



Young Creative Awards
Nottingham

YOUNG CREATIVES NOTTINGHAM 2022



AFFINITY



Drawing by
Adelle Iversen, 13

“When a resolute young fellow steps up to the great bully, the world, and takes him boldly by the beard, he is often surprised to find it comes off in his hand, and that it was only tied on to scare away the timid adventurers.

▲ **Ralph Waldo Emerson**

We at Young Creatives Nottingham have been intensely proud of Nottingham's young people as they've faced down a generation-defining problem. They dug their heels in and made some of the best creative work ever submitted to us - the pandemic brought more entries than ever.

Emerging from lockdown, a thread of adventure runs through many of the creative pieces included here. A safari to see the inside of dinosaurs, a trip to India to talk about womens' health, then an excursion, perhaps, to a monster on a desert island. Why stay at home?

Young Creatives Nottingham (YCN) is the charity that runs the YCAs. Building from the awards, we offer workshops, prizes, commissions, mentoring opportunities and more, helping to inspire and enable our entrants to succeed as creatives.

This is all made possible by our volunteers, the members of our Operations Group, our partner agencies, and trustees too. The support of our headline sponsors Serif and CarShop - and of all our category sponsors - allows us to turn ideas into reality. Our new partners this year, Creative Quarter and Hockley Hustle, have greatly expanded what we're able to offer. Thank

you to all who work to make our events happen.

Let this brochure remind us that in terms of talent and tenacity, Nottingham's young people are unbeatable. A massive well done from all of us at YCN, and safe travels on your future adventures.

Andrew Tucker

Andrew Tucker

Chair, Young Creatives Nottingham



Designed by Emily Daniels, 17



Inspiring, Supporting & Celebrating Young Creative Talent

The Young Creative Awards has been inspiring, supporting and celebrating young creative talent in Nottingham for 14 years. We have received over 5,000 entries and presented nearly 400 awards.

Run by Young Creatives Nottingham (registered charity number 1168804) and supported by a brilliant network of partners and sponsors, the Young Creative Awards is open to anyone aged 11 to 24 who lives, studies or works in Nottingham. The Awards champion creativity, celebrating achievements across 11 categories: Animation & Digital Media, Creative Writing, Dance, Design & Architecture, Fashion & Textiles, Film, Graphic Design, Music, Photography, Theatre and Visual Arts. This year over 500 young people entered the Young Creative Awards.

Past winners include successful musicians Rob Green and Philip George, writer and performer Bridie Squires, embroidery designer Liss Cooke, movement artist

Jamal Sterrett Phoenix, social media star R-J Tulloch, photographer Lamar Francois and award-winning theatre designer Nikki Charlesworth. YCA winners are making a positive impact across the creative industries: setting up their own businesses, developing innovative projects and events, and bringing their skills, experience and creativity to benefit a wide range of organisations, companies and communities.

YCA winners are awarded cash prizes, promotion and professional development opportunities. It is our aim to provide recognition, encouragement and support for young creatives, as well as paid employment and commission opportunities. We also strive to deliver free sessions for education, training and participation (including masterclasses, workshops and exhibitions) to inspire the next generation of Nottingham young creatives.

To find out more go to youngcreativeawards.org

Photography by Matthew Cawrey
Dancer, Samuel Onwuteaka, 16

Young Creative Awards 2022 FINALISTS



Animation & Digital Media

Judges: Allen Coombs (National Videogame Foundation), Dan Doughty (Confetti), Neil Ladkin (Serif), Alison Whitlock (Confetti)

Sponsor:



▲ CHARLIE RADAGE-REVELL, 17 & JOE WINTERBOTTOM, 18

Charlie and Joe created “Crescent Cove”, a game which challenges players to detect artefacts on a desert island. The concept really appealed to the judges, who loved the perfect blending of soundtrack and visuals. The aesthetic leant itself to a classic Nintendo game, which the judges wanted to play.



▲ TEGAN RAYSON, 18

The judges instantly liked the retro 70s/80s feel of Tegan’s animation with a clear plot and good storytelling which add to the charm. The music complemented the visuals very well.



▲ SAM MARSHALL, 16

Sam’s entry, the opening title sequence for “The Curiosity Show” (part of Nottingham’s Festival of Science and Curiosity), is an accomplished, well-executed and professional animation. The judges particularly liked the pacing and soundtrack, which they felt worked well.



WINNER 16 - 18

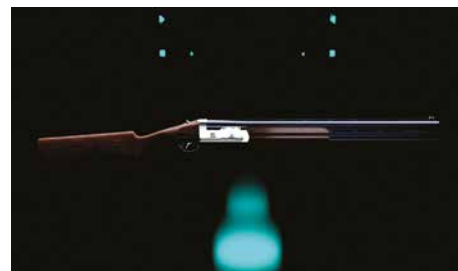
◀ NOAH BELLAMY, 17

Noah submitted a striking educational game featuring 3D models of the Stegosaurus, created in Blender and Unreal Engine 4, which responded to a brief to create an interactive museum artefact. The judges appreciated the amount of work that went into creating the models with good use of texture, UI and ambient sound.

WINNER 19 - 24

► MARIA VIDAL, 20

Maria’s stylistically excellent animation “Act Together” responded to a brief about strengthening social connections. This is a professional-level animation with perfect scene direction, a limited colour palette that is used to great effect, smart use of transitions, and scenes that truly bring power and strength to the audio.



▲ SAM BUTLER, 21

This animation is an advert for a shotgun, inspired by Sam’s love of clay pigeon shooting. The judges felt its professional quality would lend itself to appearing in a trade show. Excellent work stylistically, visually and aesthetically.



▲ RHYS BENTLEY, 21

“End of the Living” is Rhys’ gameplay trailer which impressed judges with its polished scene design, great lighting, sound effects and character movement, which has clear commercial potential. Excellent level layout and asset design.



◀ SARAH GRACE, 22

“My Mother’s Mind is like a Garden” is an animation exploring dementia, which evoked a strong emotional response from the judges. Sarah’s entry is sensitively executed, beautifully paced, artistic, and well considered. Animation elements and colour palettes are subtle but sympathetic to the subject.



Creative Writing

Judges: Cleo Asabre-Holt (Writer/Editor), Lucy Hodge (Walkgrove), Lyle Lowery (Games Workshop), Andrew Tucker (YCA Trustee & YCA 2019 Winner)

Sponsor:



WINNER 11 - 15

► ÁINE MULLAN, 13

The judges were transported by Áine's story "Heartwood", an imaginative piece which finds empathy deep in the forest, and commands the reader's heart with its tight grasp of language and emotional maturity. There simply must be more to come from this writer.

