, is based on developing students’ vocational skills as well as their softer skills, such as confidence building, time management, improving performance under pressure, team work and reflective practice. In addition, students benefit by filling any particular gaps in their technical skills and accessing specific opportunities to focus on key employability elements.

Embedding within 16-19 Study Programmes

As part of the Group’s 16-19 Study Programmes, we have developed a College certificated learning goal entitled “Skills Competitions”. The goal is accessed during non-qualification time can be studied by students from Entry Level through to Level 3. The scheme of work for the goal is mapped to the Group’s Employability Skills Passport which is based on the development of the 7 CBI Skills:

1. Self-Management
2. Teamwork
3. Business and Customer Awareness
4. Problem Solving
5. Communication & Literacy
6. Application of Number
7. Application of IT

Skills Competition Success

The Group has achieved outstanding success in external skills competitions over a number of years, through a well-established Skills Competitions programme in a number of vocational areas.

Examples of competitions entered by Hull College Group Students include:

- Match Fit, World Skills UK
- Young Enterprise, Cake International, Toque D’or
- Wessex Salon Culinaire
- National Hairdressers Federation, Airbase makeup, SkillBuild, SkillPlumb
- Guild of Bricklayers, Copper Saucepans, Bridal Buyer, British Culinary Championships, Institute of Motor Industry, SPARKS
- National Apprentice of the Year
- Outstanding success for Catering and Hospitality students
- Enterprising students triumph at Global Enterprise Week
- British Potato Industry Competition winner
- Hull Daily Mail recognise students at Golden Apple Awards
- Art and Design Degree students receive Royal Television Society awards
- Beauty students shine in National Media Makeup competition
- National Siemens award for engineering student
- Fashion Degree students impress the world’s most powerful woman in fashion

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Hull College students have achieved tremendous success at World Skills UK in recent years. WorldSkills UK Competitions inspire young people and adults to be ambitious in their pursuit of skills to the highest level. The competitions are the highlight of The Skills Show, the UK’s largest skills and careers event, which takes place at the NEC Birmingham.

Hundreds of the UK’s most talented apprentices and students battle it out in numerous competitions ranging from Floristry to Mechanical Engineering to be named the ‘best in the UK’ in their chosen skill. Entering the WorldSkills UK competitions is proven to catapult a person’s career. Taking part enables competitors to build on their skills, test their knowledge against their peers in industry and showcase their potential to employers.

In the 2013 competition, Arron Penn was named the ‘best in the UK’ after winning Gold for Confectionery and Patisserie; Connor Cutsforth won Bronze for Bricklaying, while Tom Dixon, 21, also in the brickwork competition, was awarded ‘highly commended’.

In the 2014 competition, Jonathan Buttery competed at the finals in Joinery and was selected to join Squad UK, where he will compete, along with Arron Penn, to represent the country in WorldSkills Abu Dhabi 2017.

Hull College Principal, Graham Towse said: “We are very proud of the results our students continually achieve at World Skills UK competitions. The College has a strong track record of producing national skills champions in a range of disciplines and we are so proud that our students fly the flag for the City of Hull, the College, and their respective trades. “Many thanks must also go to the individual tutors who put in so many additional hours to ensure that they were well prepared for this the most prestigious of skills competitions in the UK.”

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The home of British motorsport has witnessed Formula 1 greats, such as Lewis Hamilton, Michael Schumacher and Ayrton Senna, crowned as winners climbing onto the rostrum to the cheers of the crowd. Now, Silverstone has seen one Hull College student follow in their footsteps to scoop her own top accolade.

Elizabeth Hodgson has been crowned Body Repair Student of the Year at the famous racetrack. To complete her studies, the 21 year old has had to make a round trip of more than 120 miles, setting off at six-thirty in the morning from her home in Robin Hoods Bay, North Yorkshire.

The ceremony, organised by the Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI), was hosted by HRH Prince Michael of Kent and recognised the talents and skills of students within the motor industry across the UK.

Elizabeth was one of 14 winners chosen from more than 120,000 IMI learners, 30,000 IMI accreditation holders, and management professionals from across the motor industry.

