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Spark!

Partnership Challenge 2012

26th annual awards to recognise and reward active collaboration between education and the local business community

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: LORD KNIGHT OF WEYMOUTH



www.sparklondon.org/partnershipchallenge2012

Closing date for entries is Friday 26 October 2012

Introduction



Spark! acts as a vital and efficient driver for employment, forming strong, supportive and valued relationships that have a positive impact on all our stakeholders; students, educators, businesses, statutory bodies and funders alike.

We work with our partners to open up excellent opportunities that inspire and enlighten, helping to forge secure futures for young people by giving them real focus and direction. Engaging them in the workplace significantly increases their chances of permanent roles.

The 26th Spark! Partnership Challenge, our annual awards, is organised by our staff team with the support of sponsors. Spark! delivers a range of programmes:

- Employability Hub for schools and businesses
- Business Links Service - which provides creative, work related opportunities that bring the business world alive
- Work Experience and Internships Service, including The WEX Factor
- Brokerage between training providers and businesses
- Apprenticeships and wider employee volunteering opportunities

Spark! has always worked closely with Hounslow Chamber in delivering the programme and annual awards. Hounslow Chamber encourages its members to give the benefit of their expertise to enable young people of all abilities to gain experience of life in the workplace and to equip them to secure employment by working with Spark!

To find out more about the diverse range of Spark! Partners supporting our programmes visit www.sparklondon.org/partners

Will Tyler
Chairman

Award categories

The annual Spark! Partnership Challenge event recognises, rewards and supports activities between educational organisations and the local business community. This year we are expanding from three to seven awards categories, recognising the full breadth of our work.

Partnership Projects

Malcolm Gibbins Cup – Recognising primary schools' and community partners' excellence in work-related learning/Business Links projects, awarded by Hounslow Chamber of Commerce.

Jubilee Cup – Recognising secondary schools' and community partners' excellence in work-related learning/Business Links projects, awarded by Hounslow Chamber of Commerce.

Business Leadership

***New award* Work experience/Internship company of the year** – Recognising the employer who has excelled in their support of high quality and fair work experience or internship opportunities, supported by Sky.

***New award* Apprenticeship company of the year** – Recognising the employer who has excelled in their support for developing high quality Apprenticeships, supported by BAM.

Individual Awards

The Angela Innes Award – Recognising the individual (or team) that has gone the extra mile in supporting the development of work related, or work based, learning, awarded by Carillion.

***New award* Work experience student/Intern of the year** – Recognising the young person that has excelled in grasping the opportunity that their work placement or internship offered, supported by Thames Water.

***New award* Apprentice of the year** – Recognising the young person that has excelled in grasping the opportunity that an Apprenticeship has offered, supported by Sky.

Highly commended certificates are awarded by the judging panel for projects which are of an exceptional standard, but do not quite achieve one of the top awards.

Certificates in recognition of achievement and progress by schools, colleges and companies during 2012 are awarded to all entries which meet the competition entry criteria. In celebration of all partnership activities, assessment for the certificates is not competitive, but by reference only to the eligibility criteria set out below. It is the intention to encourage as many entries as possible and to keep the administration simple.

Judging panel

Assessment of entries will be carried out by local representatives from education and industry that sit on Spark's Advisory Board, as well as representatives of award sponsors, including Hounslow Chamber. The Advisory Board is made up of:

Victoria Eadie

Education Improvement Partnership (EIP) representative and Head of Feltham Community College

Hanif Khan

Video Shoot Productions

Gemma McNeelis

Communications & CSR Manager, Chiswick Park Enjoy-Work

Tony Ryan

Head of Chiswick School

Sundeep Sangha

Economic Development Manager, Heathrow Airport Limited

Vinay Tanna

Garner Hancock LLP

Tizzy Bowman and Phil Howarth from Carillion, where Angela worked, will be consulted on the final recommendation for the Angela Innes Award. If judges have a conflict of interest they will withdraw from the decision-making process.



Winners of the 2011 Partnership Challenge

The 2011 awards event, held at Eton College, was attended by 250 people, including pupils, parents, teachers, Councillors and members of the local business community. The keynote speaker was Sophie Turner Laing from Sky.