"Sometimes I wish I could do that - run around, be free. But I am fine watching, I guess I like it. Besides, when I grow tall, I shall be able to see the whole world. As I let myself get lost in these thoughts, I smile, and the world smiles back."

"The mist devoured the scene before me. The stifling heat rose, and the icy silence sent chills up my spine. I felt as though I had entered a vacuum, devoid of life and comfort. Yet I made my weary legs proceed.

◀ SALMAN AKHELARAB, 11

Even the biggest landlubber will be pulled back in time and out to sea by Salman's fast-paced swashbuckling adventure "The Island". Balancing a taut, nail-biting plot with subtle character building, this is the work of a very promising author-to-be.

Photograph by
Carolin Jeyaraj, 14

► JOSHUA ROZEE, 12

Only the most hard-hearted reader could resist characters like Arthur Branchwood or Sugarplum Mary, and it'll be a challenge to keep a smile off your face after reading Joshua's offbeat, charming tale "The Christmas Revolution". The work of a witty young talent, and one to watch.

"Are you OK Santa, sir?" asked Administrator Alabaster Snowball.

Santa looked on in bewilderment.

"You've known me for so many years, Alabaster. Have I ever been OK?" Santa boomed.

Alabaster looked down in shame and shook his head."

WINNER 16 - 18

► LEAH CHAPLIN, 18

Leah has created an arresting vignette with "The Disappearing Act", which depicts a dark and performative life. The judges were hooked by the piece's mystery, its gothic tension and its sense of nervous expectation.

"She counts the countless ringlets of her tightly curled hair, as if they were the times she had been left lonely, laid bare."

"...it slid around in my mouth, not quite liquid enough to coat my teeth, but enough to block my throat, chain my breaths together like the delicate links of a pendant.

◀ BECK SEWART, 18

In its draughty and dreamlike way, Beck's poem "Lies" immerses the senses in a bath of cool metallic imagery. The judges encourage you to read it and try the experience for yourself.

Photograph by
Mackenzie Stevenson, 17

Photograph by
Carolyn Jeyaraj, 14

“
They’ll tell you to
burn your bridges,
but never about
the burns you’ll get
from going back on
the hot ashes...”

◀ **CONSTANCE
BREWARD, 16**

Constance’s poem
“Burning Bridges” takes
a wry and sensitive
look at the emotional
contradictions involved
when leaving things
behind. With a strong
central metaphor and
deft internal rhymes,
it deserves to be read
aloud and treasured.

“Mum once told me that eggs are stronger than
they look. If you apply force to the top and
bottom, they’re hard to break because they’re
made of calcium, the same as bones. But as
I strike each against the bowl - once, twice -
their fragile shells cave. I dig my nails into
the cracks and pry them apart, then dash the
yellow pearls inside.”

◀ **AMY CHILD, 19**

With microscopically precise
and observant prose, Amy
converts an everyday ritual
into a tale of aching, guarded
emotion with her story
“Birthday Cake”. A slice
of brilliance from a golden
writer, from whom we must
have more.

▶ **GEORGIA HAMBLETT, 21**

As warming as the cups of tea which the
main character drinks exclusively from
Michelin Star restaurants, Georgia’s “The
Wealth of Legend” is a timeless story
of ‘haves’ and ‘have-nots’, filled with
endearing winks towards Nottingham lore.

“‘Bit of cold never killed no one.’ Rich
wanted to point out that it definitely
had. He wanted to point out that his
grammar was incorrect - it should’ve
been ‘anyone’, not ‘no one’. He wanted to
swap this tea for a coffee. But he didn’t.
Because this man had saved his life.”

“
Wing outstretched, broken feathers
underfoot. White plumage streaked
with scarlet, just like raspberry
juice. For a moment, she just stood.
Watching. And then, ever so gently,
she reached down and stroked his
chest. Her pink-stained fingers left
trails in the red, and the bird seemed
to sigh.”

WINNER 19 - 24

▲ **LOTTIE COX, 21**

You must read this joy of a story
not just because it happens to be
uplifting, but because of the sheer
quality of its character illustration,
for its astute lyrical imagery, and for
an authentic plot revealed with wit
and subtlety. Reducing at least one
judge to tears, we’ll sum up with this:
Lottie’s story “Flying The Nest” is
dazzling fiction by a writer already of
the finest calibre.

Dance

Judges: Jessica Ashley (Dance4), Jo Belton (YCN Trustee & Dance4), Dwayne Church-Simms (Dance4)

Sponsor:

DANCE4

WINNER 11 -15

◀ LILY REYES, 12 & MAIA DAJAS-PORTILLO, 14

Lily and Maia created a duet based on the painting "Yellow-Red-Blue" by Wassily Kandinsky. Through their piece, the dancers wanted to show the movement which they saw in the painting, focusing on the lines and solid block shapes. The judges were impressed with the choreographic choices, form of the work and the performances of both dancers.

◀ FLYING HIGH EXPRESSIVE ARTS, 12-14

Poppy Ogburn (14), Eden Lucas (12), Phoebe Payne (14), Maggie Hague (14), Evie Lucas (14), Lily Smith (14), Lily Burns (13), Grace Lilley (12), Willow Evans (12), Ellie Pickering (13), Ruby Nehra (12), Macey Shepperson (14), Olivia Purseglove (14), Amber Leavesley (14), Holly Miles (14), Matilda Stones (14), Hannah Souza Harder (14), Isabell Kerrins (12)

Flying High is an award-winning company for young performers aged 4-19 based in Nottingham, who look to develop creativity, confidence and performance skills. Their group piece "Reflection and Me" explored identity and what it means to be a young female at this time. The judges were impressed by the dancers' focus and performances and the overall production of the work.

▶ HANNAH PASHLEY, 13

Hannah choreographed and performed a solo in response to the experience of grief and losing someone close to you. Hannah's performance was strong and showed good musicality and ability. The judges were impressed with Hannah's submission and thought that it was a courageous performance.



WINNER 16 - 18

◀ SAMUEL ONWUTEAKA, 16

Samuel choreographed and performed a solo titled "Want", based on the struggles of someone going through a relationship that is falling apart. The solo was performed with great commitment and passion and the judges were impressed with how Samuel commanded the space and performed with his own personal style.



▲ AMELIA GERRELLI, 16 & ZUZANNA ANTONIAK, 15

Amelia and Zuzanna's work was inspired by Charlie Chaplin's silent film "Modern Times". They devised movement material through improvisation and the use of the music. The judges enjoyed the energetic response to the theme and noted that the dancers performed well together and with good focus.



