

THE HUNT IS ON TO FIND THE NORTH WEST'S TOP LEARNERS

The Learning and Skills Council's (LSC) North West Further Education Learner Awards 2009 will honour the cream of local talent

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The LSC in the North West is calling on colleges across the region to submit their nominations for the 2009 North West Further Education Awards, part of the LSC's North West Learner Awards. Colleges can nominate a student in each of two categories; the Further Education Vocational Award, and the Further Education Academic Award.

The awards acknowledge and celebrate exceptional achievements and contributions through the learners' educational or vocational experiences, whether this is in terms of increased opportunity for themselves or for others. Awards ceremonies will be held in Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Greater Merseyside and Lancashire, with winners progressing to the regional final.

In 2008 Sarah Jane Maher from Hugh Baird College in Bootle, Merseyside, won the North West Further Education Vocational Award. One of just four females on her City and Guilds Electrical Engineering Course, Sarah Jane also worked for an electrical contractor on the construction of the Liverpool Echo Arena. Bury College's William Downes took the North West Further Education Academic Award, and went on to read Engineering at King's College Cambridge.

LSC Regional Director John Korzeniewski said “These awards are designed to recognise the immense talent we have here in the North West, and reward the hard work and dedication of the region’s learners. They offer a great opportunity for colleges to share their successes with the wider community, and for the sector as a whole to celebrate the impact learning has on people’s lives.”

The LSC is contacting all colleges across the region with further information about the awards, and details of the application process. The deadline for completed applications is 27 February 2009.

Notes to editors

Learning and Skills Council:

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.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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