Elizabeth said: “I am really proud of myself for achieving the Outstanding Body Repair Student of the Year award. It is an amazing feeling to win and I am still getting to grips with the fact that I have been named as the best student in body repair from across the UK.

“I certainly couldn’t have achieved this without the amazing help Hull College gave me throughout my course. Big thank you to my course leader David Paine and fellow tutors Paul Wisker and Paul Wiles.

“I would also like to say thank you to all the other staff at the college and of course to my friends and family that have helped me throughout.”

Elizabeth was nominated for the award by David Paine, Course Tutor for Level 3 Body Repair, at Hull College.

He said: “This is an amazing achievement for Elizabeth and the award is testament to her hard work and determination. She thoroughly deserves to be up there with the best in her chosen vocation.

“I am incredibly proud that a Hull College student has been recognised and has received this prestigious national award.”

This is not the first time Elizabeth’s talents have been recognised. Earlier this year she took part in the national IMI Skill Auto 2015 Competition held in Coventry. She was one of only seventeen body repairers selected from more than three hundred applicants and the only female body repairer to make it through to the regional heats.

Female Body Repair student wins national accolade at Silverstone

National success for Fashion Degree students

Higher Education BA (Hons) Fashion students across Hull College Group have been showcasing their talents on the national stage in a series of achievements; taking part in competitions, showing their creations in catwalk shows, and producing centrepieces for prominent exhibitions.

Chelsea Everitt won first prize in the 2014 annual National Design Against Fur fashion competition. Chelsea’s fabulous design was selected from lots of national entries into the contest, which has a remit of showcasing innovative and socially responsible design without the use of fur. The brief was to create a winter coat or jacket, which Chelsea then put her own twist on by basing her creation on the silhouette and style lines of historical men’s frock coats, adding a 21st Century twist and securing the coveted first prize slot.

Also in 2014, a Harrogate College student was named Best Student Designer in the National Bridal Buyer Awards, with a further six HE students from both Hull College and Harrogate College reaching the final in the same competition.

Samantha Henty, who achieved a First Class BA Hons in Applied Creative Design, beat students from colleges and universities across the country to triumph in her category. For the competition, Samantha created a mood board and specification sheets, as well as the wedding dress itself – a cascading design in blue. The challenge set by the judging panel was to demonstrate a comprehension of the female form, and to suggest fabrics suitable for a royal bride.

Samantha left a Maths Degree course at Warwick University to pursue her dream and study a Foundation Degree in Design and Products at Harrogate College, progressing from there to her Degree course.

Students from the College have enjoyed success in previous years, making the finals in both 2012 and 2013.
In 2014, two student poets from Goole’s 14-16 College saw their work in print after winning The Young Writers’ Power of Poetry competition. The national competition is open to all young poetry writers, and provides the opportunity for successful students to have their work published in a special anthology in libraries across the UK. The Power of Poetry selects entries for publication based on perception, imagination, expression and creative use of language. The two successful students were Oliwia Wantoch-Rekowska and Megan Foster who each produced a beautiful piece of poetry chosen from hundreds of entries.

This writing success continued in 2015 when Goole College 14-16 students had the opportunity to enter Grim Tales Mini Saga – a creative national writing competition for 11-18 year olds ran by Young Writers UK. The competition was open to schools and colleges across the country, receiving thousands of stories from all over the UK. Goole College gained 12 successful entries, with the work published in an anthology which was sent to The British Library and libraries across the UK and Republic of Ireland.

One of the winners, Beth Brown, said: ‘I was pleased and surprised to get the news,’ referring to hearing of her win, while tutor Sue Webb said: ‘I am delighted that the creative writing talents of our young writers have been acknowledged’.

For two years running, fashion students from Harrogate College have beaten stiff competition to take part in The Clothes Show Live, one of the country’s biggest fashion events.

Held annually at the Birmingham NEC, the five-day exhibition combines fashion shows, shopping, workshops and entertainment and is attended by thousands of visitors from across the country. In 2014, three talented designers, Demelsa Haughton, Ruth Sturdy and Carla Ward, exhibited their work on the Coca Cola Catwalk, within the Clothes Show’s dedicated University and College forum area. Their work was the first down the runway, as their collections opened the first show.