▲ TABIE ADDAE-BOATENG, 18

Tabie choreographed and performed a solo titled "Our Space", which explores the theme of space, the cosmos and the technological advancement that society has made in exploring it. The judges were intrigued by the theme, which it was clear Tabie had considered in depth.

▶ ISOBEL BENSON, 18

Isobel choreographed and performed a solo inspired by Wassily Kandinsky's theory that "the circle has a symbolic significance relating to the meaning of the cosmos". The judges acknowledged that Isobel performed her solo with rigour and that she displayed excellent skill and control to devise a very interesting piece of work.



▶ HAL MAYER, 24

Hal's project "SYMBIOSIS" is a Body Horror dance theatre work, delving into a world of contractible depression. Finger tutting is used to construct the movement, taking a niche artform to create a movement language. The judges were impressed by the overall quality and sophistication of Hal's production.

WINNER 19 - 24



◀ RESET COMPANY, 22-26

Emma Farrell (24), Anita Harvey (22), Cara Verney (23), Sophie Wilson (25), Alice Kirkby (26), Courtney Walker (23)

RESET is a new company formed by Nottingham College in 2019. Their piece of work "Lost in Dystopia" centres round a dystopian world where its survivors continue to destroy it, causing chaos in their path until a new mind chooses differently. The judges thought that the work was bold and memorable with a contemporary theme.



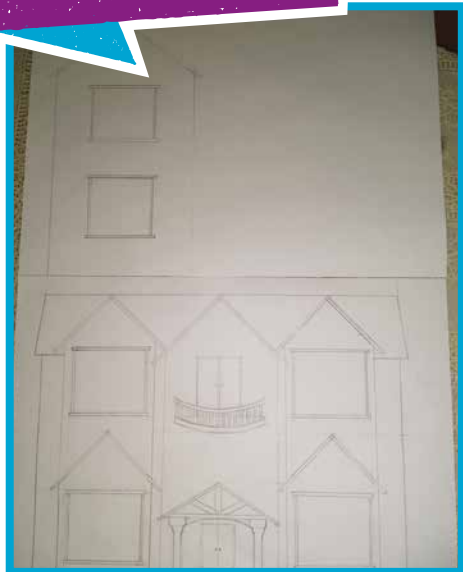
Design & Architecture

Judges: Alex Lipinski, Olivia O'Driscoll, Mariana Paschidi, Ruzha Sirmanova, Jo Woods (Maber)

Sponsor:



WINNER 11 -15



▲ LAETITIA PANTER, 13

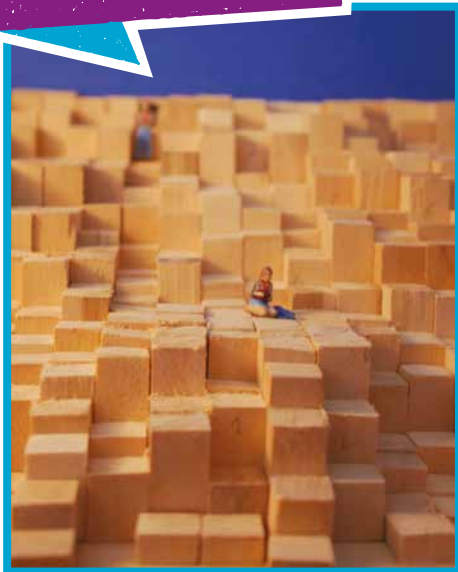
The judges felt that this was a strong start on the road to a promising future career as an Architect. Careful thought has clearly been given to the way people would use the house - the judges were particularly keen on the hidden room accessed from the library.



◀ AIMA KAZMI, 18

The judges liked Aima's presentation which clearly showed the functionality of the product - a portable play kitchen. The links to contemporary artist Camille Walala are clearly visible in the end product which has been developed into a fun educational toy. It is nice to see toys with links to modern art as well as not conforming to typical gender stereotypes.

WINNER 16 -18



▲ FINN DINEEN, 17

Finn's project was well researched and well presented, sparking good debate amongst the judges about the design of inclusive public spaces. The design was well developed with exploratory research and physical models which showed how the scheme might work in context.



◀ CHOI WONG, 17

The judging panel liked the simplicity of Choi's design which worked beautifully against the dark background in the image. They appreciated the technical skill required to form a spherical object in such materials which is made to appear straightforward from this excellent design.

► CHARLES LAWSON-GILL, 18

The judges really liked Charles' lamp. They agreed that the design and execution of the product was exquisite and the tap as a switch is a really nice touch that had potential to be developed further to provide a dimmer function.



WINNER 19 -24



◀ LAUREN LEYVA, 24

The judges loved this scheme for the re-use of Severns House in Nottingham city centre. It showed an imaginative solution for a challenging site which has been subject to controversy and public debate for many years. The designs demonstrate a sensitivity to current concerns regarding home working and co-living environments whilst providing pleasant and practical places for people to live. The presentation is excellent.

► LI LYN TAN, 22

The panel thought that this was an excellent piece of furniture design that could be developed further into a whole suite of objects. The panel liked the simplicity of the concept which allowed for a multitude of different objects to be created from one item. The branding and sales video were excellently produced too.



◀ ELISE ARGENT, 22

The panel liked the eye-catching nature of Elise's sculptures: the technical knowledge and skill displayed alongside the dynamic visual style was striking. The scale of the pieces was also impressive.



Fashion & Textiles

Judges: Liss Cooke (Hand & Lock), Hayley McAfee (Romo), Justine Moore (Romo)

Sponsor:

ROMO

WINNER 16 - 18

◀ EMILY DANIELS, 17

Emily's visually stunning entry is inspired by Picasso's extravagant designs for the Ballets Russes. The judges enjoyed Emily's conceptual approach, experimentation, fabric development and her high fashion final piece.



Final skirt



▲ KIAH-LOREN PIERCE, 17

Kiah-Loren produced a screen-printed fabric which is her own interpretation of Emilio Pucci's work. The judges loved the strong colour palette and the way that Kiah-Loren had been inspired to create her own, unique pattern.



▲ POPPY PINK, 18

The judges were very struck by Poppy's excellent sketchbook research, clear design development and professional presentation. The final skirt, featuring Poppy's own colourful fabric design, is very well constructed and highly commercial.

◀ WERONIKA SZYMCAK, 18

Weronika has made a highly creative garment inspired by 1960s Sci-Fi movies, which cleverly features 3D cubes. The judges were very impressed that she has achieved something so difficult and so unique. A technically advanced entry.



