

PRESS RELEASE



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FE AWARDS CELEBRATE MORE STUDENTS THAN EVER!

On Friday 6 January 2012, Yeovil College held its biggest ever Further Education (FE) Award ceremony at Haselbury Mill. More than 350 students, staff and special guests came to recognise and celebrate the achievements of adult and 14-19 students from across the College's Full and Part-time curriculum.

2011/12 was a record year for FE Award nominations, reflecting the number of high achievers completing courses at Yeovil College.

On the night, nearly 120 awards were presented in a range of categories recognising personal and academic achievement and sporting success.

There were nine top trophies and shields to present. The **Jan Howell Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Community** went to Sports student Michael Cairncross (19) of Yeovil, in recognition of his heavy involvement in community activities and projects. Travel and Tourism student Ebony Court (20) of Merriot received the **Nicola Locke Award for Outstanding Personal Achievement** for her personal progression and achievement. The **Fred Janes Award for Outstanding Contribution to College Life** went to William Hopkinson of Yeovil, a Sports student who had captained the College's Rugby team, as well as helping to coach other College and community teams. The **Nikki Baker Cup for Student Endeavour** was awarded to Health and Social Care student Trish Mutandwa of Yeovil. Described as "a warm, caring practitioner with a wonderful sense of fun" who embraced her learner journey, she was given the award in recognition of her dedication and commitment. Abi Taylor of Yeovil won the **Roger Elvin Award for Modern Languages** for the second year in a row. She worked extremely hard and was highly motivated throughout her courses, achieving high grades and continuing her language studies at university. The 2011/12 Tony Allum Award for Essay Writing was won jointly by Elizabeth Chapman and William Glass, both of Yeovil, for their work on Bees and Helium respectively. Last but not least, the **Lawrence Cover Shield for Engineering Excellence** went to James Lewis of Yeovil.

The winner of the **Stephanie Pirongs Personal Achievement Award** was Martyna Donocik of Yeovil, who unfortunately could not accept the award in person. Business student Martyna achieved a Distinction at Level 1 before progressing to Level 2 and achieving a Merit. She achieved well and grew in confidence despite difficult circumstances.

Twenty awards were sponsored by local businesses and employers. **Yeovil Town Football Club** sponsored Outstanding Achievement awards in Sport and Uniformed Public Services, won by Gabrielle Nardiello of Yeovil and Carly Trott of Martock respectively, and the Volunteering and Community Award, awarded to Craig Zimmerman of Milborne Port. The **AgustaWestland** Supporting Fellow Students awards went to Rebecca Childs of Yeovil and Gemma Duke of Gillingham. Qualification body **NCFE** sponsored the Outstanding Achievement in Travel and Tourism award, won by Martiale Batai of Coventry, and an Outstanding Personal Achievement award, won by Heidi Silcox of Beaminster. Joe Chelton of Yeovil and Dana Collis of Sturminster Newton won the **BAE Systems** Outstanding Achievement in IT and Computing awards, while the **Numatic International** Most Improved Student award went to Stephen Galvin of Yeovil. **Buck and Hickman** sponsored three Outstanding Achievement in Engineering awards, which went to Luke Rose of Membury, Maddison Wilmot of Gillingham and Reece Wilson of Stalbridge. The **Meridian Business Support** award for Outstanding Achievement in Business, Administration and Finance went to Maisie Kelly of Yeovil and the **Mulberrys** Student Endeavour award went to Kamai Lomas of Southampton. The **Western Gazette** sponsored awards for Outstanding Achievement in Music and Outstanding Achievement in Media, which went to Sophie Hosken-Taylor of Ilchester and Luke Thorne of Chard respectively.

This year's guest speaker was Midwest Radio's Steve Carpenter. During his speech, Mr Carpenter spoke about his career and what he has learned during his life in radio. He said "*Academic success is very important, but to get*

to use that success and do what you want in life can be hard. I consider myself very lucky because I've been able to do that. I got into radio by asking if I could do a gig guide. Sometimes that's all you need, a good enough idea and people in the industry receptive to new ideas. From the first time I appeared on radio, I knew that it was what I wanted to do, but life's challenging. It's not easy to get on in media now and I wouldn't want to be the age of the students here tonight again. But you should never stop learning and never be afraid to learn. Find out what happens in life and learn every new aspect of the business you're working in, then you'll be able to turn your hand to anything and be a success. Also, don't be afraid of change, try to embrace it. If you can't embrace it, try not to upset people who genuinely think it's the right thing to do." Mr Carpenter concluded by saying that he was looking forward to shaking hands with the student award winners who thoroughly deserved to be there.