In the 2015 show, student Holly Greenwood was selected as a finalist for the show’s Young Designer Competition. Holly worked to a brief for The Young Designer Competition which was to design an outfit suitable for a top fashion blogger attending Tokyo Fashion Week. It had to be a full outfit consisting of jacket, top, trousers, bag and shoes measured to a size 10 model.

Holly says her inspiration came from street style and she immediately immersed herself in researching a variety of fabrics, patterns and textures that could be combined into a winning outfit.

The Young Designer Competition, sponsored by Olympus Pen offers entrants the opportunity to get a taste for life in the fast paced fashion industry, working with models, to a tight deadline and also on a catwalk.

Holly said: “The skills and techniques that I learned in the first year of my course at Harrogate have massively helped me get to where I am right now. This experience has been absolutely amazing and I’m so grateful to my tutors for their help and support. My course has now solidified the fact I want to work in the fashion industry, as we have covered all different aspects of fashion, skills and techniques.”
Hull College Business and Computing students have achieved highly at recent Yorkshire & Humber Young Enterprise Finals. Young Enterprise is a national initiative and the biggest business and enterprise education charity. Every year, Young Enterprise competitions are held at schools around the country to encourage young people to try their hand at starting a business.

In the 2015 final, four groups of students took part, with two groups winning commendation prizes and one group being crowned the regional winner. All the groups put in a tremendous amount of effort in coming up with their business ideas and then putting them into practice.

The winners were ‘Paper Salvage’. Their paper recycling business received praise from the judges as being a "good, ethical project, with likeable company members, a very good product and a niche proposal that could really grow legs". The group earned the chance to compete at the National Finals in Manchester.

In the 2014 Yorkshire & Humber Finals, a team of eight Business & Computing students were crowned the regional winner and also took part in the national finals in London. Standards at the National Finals are always very high, and the students found themselves competing with large Universities, some of whom had more than one entry and significant financial backing.

Enterprising students triumph at Global Enterprise Week

Enterprising students from Hull College have triumphed at the last two Global Enterprise Weeks in Hull. Global Enterprise Week (GEW) is a national event aimed at promoting enterprising activities within young people. Hull College is one of the many partner organisations involved in Global Enterprise Week and our students are fully involved in a range of activities each year.

In 2014, Business and Computing students impressed former star of BBC1 reality series The Apprentice, Ruth Badger, and took home Bronze in the Post-16 Global Enterprise Challenge. The Challenge saw 22 teams from across the region tasked with coming up with a truly creative way to repurpose an everyday object. Teams needed to create a product name, identify their target market, identify the features of the product, devise a pricing structure and then sell the idea to a judging panel.

In 2015, 14-16 students were tasked with a brief to develop a media wall for 20 classrooms in a new school and stick within a £60,000 budget. Our students secured 3rd place out of 18 teams and were awarded £150. Level 3 Business students also saw success; taking home Gold in The Badger’s Sett which is a “Dragons’ Den” style competition named in honour of Ruth Badger.

Our students aim high at the Yorkshire & Humber Young Enterprise Finals
Catering students from Hull College have had a series of successes at a local and national level, winning prizes in a series of prestigious competitions, including MatchFit, Wessex Salon Culinaire, and the Hotelympia Culinary Championships. Students have won more than 60 prizes over recent academic years across a wide range of disciplines, from patisserie skills to bread making. The competitors have been all over the country and tested their skills against the best performing people in the industry.

At the Culinary Championships, held at London’s Hotelympia, College representatives have gained an incredible array of medals which include five silver, three bronze, two merit awards and an ‘Outstanding Best in Show’. These awards are only won if the contestants meet the tough scoring criteria, sometimes resulting in no winner for some categories. The tough criteria, coupled with the extremely high level of competition, make these awards incredibly prestigious and a real boon for the students’ profile.