◀ CALEB STUTCHBURY, 20

The judges highlighted Caleb's industry-standard technical drawings, complex garment construction and well-balanced designs. They agreed that he had produced an exquisite, highly wearable final outfit. Amazing.

WINNERS 19 - 24

► REBECCA ALLEN, 21

Rebecca's unisex garment, with very clever use of her own printed fabric, is confidently presented and very contemporary. The judges loved the concept – reconnecting individuals with nature – and felt that her organic, deconstructed workwear looks like it's already a brand.



▲ BERFIN TEPE, 22

Berfin's collection of textile wall dividers and wall installations is clever, unique and very current. The judges really liked how Berfin had carefully considered the development and application of her designs. Really interesting work.



▲ MEGHAN BRAUD, 23

Meghan's elegant and beautiful carefully crafted womenswear collection highlights the threats to endangered monkeys. Her hand embellishment, digital embroidery and use of materials is very cleverly done.

Film

Judges: Merrin Jensen (Skeleton), Ella Townsend (Broadway), Sharon Walia (YCN Trustee, Filmmaker)

Sponsor: **SKELETON**



WINNER 11 - 15

◀ ZEESHAN MAJID, 15

Zeeshan directed “Devils Vine”, a short horror film with a message about mental health awareness. The judges agreed that the film was shot brilliantly and full of detail, thought and humour. Hard to fault.



▲ SYDNEY SHANKS, 12

Sydney produced and directed "The Paranormal Dreamer", a short horror about a boy being haunted by a monster. The judges were particularly impressed by the spectacular visual effects. A very clever piece of work, with great sound design and editing.



▲ ZUZANNA ZABA, 11

Zuzanna's highly imaginative short film "My Worst Nightmare" follows a young girl as she explores a new land, unravelling secrets and uncovering truths. The judges thought the acting was great and the piece was full of interesting ideas.



▲ **ETHAN TAYLOR, 14**

The judges enjoyed Ethan's short zombie film "2 Friends, a Zombie and a Packet of Crisps" which he wrote, directed and played all of the characters in. Ethan did very well to maintain tension throughout.



WINNER 16 - 18

► DANIEL PORTER, 17

The judges were impressed by Daniel's stylistic choices in this excellent piece of film-making. The simple, striking location, the use of monochrome and high-speed photography all added brilliantly to the tone of the piece. A powerful, authentic and highly engaging music video.



▲ FLORENCE HIGLEY, 18

Florence's silent film "The Lies They Told Us" follows a harassed science student whose luck turns after she is knocked unconscious. The judges particularly liked the originality of the film and the comedy performance at its heart.



▲ JUDE HARRIS, 17

The setting of the film in a narrow passageway, hand-held camera work and excellent central performance all contributed well to the suspense of Jude's piece. This film will resonate with anyone who has ever felt unsafe walking alone.

WINNER 19 - 24

► ZOLTAN REMETEI, 22

“Plush Affair” - Zoltan’s short film about a person confessing their love for someone - is very well shot, with excellent framing, good pace and a brilliant central performance. A cleverly written and technically high quality piece of work, with an amusing comic twist.



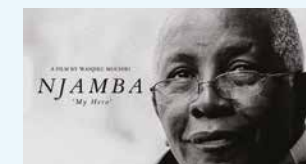
▲ LILY CALLAGHAN, 22

Lily's interactive short film "Age of Beauty" allows the audience to move from the 1920s to the year 3000, to explore make-up through the ages. The judges loved the production design, costumes, props, direction and performance. Everything is so well-considered and unique. A talent to watch.



▲ IQRA ZUBAIR, 20

Iqra addresses the climate emergency, eloquently expressing her feelings about the importance of the planet and her love of nature. The judges agreed that the voice and imagery worked very well together. An informative piece of film-making.



▲ NATASHA WANJIRU MUCHIRI, 21

"Njamba" ("My Hero" in Kikuyu) is a short documentary about the State of Emergency declared in Kenya under British colonial rule in the 1950s. Cleverly combining stock footage and family photographs with a phone conversation with her grandfather, Natasha has created a film that is tender and informative about this traumatic period of history.



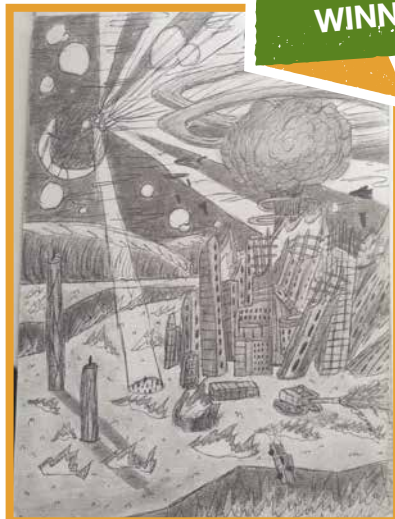
Graphic Design

Judges: Charlotte Ashley (YCA 2019 Winner), Jonathan Laud (Nottingham College), Matt Searston (Serif), David Tilly (YCN Trustee)

Sponsor:



WINNER 11 - 15



◀ RHYS GREEN, 13

Rhys submitted a complete set of drawings which cleverly work together, telling a powerful environmental story. The judges highlighted the strength of the message and the imaginative designs.



▲ KYREN ARMSTRONG, 13

Kyren's hand-drawn image of Venom was made using coloured pencils and a white pen. The judges agreed that it was a very strong, vivid illustration.



▲ MADDY HORRIGAN, 18

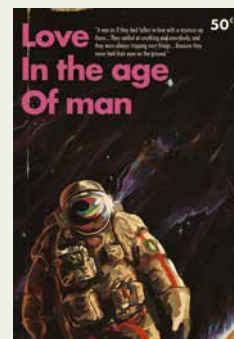
Maddy's powerful digital illustration aimed to capture the reality of the Covid-19 pandemic for young people. The judges felt it was a skilfully produced, sensitive and highly relatable image. Very well executed.

WINNER 16 - 18



◀ LEXI CARDWELL, 18

The judges really appreciated Lexi's slick and striking digital illustration of her gorgon character, Jordan, which was backed up by a strong statement. Technically very impressive.



◀ MAGGIE MASON, 18

Taking inspiration from sci-fi books of the 1960s-80s and the words and experiences of astronauts, Maggie produced a high quality cover design. The judges agreed that it was very well thought out, featuring strong graphics and a stylish illustration.



WINNER 19 - 24

◀ DHANASHREE PIMPUTKAR, 23

Dhanashree's project "Happy Periods" is designed to educate girls in India about periods and to normalise menstruation. The judges commented on the strength of the illustration, the detailed explanation and the clear messaging. A unique and important submission.

