

Michelle Dewberry, winner of 'The Apprentice' television programme to present LSC Excellence in Cumbria awards

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The 'Oscars' style County Final of the Excellence in Cumbria Awards 2006, run by the Learning and Skills Council (LSC), takes place on Thursday 29 March 2007 at 6.00 pm at The Castle Green Hotel, Kendal, Cumbria. The guest of honour will be Michelle Dewberry, winner of the 'The Apprentice' television programme.

Members of the press will have the opportunity to interview winners and take photographs. Contact on the day will be: Janis Wilkinson (07920 499050).

The individual categories are: Connexions Cumbria Youth Progress Award; Youth Achievement Award; Skills for Life Award; Adult Learners Award sponsored by NIACE; Breakthrough Award; TUC Lifelong Learning Award.

The Apprenticeship categories are: Apprentice Employer of the Year; Apprentice of the Year; Young Apprentice of the Year.

The finalists (listed below) will be competing for the county award in their category, with cash prizes of £300 and/or a prestigious trophy to be presented by Michelle Dewberry.

List of Finalists:

Connexions Cumbria Youth Progress Award

Alan Fitzpatrick (Kendal)

Ryan Marvin (Barrow-in-Furness)

Vikki Porter (Workington)

Claire Wardell (Appleby-in-Westmorland)

Youth Achievement Award

Nick Oliver (Dalton-in Furness)

Rebecca Murray (Brampton)

Simone Rollinson (Whitehaven)

Skills for Life Award

Andrew Harrison (Penrith)

Kevin Parkes (Barrow-in-Furness)

Natasha Thwaite (Kirkby Stephen)

Adult Learners Award sponsored by NIACE

Edith Graham (Penrith)

Jackie Harding (Barrow-in-Furness)

Derek Ward (Cockermouth)

Debbie Wilson (Alithwaite)

Breakthrough Award

Gerry Garvey (Penrith)

Ryan Marvin (Barrow-in-Furness)

Sandra Sleep (Millom)

TUC Lifelong Learning Award

David Beattie (Carlisle)

Maria Silva (Carlisle)

Samantha Turner (Millom)

Apprentice Employer of the Year

James Walker & Co Ltd (Cockermouth)

Little Rainbows Community Day Nursery (Barrow-in-Furness)

Tronic Ltd (Ulverston)

Apprentice of the Year

Tara Caslin (Carlisle)

Philippa Hutt (Levens)

Adrian Lomas (Barrow-in-Furness)

Richard Usher (Dovenby)

Young Apprentice of the Year

Simon Jackson (Windermere)

Steven Norman (Whitehaven)

Mark Stilwell (Workington)

-ENDS-

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY/PRESS FACILITY

You are invited to send a reporter and/or photographer to the Castle Green Hotel, Kendal, where Michelle Dewberry will present the winners of the county awards with their prize.

Public Document

NOTES TO EDITORS

Partners in this year's Awards include ITV Border, Connexions Cumbria, the National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (NIACE) and the Trades Union Congress (TUC).

Learning and Skills Council:

1The 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.

2The Excellence in Cumbria Awards for Learning Skills and Achievement has eight individual categories, each aimed at rewarding people who have used self development to improve their own lives, or those within their communities. There is also one business category.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT: KIM SMITH AT RESOURCE MARKETING ON 01229 433689.