The event also included a sneak preview of the much anticipated 2012 Yeovil College production, 'The Wiz: The Super Soul Musical'. Cast members performed the Scarecrow's song 'Born on the Day before Yesterday'. The show will be on at the Octagon Theatre, Yeovil, from 8 to 10 February 2012.

The FE Awards ceremony was also supported by Media students led by lecturers Steve Braddick and James Guest, responsible for filming and multimedia elements of show, Music students led by Simon Squire and Performing Arts students Melissa Wroe and Andy Cannon, who read out the winners' best memories of the College as they collected their awards.

Yeovil College Principal James Hampton said "Events like this are a highlight of the year for me, as I'm sure they are for all my colleagues at the College. Ultimately, it's our students' successes and achievements that are really what Yeovil College is all about. This ceremony pays tribute to all of the students who completed their studies in 2011, not just those whose outstanding personal and academic achievements are being recognised with awards. It has been another truly great year for Yeovil College and its students, with excellent A Level and Vocational results, more than 300 students going on trips as part of their course, continued success for our Sports stars and students in almost every area being recognised for their hard work and ability. I am extremely proud of all our students and they should be proud of themselves too."

... ENDS

Notes to Editors

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Complete List of Sponsors

This year's award sponsors were: AgustaWestland, BAE Systems, Battens Solicitors Ltd, Buck and Hickman, Meridian Business Support, Mulberrys, NCFE, Numatic International Ltd, the Western Gazette and Yeovil Town Football Club.

Shields and Trophies

The **Nicola Locke Award for Outstanding Personal Achievement** is one of the College's longest standing awards. It is given in memory of Nicola Locke, one of our Entry Level students, who sadly passed away while studying with us.

The **Tony Allum Award** was introduced in 2008 by Tony Allum when he stepped down as Chair of the Yeovil College Corporation. It is awarded following an essay writing competition to a student/students who have demonstrated creativity and original thought through their work.

The **Roger Elvin Award** recognises a student who has achieved exceptionally well in the field of modern languages.

The **Fred Janes Award for Outstanding Contribution to College Life** is given in honour of Fred Janes OBE, the first Principal of Yeovil College. He led the College from its creation in 1972 until 1984. The award recognises a student who has made an outstanding contribution to the life of Yeovil College.

The **Stephanie Pirongs Personal Achievement Award** is presented in memory of a College lecturer who sadly lost her battle with cancer in 2000 at the age of 41. Her work and commitment to her students never wavered and she set an example to which we all aspire.

The **Jan Howell Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Community** is dedicated to Jan Howell, who worked for the College for 11 years, making significant contributions to our community life. She understood our students and always treated them with respect and sensitivity. She would do her utmost to support College performances and events and was a huge favourite among the students. In Jan's sad passing, we not only lost a valued colleague, but a dear friend.

The **Lawrence Cove Shield for Engineering Excellence** is awarded in memory of student Lawrence Cove, who was killed in a road accident in 2001. He had been Apprentice of the Year for the whole South West and was thought of very highly by his employers, Westland Aerospace Structures Ltd.

Nikki Baker Cup for Student Endeavour

This award is presented in the name of Nikki Baker, a childcare apprentice who was tragically killed in a car accident. Her peers decided to donate a cup in her memory. Nikki always aimed high, even though she found studying difficult at times, which meant she had to work extremely hard to achieve the grades she had set herself. It was therefore decided unanimously by her parents, peers and Yeovil College staff that the Nikki Baker Cup should be awarded to a Level 3 childcare learner, who, like Nikki, has had to pull out all the stops to achieve their qualification.