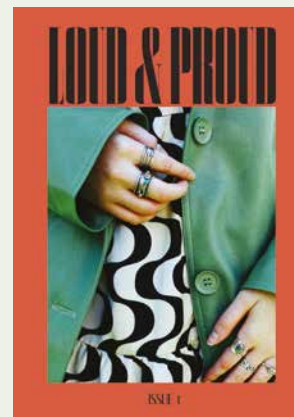
▼ HOLLY DAVIES, 21

The judges were very impressed by Holly's magazine "Loud & Proud" which aims to empower women in mid-life and educate readers about women's health and ageing. A positive message; well considered and beautifully designed. Spot on.



▲ CATARINA CHAPOUTO, 21

Catarina's project, "Nandrops," is a homage to her great-grandmother. The judges loved the concept, the memorable logo and the very cool, Risograph-printed packaging. Catarina has created a friendly, emotive and familiar brand.



▲ ELISHA BURGESS, 20

"Cats in the Street" is a bold and captivating zine which addresses the issue of public sexual harassment. The judges agreed that Elisha did a great job of expressing the fear and the struggle faced by women every day. A powerful and memorable piece of work.

Music

Judges: Matt Appleyard, Luke Atkinson, Belinda Burnard, Hannah Crawford, Rhys Davies, Claire Dyer, Nathan Gregory, Chris Hull, Rachel Johnson, Tony Lovell, Matthew Ludford-King, Ian Marshall, Laura McClay, Danny Meller, Helen Murray, Faye Oakland, Carrie Teodorescu, Emma Townsend (Nottingham Music Hub)

Sponsor:



WINNER 11 - 15

Danza Dell'umore

Tempo di Valse $\text{♩} = 120$

Violin

Violin

Viola

Violoncello

◀ MUSKAN GOYAL, 15

Switching between major and minor, waltz and tango, and different time signatures ensures there is never a boring moment in this ambitious piece, full of unexpected twists and turns! “Danza Dell’umore” is a fast-paced and well-structured composition that takes the listener on a journey and demonstrates Muskan’s clear love of the violin.

▼ **BETHANY COOKE, 15**

Bethany uses rhythms and lyrics within “Watch The Sunrise”, and upbeat guitar accompaniment, which cleverly reflect the message and theme of the song. There is good melodic shape and effective use of dynamics. A catchy and easy-to-follow piece that will get others singing along.

▼ THOMAS ISON, 14

“City Lights” by Thomas (aka Ricky Jamaraz) is very well thought-out, full of clearly structured ideas and good instrumental balance and interesting ideas. A catchy, upbeat piece with a strong lyrical theme, which builds up interest by adding different layers and parts throughout.

► OSCAR MARSHALL, 16

Oscar has produced two very distinct musical sections which cleverly contrast and compliment each other. The variation of musical ideas and soundscapes is brilliant; everything feels perfectly placed. "The Color of Rose" is an authentic, fresh and very memorable track.

WINNER 16 - 18



▼ LEE WRIGHT, 17

The combination of electronics (that gritty synth) with the acoustic drum sound and electric guitar is brilliant - "World Breaker" sounds so authentically 70s yet captures something unique at the same time. Full of textures and sounds that have been carefully placed in the mix. A very enjoyable track.

▼ NYROBI B-M, 18 &
CHAYA B-M, 15

The judges loved "Slowly Die: Lunar"- the serious subject is tackled so maturely, with the emotions reflected in music and lyrics. The structure, melodies, harmonies and vocal range engage the listener, along with the creative rhythmical ideas used in the backing vocals. Haunting, beautiful and deep.

WINNER 19 - 24



◀ ELI ELLIS, 21

The choice of instrumentation is used delicately and to great effect, blending well with the vocal line to build the atmosphere of the song throughout. Eli's track "I Don't Know" is a superb entry, with a very effective structure and a nice dynamic shift from verse to chorus.

▼ CHARITY STOW, 21

Charity's entry "What The World Wants" is a very catchy song with a powerful message. Instrumentation is well used throughout, with great vocals, harmonic lines, strong melodic patterns and excellent rhythmic variation. Well done!

▼ JACK CHAPMAN, 20

Jack's song "Into The Middle" builds brilliantly, with every instrumental line adding texture and keeping the listener's attention. A very well-balanced, cleverly structured track which demonstrates a good knowledge of song writing. The lyrics are well thought-out and the use of repetition and hooks are very effective.



Photography

Judges: Mandi Chandler (Nottingham College), Katy McCabe (Serif), Jessica Pearson (YCA 2019 Winner), Rob Smalley (Scene Photography)

Sponsor:



WINNER 11 - 15

◀ DAISY BARTRAM, 14

A stunning set of images that reveal light refracted in crystals. A very strong concept explained through the statement and visually present in the set. Daisy's images are almost abstract, and could be a landscape. This is very strong photography work.

▶ CAROLIN JEYARAJ, 14

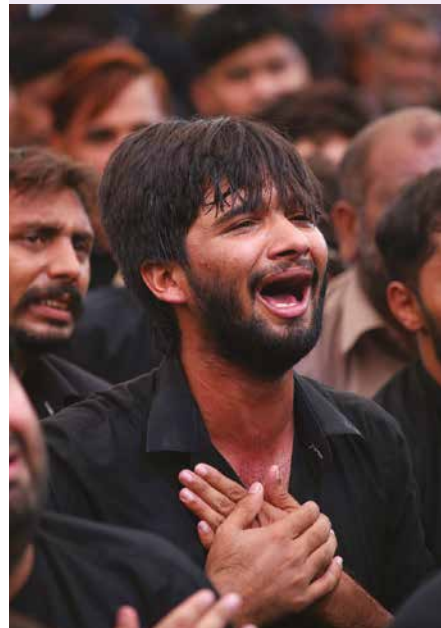
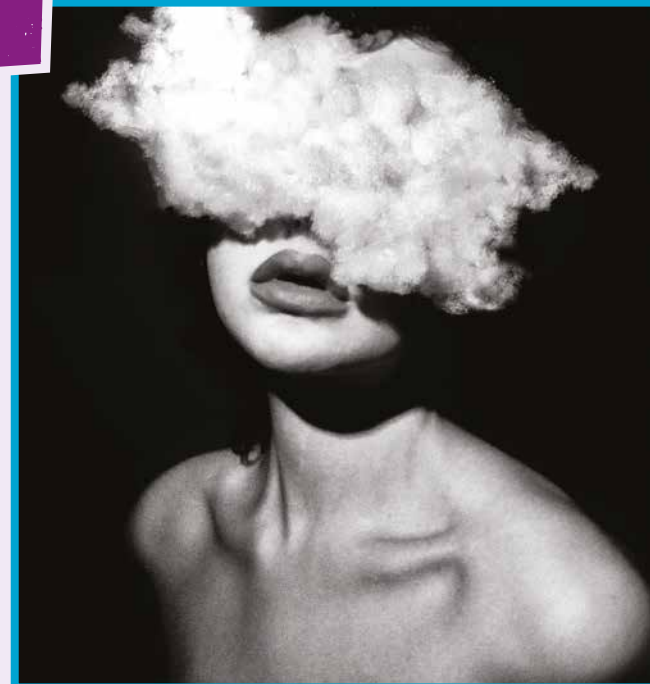
A thoughtful set of images, exploring the theme of sunset, backed up by a statement which demonstrates Carolin's passion for photography.



