

A Sustainable Future for London: Schools Photography Competition Exhibition Launch and Awards

Friday 20 March 2020

This briefing note is designed to inform Members of the input the Company has provided in support of the above initiative.

After discussions with the Director of the Built Environment and other senior colleagues in the City of London Corporation in late 2019, it was agreed that the Company would actively lead and support a schools' photographic competition to mark World Water Day 2020 (WWD). An alliance of partners was formed which included New London Architecture Learning, the City of London Corporation, Cheapside Business Alliance and Worshipful Company of Water Conservators.



The competition was open to all schools in the Greater London area and comprised of two groups; Primary and Secondary, in both the state and private sectors. Some 1,800 schools were sent invitations to participate with the theme of ***A Sustainable Future for London*** that addresses the environmental challenges Londoners face.

Entries would comprise of original artwork with a wide-ranging subject matter including:

- Promoting active forms of travel
- Vision for a greener London
- Moving to a Plastic Free and a Car Free City
- Climate change
- Detrimental impact of single use plastic in our rivers and waterways

Entries closed in mid-February 2020 with over 40 submissions being received. All were put before a judging panel comprising of representatives of the partnership plus two professional photographers. The quality of the work submitted was very high and at times it was hard to distinguish between entries from the younger and older children. But two clear winners emerged plus two runners-up.

An awards ceremony was to be held on 20 March (closest date to WWD) at the City Centre, Basinghall Street, but sadly this has been cancelled because of the current Coronavirus pandemic. The four winning entries (plus eight further entries which warranted special recognition) were to have been exhibited there for the following week. Prizes comprise of attendance by the winning classes to a sustainability workshop run by New London Architecture Learning.

The awards ceremony was to have been led by the Lady Mayoress, Hilary Russell with the Master Water Conservator giving the key-note speech.

The prize winners were:

- Primary overall winner Journalism Club, Bangabandhu Primary School, Bethnal Green
 Runner up Class 6, M4, Dwight School, Friern Barnet
- Secondary overall winner Class 10A, Wimbledon High School
 Runner up Year 8, 8S, City of London School for Girls

It is hoped to arrange the awards ceremony and exhibition of photographs at a later date.

Simon Catford, Deputy Master

19th March 2020