Outstanding success for Catering and Hospitality students

At the 2014 finals of the MatchFit competition, two students were awarded for their skills in bread making and displaying. James Braithwaite and Connor Tock took home a bronze medal and fourth place respectively. At the 2015 finals of MatchFit, Amanda Cartledge achieved a Gold medal, Leanne Richards secured Silver, and Amy Cryon took home the Bronze. MatchFit is a competition held throughout the north of the country, which aims to inspire learners with hands-on competitions and activities.

At the Wessex Salon Culinaire, a team of both students and staff won a total of 30 awards. The Wessex Salon Culinaire is an annual contest which brings together the best student chefs from around the country. Competing across a range of categories, the group took home four gold medals, seven silver, four bronze, eight merit awards, five Best in Class commendations and the highly contested overall prize for Best College.

Hull College Principal Graham Towse said: “The collective success of students and staff from throughout the catering department is just fantastic – we’re all extremely proud of everyone who has competed. These repeated successes are a reflection of the hard work and dedication of everyone who has competed – they all put hours into preparing for these competitions and it has absolutely paid off.”

British Potato Industry Competition winner

The Catering and Hospitality department at Harrogate College was approached by the British Potato Industry, and invited to take part in an exciting competition which offered students on the Level 2 Professional Cookery course the fantastic opportunity to have their dish cooked for up to 900 people at a dinner held at the Harrogate International Centre (HIC) in November 2015.

The British Potato Industry have an expanding educational strategy to get young people cooking with and eating more potatoes, so they challenged Harrogate College catering students to come up with a main course that shows off the versatility of the potato.

After creating a recipe, the students cooked their chosen dishes for a group of judges in the Harrogate College Metro Restaurant that included Principal Debra Fosythe-Conroy and Nick White, Head of Marketing for AHBD Potatoes. A vast array of skills and techniques were used by the students to come up with some excellent dishes with the winning dish being chosen as British Bubble ‘n’ Squeak with Crispy Belly Pork and a Red Wine Jus, by Frazer Coulby. “Frazer’s dish was not only visually stunning, but the combination of classic flavours made it a stand out winner.” – Nick White, head of marketing for AHBD Potatoes.

All participating students also got the opportunity to work behind the scenes at the event, to help prepare the winning dish in the HIC kitchens, providing valuable hands on experience which can go towards their qualification.
Hull College apprentices have seen high success at the last two Hull Daily Mail Golden Apple Awards. For the 2014 ceremony, Connor Cutsforth took Apprentice of the Year, while fellow apprentice Abbigail Holmes came runner-up. For the 2015 ceremony, Ryan Gagg, won the Apprentice of the Year award.

The awards, now in their second year, celebrate the best schools and colleges in the region; recognising the staff and students who make a difference. The awards, which are supported by companies and education providers across Hull and East Riding, receive hundreds of nominations from around the region, with extremely strong competition in all categories.

Two final year degree students at Hull College have celebrated awards from the Royal Television Society (RTS). Nicky Brockwell and Lauren Hanson, studying on the BA (HONS) Journalism and Digital Media course, were awarded a Special Commendation at the RTS Student Television Awards 2015 in the News category for their film documentary Hull Homeless. The RTS Student Television Awards recognise the best in student television from across the UK. This was the first year the RTS has awarded films in a News category, making Nicky and Lauren the first students in the country to win the accolades.

Hull Homeless was made by Nicky and Lauren to raise awareness of homelessness in the city and the support provided by organisations such as Hull Homeless Outreach Team and St Mary’s Church, Lowgate. Nicky and Lauren spent several weeks talking to homeless people and understanding the issues they faced.

Entries for the News category were expected to show ‘outstanding visual and aural creativity, a mastery of craft skills, innovation, initiative and story-telling’ and included films from universities including York, Sheffield, Leeds Trinity and Bradford.

Awarding Special Commendation for the film, the judges felt that Hull Homeless ‘addressed an important issue with great success and excellent material.’

Alastair Thomson, Hull College Group Director for Higher Education said: “I am delighted that two of our students have obtained such significant recognition from the Royal Television Society.

“The film itself is thoughtful and considered, highlighting the key issues of homelessness in the city in a non-sensationalist way, concentrating on the individuals and their story.