WINNER 16 - 18

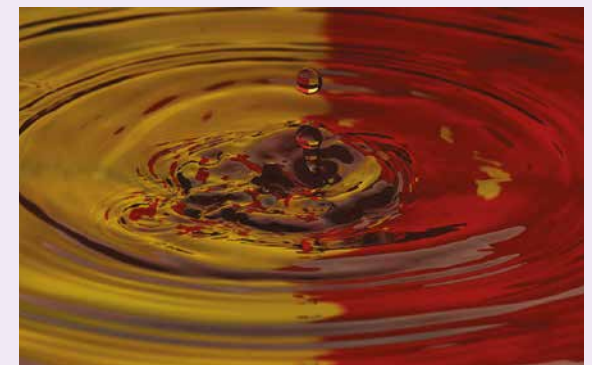
▶ AVA CHAPMAN, 18

The tonal quality and grading of Ava's two black and white images are very effective and stood out to the judges immediately. The portraits are classically beautiful, supported by a thoughtful concept that references the surrealism of Dali. Very striking photographs indeed.



▲ ZAHRA BHATTI, 18

The judges loved Zahra's powerful images for their highly emotional subject matter. There is a wonderful focus on the raw emotions of the portrait. These images are meaningful and evocative in their immediacy, truly capturing the moment.



▲ MACKENZIE STEVENSON, 17

Mackenzie's work was selected for the strikingly colourful set of three images which show excellent technical capture skill, attention to colour and composition, and a fantastic understanding of still-life photography.

► **KIRA EASTWOOD, 17**

Each of Kira's three images is effectively composed, and evokes a strong atmosphere of suspense. The statement of intent is very thoughtful and the photographs show technical and creative understanding at a high level.



► **ROSIE BAIRD, 19**

Rosie's work stood out to the judges for its fantastic choice of subject, setting and understanding of editorial photography style. "Beautiful" and "stunning" were words used to describe this set.



WINNER 19 - 24



▲ **LUKE BRENNAN, 22**

Luke has presented a strong set of technical images that really capture the moment of live music performance. The judges especially liked the focus on the solo performer in each image, which provided consistency. Working with live events is very challenging and the judges agreed that Luke has made some really excellent selective decisions.



◀ **NATASHA DAVIES, 20**

Natasha's images provide a thoughtful visual statement of life in Ghana. The judges could feel the passion of the photographer for her subject and felt the choice of images worked very effectively. Each image is striking in its naturalness and beauty.



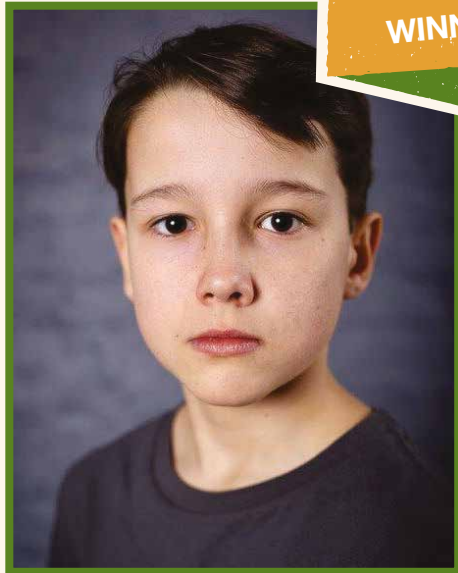
◀ **CLEMMIE CURTEIS, 22**

Clemmie's images were chosen for their sense of nostalgia and dream-like quality, created through the black and white use of film photography. The judges enjoyed being taken on a journey to Greece and described the images as making them feel "warm". Each image is carefully considered and has a clear focus, but is very natural.

Theatre

Judges: Florence Avis (Lakeside Arts), Cassie Bradley (Actor), Rachel Feneley (Lakeside Arts), Tawana Tongoona (YCA 2021 Winner)

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WINNER 11 - 15

◀ **LOGAN MILES, 11**

The judges thought that Logan played with authentic emotion that was brilliantly raw. His voice was beautifully expressive. He didn't over-indulge in the emotion but allowed it to motivate all his lines. It was a very mature performance. If this is how good Logan is at 11 years old, we can't wait to see what he does next!



▲ **TAYLOR RONALDSON, 12**

The judges loved the thought Taylor put into the staging and filming of her monologue. It was a brilliant, original piece that demonstrated her writing and acting skills really well. We can't wait to see what she does next!



▲ **JULIET GRAIN, 12**

The judges were very impressed with Juliet's monologue. They could tell that she knew her lines really well which allowed her to focus on her performance and the intense emotion she was portraying. She hit purposeful moments within the piece and had great conviction, both as the character and in her delivery as an actor.



WINNER 16 - 18

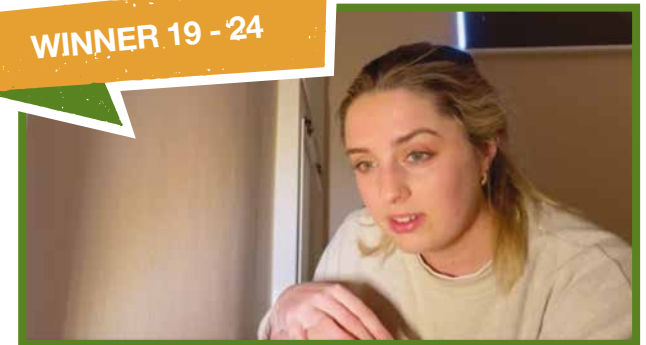
◀ **MIA MURDOCH, 16**

The judges felt that Mia's monologue had a real sense of truth and that she connected well with the piece. They could see the depth of her character's thought processes and she used her emotions to meet the lines. Well done on a great monologue!