Complete List of Winners

Outstanding Achievement Awards	Winner
NCFE Award for Outstanding Achievement in Travel and Tourism	Martiale Batai
Outstanding Achievement in Performing Arts	Amy Batty
Outstanding Achievement in Childcare	Dawn Bowes
Outstanding Achievement in Health and Social Care	Samuel Burke
Outstanding Achievement in Science or Maths	David Burns
Outstanding Achievement in Construction	George Calcott
Outstanding Achievement in Hairdressing	Louise Card
BAE Systems Award for Outstanding Achievement in IT and Computing	Joe Chelton
BAE Systems Award for Outstanding Achievement in IT and Computing	Dana Collis
Outstanding Achievement in Art and Design	Robert Cooper
Outstanding Achievement in Beauty Therapy	Georgina Dexter
Outstanding Achievement in Foundation Learning	Jane Gegg
Western Gazette Award for Outstanding Achievement in Music	Sophie Hosken-Taylor
Outstanding Achievement in Humanities	Danielle Jackson
Meridian Business Support Award for Outstanding Achievement in Business, Administration and Finance	Maisie Kelly
Outstanding Achievement in Performing Arts	Anishka Klass
Outstanding Achievement in Humanities	Kathryn McCallum
Outstanding Achievement in Science or Maths	Sally Miller
Outstanding Achievement in Science or Maths	Abinesh Mohan
Outstanding Achievement in Science or Maths	Anthony Morris
Yeovil Town Football Club Award for Outstanding Achievement in Sport	Gabrielle Nardiello
Outstanding Achievement in Humanities	Rebecca Oliver
Outstanding Achievement in Science or Maths	Shannon Ralph
Buck and Hickman Award for Outstanding Achievement in Engineering	Luke Rose
Western Gazette Award for Outstanding Achievement in Media	Luke Thorne
Yeovil Town Football Club Award for Outstanding Achievement in Uniformed Public Services	Carly Trott
Outstanding Achievement in Childcare	Kate Wareham
Buck and Hickman Award for Outstanding Achievement in Engineering	Maddison Wilmot
Buck and Hickman Award for Outstanding Achievement in Engineering	Reece Wilson
Outstanding Achievement in Skills for Life	Aaron Young
Personal Achievement Awards	
AgustaWestland Supporting Fellow Students Award	Rebecca Childs
AgustaWestland Supporting Fellow Students Award	Gemma Duke
Commitment to Study	Emily Dustan
Outstanding Personal Achievement	Robert Folkard
Numatic International Most Improved Student Award	Stephen Galvin
Outstanding Personal Achievement	Anthony Hamblin

Outstanding Personal Achievement	Chris Hayter
Mulberrys Student Endeavour Award	Kamani Lomas
Commitment to Study	Sheila Nhamo
Outstanding Personal Achievement	Amy Priddle
Outstanding Personal Achievement	Mary Rash
Outstanding Personal Achievement	Heidi Silcox
Outstanding Personal Achievement	Amanda Vallender
Yeovil Town Football Club Volunteering and Community Award	Craig Zimmerman
Charity Project Award	Lucy Adams, Gabrielle Alford, Daniel Amatt, Stacey Austin, Sophie Bambury, Sonia Braddick, Samuel Burke, Sophie Cairncross, Harley Card, Sophie Chainey, Bethany Davies, Emily Dickinson, Yasmin Elliot, Holly Gold, Charlotte Graham, Holly Green, Tanita Harding, Alexandra Lewis, Jake Kempson, Jodie Knight, Chant'e McGinty, Connie Miller, Rhea Moore, Jamie Newell, Olivia Osborne, Eliza Perkins, Laura Redwood, Jack Reynolds, Lauren Rolls, Shanice Russell, Fabricio Silva, Rosie Smith, Cathleen Tomlin and Hannah Tucker.
Representative Awards – Team Prizes	
Cross Country	Tom Austin, Dan Baby, George Harris, Bethan Newman, Hessuca Potter, Chloe Rice, John Richardson, Rob Shaw and Lewis Voizey.
Ladies' Rugby	Shelley Burgess, Perrie-Leigh Griffee, Shantell Hearn, Chloe Rice, Heidi Silcox and Cara Studley.
Representative Awards – Individuals	
Athletics	Aaron Athersuch
Athletics and Football	Alex Cossins
Athletics and Football	Tom Minchington
Badminton	Abigail Taylor
Men's Football	Lewis Voizey
Women's Football	Terri Trowbridge
Women's Football	Rosie Williams
Hockey	William Ireland
Hockey	Erin Killaspy
Ju-Jitsu	Craig Zimmerman
Netball	Jessica Childs
Netball	Holly Gale
Netball	Gabrielle Nardiello
Men's Rugby	Joe Ansell
Women's Rugby	Heidi Silcox
Tae Kwon-Do	Sarah Mackie
Battens Solicitors Ltd 14-16 Student of the Year	Louise Veiga
Shields and Trophies	
Jan Howell Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Community	Michael Cairncross
Tony Allum Award for Essay Writing	Elizabeth Chapman
Nicola Locke Award for Outstanding Personal Achievement	Ebony Court
Stephanie Pirongs Personal Achievement Award	Martyna Donocik
Tony Allum Award for Essay Writing	William Glass
Fred Janes Award for Outstanding Contribution to College Life	William Hopkinson
Lawrence Cove Shield for Engineering Excellence	James Lewis
Nikki Baker Cup for Student Endeavour	Trish Mutandwa
Roger Elvin Award for Modern Languages	Abigail Taylor