“The College Group would like to congratulate both Nicky and Lauren on such an outstanding achievement – there’s clearly a great journalistic future ahead for both students!”

Hull Daily Mail recognise students at Golden Apple Awards

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Kelli Marshall, a Level 3 Theatrical, Special Effects, Hair & Media Makeup student in the School of Hair, Beauty & Catering at Hull College won the national Airbase Monster Make Up competition in October 2015.

Airbase Make Up is a national cosmetic brand created by Judy Naaké, the modest beauty guru that bought the now leading tanning product St.Tropez to the UK. Airbase has since had product development by Oscar nominated Make-up Artist Anni Buchanan and now enjoys success worldwide.

The brand runs an annual national competition in October to create an airbrushed Halloween makeover using Airbase Make Up products. Hundreds of entrants from across the UK submit photographs of their work, along with details, to a judging panel who then select the winning look.

With amazing make up designs, Kelli was named as the winner, showcasing her amazing talent and adding to her portfolio of work. The College also had two runners up: Kat Gregory and Bethany Annable.

Beauty students shine in National Media Makeup competition

A top engineering student was awarded the Sir William Siemens Certificate at a national ceremony in November 2015.

Lee Budgen is studying a Level 3 Extended Diploma in Engineering at Hull College and was nominated for the award due to his full commitment, hard work and patience to his course.

The Sir William Siemens Certificate launched last year to recognise excellence in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in partner Colleges across the UK with students being nominated due to excellence, innovation and dedication shown in their first year studies.

Lee is also an excellent ambassador for the College, having recently visited the new Hull College Group Composites Training Centre in Hull where he met with the Project Director, Finbarr Dowling and the Minister of State for Energy and Climate Change, Andrea Leadsom, as part of a group of students speaking of their optimism for the future as the huge Siemens investment opens up new jobs and opportunities in the region.

The new Hull College Group Composites Training Centre on the city’s Preston Road estate is a development by the Group, who are working with Siemens as they invest in Hull; using this development, to train workers for the company’s new wind turbine blade factory in Hull.

Graham Gibson, Mechanical Engineering tutor at Hull College, who nominated Lee for the award said: “I am delighted with Lee’s success at last night’s awards which recognise Lee’s hard work on his college course. This is a huge achievement and provides a fantastic opportunity for Lee in the future.

“It is also wonderful for a Hull College student to be recognised at national level as it highlights the Group’s new and flourishing partnership with Siemens.”

The award ceremony saw a £100 prize awarded to Lee with Hull College receiving a further £200 to put towards STEM resources. The Sir William Siemens Certificate is yet another example of Siemens’ commitment to UK further education and to addressing the engineering skills gap.
Fashion designs from degree students at Hull College’s School of Art & Design were selected for inclusion in the Northern Youth Fashion Show 2016; impressing the world’s most powerful woman in fashion, Anna Wintour.

The students, studying on the BA (Hons) Fashion Degree programme, were approached by the University of York’s fashion publication, HARD Magazine, to take part in the show, alongside fashion students from seven other northern universities. The show raised money for refugee charities and displayed the talent and creativity of students studying fashion in the north of Great Britain.

The students submitted a range of designs from black and white op art to Origami inspired dress designs. These designs were subsequently featured as part of twenty ensembles for the catwalk show at the Central Hall, University of York.

Dean of the Faculty of Arts at Hull School Art & Design, Sarah Humphreys said: “The BA (Hons) Fashion students enjoyed meeting Anna Wintour and listening to her views on the dynamics of fashion show and the creativity of the pieces presented as the pinnacle of northern fashion.

“This opportunity to participate in this fashion event builds on Hull School of Art & Design’s strong track record of student success; in 2015, we were the only fashion degree college in the country to create a collection for The Great Yorkshire fashion event, we produced a winner at the Anti-Fur Awards and had seven students as finalists in the National Bridal Buyer student awards.”

Anna Wintour, who has held the position of editor-in-chief of American Vogue since 1988 and is considered a fashion icon around the world, watched the show and participated in a pre-show Q&A session hosted by Katharine Viner, editor-in-chief of The Guardian.
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