▶ **KATE O'GORMAN, 23**

The judges were captivated by Kate's monologue and absolutely believed her excellent performance. Her delivery was very natural and the emotion she conveyed was perfectly contained whilst simultaneously drawing the audience in. Kate's use of framing and camera positioning was imaginative and really enhanced the piece.

WINNER 19 - 24



▲ **ROSARIO RODRIGUEZ-FERNANDEZ, 19**

The judges really liked Rosario's natural delivery and the increase in tension she played through voice, pace and pitch. Rosario engaged with the camera and audience very well, demonstrating raw acting talent. Well done on a brilliant monologue!



◀ **ROSIE RANDALL, 23**

The judges thought Rosie was very calculating and played the sense of manipulation really well. They also loved her presentation of the monologue, thinking about costume and framing. Well done on a great monologue!



Visual Arts

Judges: Benedict Carpenter van Barthold (Nottingham Trent University), Tom Godfrey (Nottingham Trent University), Priya Chopra (Curator)

Sponsor:



WINNER 11 - 15



◀ ADELLE IVERSEN, 13

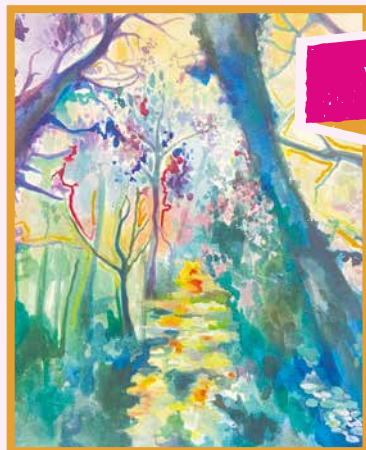
This is a bold piece that requires a second look to really see what's going on. At first glance, it is a roaring lion. But look again, and you can see that it is one of Nottingham's Old Market Square lions that has been reimagined as a living animal. Adelle's pastel drawing has been created with skill and imagination.



◀ SOPHIE ROBINSON, 11

Sophie's drawing is a celebration of rescued guinea pigs from Avalon, an organisation that rehomes pets. The way in which each is drawn is distinct, suggesting their different personalities. The viewer is left with the feeling that each guinea pig has a story of their own to tell. The panel admired the variation of drawing style and the composition of the work.

WINNER 16 - 18



◀ EVE MOORE, 18

The dreamy, almost psychedelic colours of Eve's painting drew the judges to this piece. Its vibrancy really connotes the sublime, spiritual feeling of journeying through a natural landscape. Beautiful.



▲ KRISTINA OLOGEH, 14

This work has a very contemporary feel to it, with the split image and the floral background. The piece expresses the sentiment that we all share a single fundamental humanity, whatever our ethnicity. Kristina's message is very clearly conveyed, in an artwork that shows artistic finesse.

► NOTTINGHAM COLLEGE COLLECTIVE

Chloe Feakes (17), Taylor Prior (17), Andy Morling (17), Aaron Farrant (17), Gracie Staples (16), Hannah Kwaramba (18), Blade Rennolds (16), Astro Dalby (17), Jamie Dawe (17), Sage Blackband (16), Alex Meakin (16), Kayleigh Bourke-Bosworth (17), Kai Xin Chen (17)

This group seems to have their fingers on the pulse of the contemporary art scene! Their project - created for a local Primary School - is highly inventive; the piece itself will grow as an object and entity, adding a post-modern spin on the already highly modern concept.



◀ IRIS PHILLIPS, 18

With visual references to Keith Haring and Jean-Michel Basquiat, this piece very much captures the feelings of loneliness that so many of us became familiar with over the various lockdowns. The vibrant colour palette seems to encapsulate the pent-up energy and anxiety of the time.

WINNER 19 - 24

► HOLLIE BETTS, 22

Hollie's painting "A rosy disposition" speaks about a desire for nature and - at the same time - our disconnection from it. The two women are on their phones, not engaging with each other; neither are they engaging with their plant-filled space. The scene is rendered in subtle shifts of tone to great painterly effect. A really bold and contemporary statement.



▼ BEKITHEMBA NCUBE, 19

This work is unstinting in depicting the violence of George Floyd's murder. There are elements of abstraction, but it is remarkable for the way in which the collaged image constructs much of the violence that strikes the viewer. In this way, Bekithemba does more than simply recreate an image that has become sadly familiar: he reinvests this image with its true horror.



► ANDREEA PISLARU, 23

Andreea's piece "Piñata" is about a postapocalyptic Nottingham that has been destroyed by catastrophic climate change. The work is made from materials including donated hair. Hair is an important symbol of identity; by drawing hair from multiple donors, the artist is suggesting a new kind of identity based on the group and not the individual. The piece as a whole suggests new ways of being.



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Photograph by
Rosie Baird



Can You Help Young Creatives in Nottingham?

At the heart of the annual Young Creative Awards is Young Creatives Nottingham, a registered charity (number 1168804).

It is the aim of Young Creatives Nottingham to nurture and support the next generation of writers, musicians, designers, actors, architects, artists and entrepreneurs; helping young people to find ways into education, training and employment; and feeding the creative minds needed to help our communities flourish.

**A growing community
of magnificent individuals
and organisations
committed to investing
in creativity and
young people.**

As well as organising the annual YCAs, Young Creatives Nottingham is working with local schools to inspire creativity in young people. We are also investing in and supporting the careers of young creative practitioners, through the development of our Notts Creatives collective and other programmes of support.

To do any of this we are reliant on the generosity and support of our sponsors and donors, and the time and energy of volunteers – a growing community of magnificent individuals and organisations committed to investing in creativity and young people.

If you would like to find out more about how you can join this community, and help to inspire, celebrate and support the next generation Nottingham creatives, then please get in touch by emailing info@youngcreativeawards.org

Thank you.

Hand & Lock Award for Creative Embroidery

This year we had an extra-special award to present. We teamed up with one of the world's finest embroidery houses, **Hand & Lock** (who have earned a Royal Warrant and have made gowns for Queen Elizabeth II) to announce a brand new YCA: the Hand & Lock Award for Creative Embroidery.

21-year-old NTU student Caitlin Rodriguez was the very deserving winner, for her YCA entry in the Fashion & Textiles category. Caitlin created a beautiful and truly unique piece of artistic headwear, which explores mortality and is inspired by the work of Elsa Schiaparelli and Salvador Dali. The judges were impressed by the range of different materials which flow through this memorable piece. Every bead is carefully considered.

Caitlin's magnificent entry earned her a private tour of the Hand & Lock studios in London, a portfolio review with company staff, an embroidery taster session and a goodie bag!



