

Cumbria Learners Celebrate Awards Wins

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Five Cumbrian learners and one employer are celebrating after being named as winners in the Cumbria heat of the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) North West Learner Awards.

Wigton's Katie Jones and Rebecca Alderson from Carlisle were named Advanced Apprentice and Apprentice of the Year. Eighteen year old Katie and 16 year old Rebecca are both doing Apprenticeships in Supporting Teaching and Learning at Caldew School in Carlisle, and training with RWP Training.

Sixteen year old Sophie Martin from Whitehaven was named Young Apprentice of the Year. Sophie is working towards a Young Apprenticeship in Engineering and has a placement at BNS Nuclear Services. She trains for her Apprenticeship at Lakes College in Lillyhall, and attends St Benedicts Catholic High School in Whitehaven.

The award for Apprentice Employer of the Year went to Sellafield Ltd, while Liam Yeomans from Carlisle College won the Further Education Vocational Award and Candy Saunders from Barrow in Furness Sixth Form College took home the Further Education Academic Award.

All the winners were presented with a trophy and vouchers by former Dragon's Den 'Dragon' Richard Farleigh at an awards ceremony at Rheged in Penrith on 14 May.

LSC Director of Area for Cumbria, Emer Clarke, congratulated all the learners, saying "Tonight we celebrate Cumbria business success, and the impact that this success has on our economy and culture. I believe that is essential that we remember that people are at the heart of every successful business, and that training is the key that can unlock their potential.

"All tonight's learners should be extremely proud of their achievements, and all of them have a bright future ahead. I hope that Cumbria's employers recognise the great resource we have here, and that we all remember the big difference that

learning can have on lives, while we recognise the tremendous contribution that employers have made in developing the talent that we have seen here tonight.”

The winners in each category could now go on to be named North West Regional Winner, competing against winners from Cheshire and Warrington, Greater Manchester, Greater Merseyside and Lancashire. Winners in the Apprenticeship categories could also go on to the National Apprenticeship Awards final, which will be held at Old Billingsgate in London on 16 July.

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Notes to editors

The winners of the Learning and Skills Council's North West Learner Awards in Cumbria are:

Advanced Apprentice of the Year

Katie Jones, Wigton

Highly commended:

Nick Oliver, Barrow

David Herbert, Workington

Apprentice of the Year

Rebecca Alderson, Carlisle

Highly commended:

Thomas Athersmith, Ulverston

James Duerdon, Ulverston

Young Apprentice of the Year

Sophie Martin, Whitehaven

Highly commended:

Emma Jane Snowden, Carlisle

Sarah Hext, Brampton

Apprentice Employer of the Year

Learning and Skills Council **North West Region**
Arndale House Arndale Centre Manchester M4 3AQ
T 0845 019 4142 F 0161 261 0370 www.lsc.gov.uk

Sellafield Ltd

FE Academic

Candy Saunders, Barrow in Furness Sixth Form College

Highly commended:

Rachel Murrey, Carlisle College

FE Vocational

Liam Yeomans, Carlisle College

Highly commended:

Erin Catnach, Barrow in Furness Sixth Form College

Ricky Mason, Furness College

About the LSC

The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We are responsible for ensuring the availability of high-quality education and training for everyone. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to world class standards. Our vision is that young people and adults in England have knowledge and skills matching the best in the world and are part of a truly competitive workforce. We work nationally, regionally and locally to deliver this ambition on behalf of learners and employers.

About the North West Learner Awards 2009

The LSC's North West Learner Awards recognise the achievements of further education learners, apprentices and apprentice employers from across the region. The awards comprise Apprentice of the Year, Advanced Apprentice of the Year, and Young Apprentice of the Year, the Further Education Academic Award, the Further Education Vocational Award, plus awards for apprentice employers. Winners in each category are honoured at awards ceremonies in Cheshire and Warrington, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Greater Merseyside and Lancashire; they then go on to compete for the North West Region Award for their category and those in the Apprenticeship categories are also considered for the national Apprenticeship Awards.

News Release



Leading learning and skills

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

For more information contact Juliet Shaw on 07837 360470, e-mail

Juliet@resourcemarketing.co.uk, or Luisa Pastore at LSC on 0161 261 0434, e-mail luisa.pastore@lsc.gov.uk

Learning and Skills Council **North West Region**
Arndale House Arndale Centre Manchester M4 3AQ
T 0845 019 4142 F 0161 261 0370 www.lsc.gov.uk