The Jubilee Cup

BAM Construction, Chiswick School and Gunnersbury Catholic School

Received award for a creative challenge for young people who designed the hoardings of a construction site on Chiswick High Road.

The Malcolm Gibbins Cup

Ministry of Defence, Hansons Riverdale, Rural Activities Garden Centre and Beavers Community Primary School

Received award for a collaborative whole school environment project.

The Angela Innes Trophy

Sonia Bruce, Sky

Sonia provided enthusiastic and sustained support for the development of Sky's education-business partnership activities in the London Borough of Hounslow.

To read about past winners of the Partnership Challenge visit:
www.sparklondon.org/pastwinners/

How to apply

Submissions must be entered on the official application forms. All sections of the appropriate form must be completed. Entries can be submitted at any time prior to the closing date.

Partnership Project and Business Leadership Awards – Entry Criteria

Jubilee Cup, Malcolm Gibbins Cup, Work experience/Internship company of the year and Apprenticeship company of the year

Entries will typically, but not always, be made jointly by the educational establishment and community partner involved in collaborative projects.

If different departments in a school are working with a community partner, please submit all curriculum areas in one application. If a community partner is working with several schools on a joint project, please submit this as one entry only, naming all the schools involved.

Submissions should reference evidence that the activity:

1. Is a newly initiated activity or a clear development of an existing programme.
2. Reflects a firm, practical, substantial and continuing commitment by the collaborating organisation(s) to the joint work and there are clearly expressed activities to sustain the initiative in the future.
3. Benefits young people in terms of securing opportunities for learning and achievement related to a better understanding of the role of industry and its service to the community.
4. Demonstrates clear integration with appropriate parts of the national curriculum.
5. Is part of a programme of activities involving active collaboration between students and the local business community, rather than a “one off” intervention.
6. Took place in London Borough of Hounslow, or another London Borough in which a Spark! Partner operates.

Entry submissions must be entered on the application form which can be downloaded from: www.sparklondon.org/partnershipchallenge2012

Individual Awards - Entry Criteria

The Angela Innes Trophy, Work experience student/Intern of the year and Apprentice of the year.

The criteria for a school or business nominating an individual (or team) is that they:

1. Excelled in grasping the opportunity that their work placement, Internship or Apprenticeship offered; or
2. In the case of Angela Innes Trophy nominations, clearly demonstrated an understanding of the needs of students through work-related and/or work-based learning activities;
3. Gone “the extra mile”; and
4. Live or work in London Borough of Hounslow, or another London Borough in which the Spark! Partner operates.

Nominations for The Angela Innes Trophy must come from a school, and can be for an individual or team in a community partner.

Enter your nomination on the application form which can be downloaded from: www.sparklondon.org/partnershipchallenge2012

Entries can be submitted at any time. The closing date for submissions is **Friday 26 October 2012**. Please send submissions to:

Ruby Mir
Spark! c/o GSK House
980 Great West Road
Brentford
Middlesex
TW8 9GS

The awards event

The winners will be announced and celebrated at the Partnership Challenge Awards, to be held at the Sheraton Skyline Hotel on Monday 19th November from 4.30 to 6.30pm. A small exhibition at the event will involve pupils, teachers and community partners demonstrating the range, quality and benefits of leading initiatives through 2012.

Keynote speaker



Our keynote speaker is Jim Knight, The Rt Hon Lord Knight of Weymouth. Jim Knight was the longest serving Schools minister in the last Labour government. He attended weekly Cabinet meetings in the year running up to the 2010 General Election as Employment Minister, and was then made a life peer in the Dissolution Honours List.

Jim's main policy interests are education, employment, skills and digital technology. He works as a consultant specialising in advising on the use of technology in education and employment; currently working with TSL Education, Alderwood Education and Step-A International Ltd. He also chairs the Online Centres Foundation and is on the boards of the Institute for Employability Professionals, HTI Ltd., the e-learning Foundation, CDI Apps for Good and the Arsenal Fanshare Society.

Enquiries and to book your place

If you require any further information, or would like to book a free place at the awards event please contact:

Ruby Mir

Email: ruby.mir@sparklondon.org

Phone: 020 8047 3350

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