HAND & LOCK

This new accolade was specially stitched together by 2018 YCA winner Liss Cooke, who's gone on to work for Hand & Lock, as Senior Digital Embroidery Production Co-ordinator.

Liss said: "It was a breath of fresh air having Caitlin join us for a day in our historic studio. She came with so much enthusiasm and energy - the whole studio felt the effects of her positive vibe! It was a joy to be able to share the Hand & Lock story with Caitlin and give her the opportunity to be exposed to industry-standard techniques. We love meeting people who share our passion for embroidery so it was really lovely to meet someone with so much ambition and eagerness to learn more about our beloved craft and to keep it alive! We look forward to welcoming many more YCA award winners in the years to come."

We're thrilled when we get to celebrate successes like these - just remember to follow Caitlin and Liss' pattern!

“It was a joy to be able to share the Hand & Lock story with Caitlin and give her the opportunity to be exposed to industry level techniques.”

YCA Winners Exhibited On City Centre Shopfronts

Thanks to Nottingham BID, some of this year's Young Creative Awards winners have had their work exhibited in the city's shopfronts.

A huge congratulations to Hollie Betts, Eve Moore and Adelle Iversen – this year's Visual Arts winners – whose artwork you might have seen out and about in Nottingham in September.

Hollie's piece was shown on Bridlesmith Gate, with Adelle's in The Carousel's window and Eve's in HSBC on Clumber Street.

Adelle's piece was drawn in pastel – she found an interest in drawing cats after winning a competition to draw a certain scene from the Warrior Cats book series. "It felt really cool to see my work in The Carousel window," she said. "This is the first time I've had any of my work exhibited anywhere before."

“It felt really cool to see my work in The Carousel window. This is the first time I've had any of my work exhibited anywhere before.”

▼ **ADELLE IVERSEN, 13**



“This is probably one of my favourite things I've ever done.”

◀ **EVE MOORE, 18**

"It's really blobby and weird," added Eve, of her piece. "I'm so happy with it. This is probably one of my favourite things I've ever done. I've never looked at something I've made before – usually I don't like stuff I've made but I absolutely love this."

"A lot of my work is about the trends in house plants and our connection to nature," explained Hollie. "I look online for trendy house plants, take photos, put it all together, chop it up and really glitch it all and paint it."

Alex Flint, CEO of Nottingham BID commented: "We are delighted to support Young Creatives Nottingham, it is a great way to make the city centre more visually appealing and give some points of interest - as well as showcase the talented individuals in the city we are championing."



A lot of my work is about the trends in house plants and our connection to nature.

▶ **HOLLIE BETTS, 22**



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Nottingham

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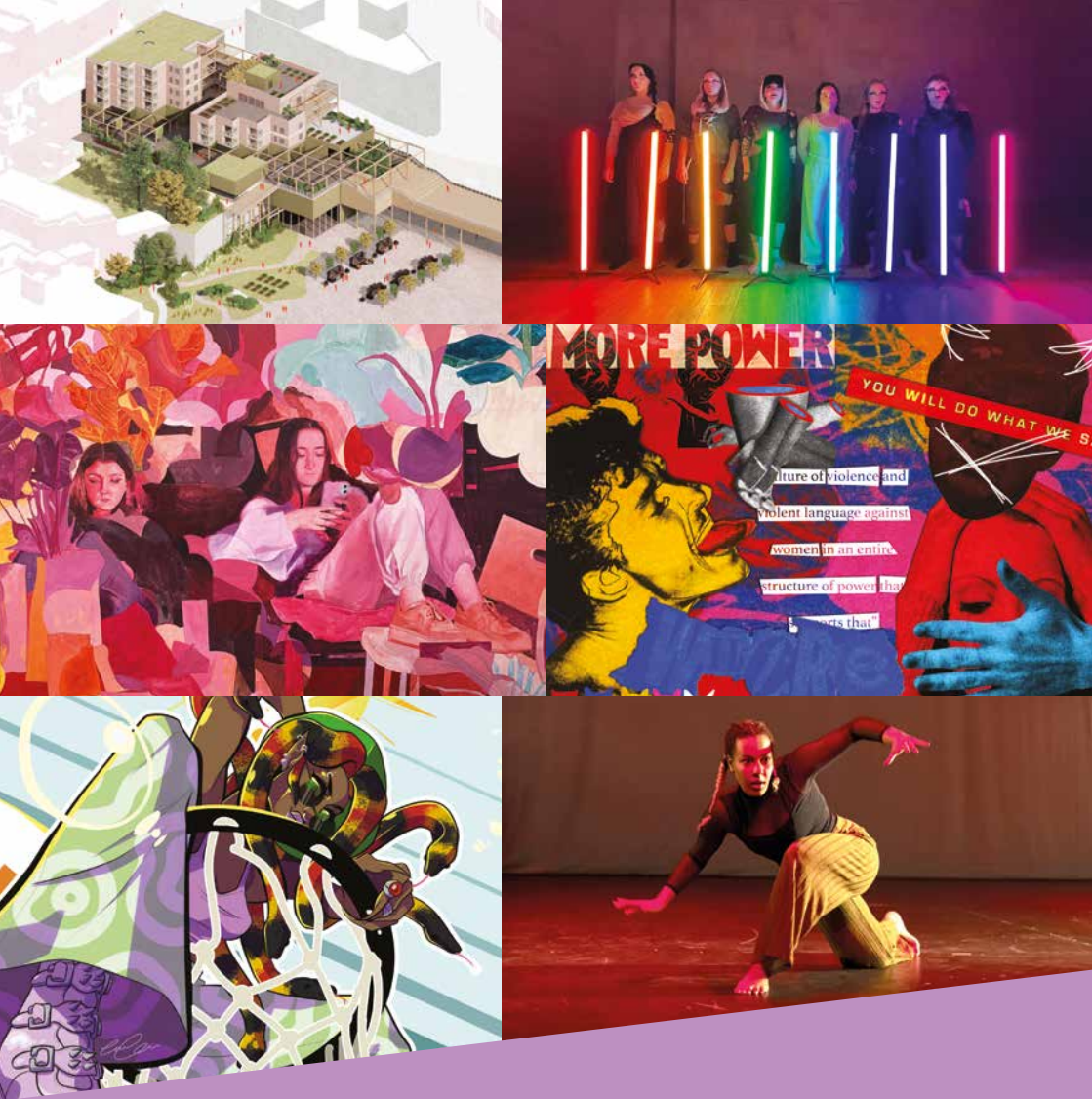
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2022 winners and finalists
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