



PRESS RELEASE

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Twenty-two UK educational institutions announced as winners of Queen's Anniversary Prizes, 2018-2020

Her Majesty The Queen has approved the award of The Queen's Anniversary Prizes to twenty-two institutions of higher and further education as the latest winners in the Prizes scheme – the most prestigious form of national recognition open to UK academic or vocational institutions.

The Prize-winning universities and colleges have been recognised for ground-breaking work and pioneering research in a wide range of disciplines including science, engineering, education, the humanities, the environment and medicine. Direct benefits of the institutions' work have been delivered at local, regional, national and international level.

The Queen's Anniversary Prizes reward outstanding work by UK colleges and universities which shows excellence and innovation and delivers real public benefit. The Prizes are granted every two years by The Queen and are the highest national Honour awarded to UK colleges and universities. Entries in the scheme are invited in any subject area and are subjected to rigorous independent assessment in a process managed by the Royal Anniversary Trust, an independent charity. Recommendations for the Queen's approval are made on the Prime Minister's advice.

Sir Damon Buffini, Chairman of the Royal Anniversary Trust said: "Colleges and universities throughout the UK do exceptional work year after year that delivers well beyond the institution – positively affecting education, the economy and wider society in many different ways. The criteria are demanding, and competition is strong; it is a great incentive to our colleges and universities to think critically about the direction of their work and its application and relevance in today's world. Many congratulations to the latest Prize-winners!"

13TH ROUND PRIZE-WINNERS 2018-2020:

Belfast Metropolitan College

Leading the curriculum for digital IT in Northern Ireland and creating a talent pipeline for the sector there and more widely in the UK

Birmingham City University

Innovative education for the jewellery industry and important expertise in the restoration of national heritage finds such as the Staffordshire Hoard

Coventry University

Innovative advanced manufacturing and engineering education for the automotive industry addressing a priority need for factory-ready graduates

Cranfield University

Specialised facilities for in-flight aerospace engineering training graduates from over twenty UK universities supporting the UK aviation industry

Dudley College of Technology

The largest provider of advanced vocational and technical education and apprenticeships in the West Midlands contributing to the economy of the region

University of Exeter

Broad-based research identifying and combating the environmental dangers of micro and nano-plastics pollution

University of Greenwich

Pioneering and innovative research in pest management and control to combat human and animal diseases in the UK and internationally

Heriot-Watt University

A major contribution in forming national policies to help homeless and destitute people, with a focus on alleviating rough sleeping in Scotland and England

University of Huddersfield

Innovative research in rail engineering, to improve safety and efficiency through technological developments in the interface of rolling stock and track

The University of Kent

Pioneering education, capacity building and research in global nature conservation to protect biodiversity and ecosystems in Africa and Latin America

King's College London

Innovations in biomedical engineering and imaging sciences with health benefits through early diagnosis for over eleven thousand patients a year

London South East Colleges (LSEC)

A novel construction skills programme integrated with employers and providing much needed skilled employees for housing construction in SE London

Manchester Metropolitan University

Creative education to promote understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity through children's creative writing in mother tongue and English

The University of Manchester

A leader in the UK's strategic development of biotechnology and bio-manufacturing, through innovative technologies in partnerships with industry

University of Oxford

The development of new measures for understanding global poverty, influencing the work of international aid agencies in a range of developing countries

The University of Plymouth

Ground-breaking research revealing the extent of microplastics and litter in the oceans and its impact on marine life and the food chain

Queen's University Belfast

Shared inter-denominational education supporting community relations in Northern Ireland and reaching seventy thousand pupils in seven hundred schools

The University of Sheffield

Ground-breaking research which is improving treatment and care for people with neurodegenerative diseases including MS, Alzheimer's and MND

University of Stirling

Pioneering aquaculture work for sustainable food production through innovations in fish farming and water-based food industries in the UK and overseas

The University of Strathclyde

Novel solutions for low carbon energy embracing wind, marine power and renewables and smart systems for generation, supply and storage

Tyne Coast College

Novel digital modelling and advanced training for the planning of new port facilities and for the safe management of ship movements in UK and globally

University of York

Ground-breaking research in protein science leading to new drugs and therapies for diabetes and other conditions, and improved industrial processes

This evening, representatives of the Prize-winning institutions will attend a reception at St James's Palace to mark the announcement and the Prizes will be officially presented by a senior member of the Royal Family in a ceremony at Buckingham Palace in February 2020.

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Notes to editors

- The creation of The Queen's Anniversary Prizes was announced in Parliament in 1993 by the Prime Minister, with Her Majesty's consent and with all-party support.
- Since the inception of the Prizes scheme, 275 Prizes have been awarded to 98 universities and 49 further education colleges.
- The Queen's Anniversary Prizes are managed by The Royal Anniversary Trust, an independent charity.
- The Trust was established in 1990 to create a national programme of educational activities and other events marking the 40th anniversary of The Queen's accession in 1952.

Further enquiries

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