

UEA Engagement Awards 2018/19

Guidance notes

TIMETABLE

Awards call open	Monday 18 March
Deadline for nominations	Friday 26 April
Formal notification of awards	Wednesday 8 May
Award presentation and reception	Wednesday 12 June

ELIGIBILITY

The Engagement Awards are open to all UEA and Norwich Research Park staff (academic, research and other) and all students registered at UEA (undergraduate, postgraduate and research). Engagement is a diverse, multi-faceted and complex activity. Individuals, teams and projects evidence engagement in many ways. Please see 'Past Winners' below for examples of excellence in engagement. *We are unable to accept nominations for previous Engagement Award winners.*

Anyone may self-nominate or nominate a colleague for an award. If recommending a colleague, they must be made aware of the nomination and be in agreement with the evidence provided. Community organisations are also invited to nominate UEA/NRP staff/students with whom they have been working. *Multiple nominations per person are not required.*

NOMINATION PROCESS

Please complete the online nomination form. Should you prefer a hardcopy, please download a copy from the Engagement Awards webpage, scan and return to events@uea.ac.uk; or return via internal post to Ruth Selwyn-Crome (SCI 3.20).

You are required to submit a supporting statement (max 500 words) and accompanying supporting evidence for each nomination such as testimonials and/or evaluation feedback (max 1,000 words).

Types of activities that could be included as evidence:

- Public speaking (festivals, lectures, debates or panel discussions)
- Participation in broadcast media (television, radio, film)
- Writing for print, online journalism or other outlets
- Writing for the non-specialist
- Exhibitions
- Showcasing academic know-how
- Pro-bono schemes
- Communicating research to the public
- Acting as the lead for major festival themes
- Contributing to an organisation
- Delivery of engagement activities

AWARD CATEGORIES

Please think carefully about the award category for your nomination.

Achievement Award	A record of sustained achievement for excellence in engagement
Project Award	Demonstrated achievement in relation to a specific public or community engagement project
Student Award	Achievement by a student (UG or PG) in any engagement activity or project

SELECTION PROCESS

The Awards Panel is comprised of senior engagement practitioners from UEA and one previous Award winner. The Panel looks for evidence that the engagement activity/project has been effective, and will look favourably at the following evidence:

- Direct involvement of the nominee
- Instigation of activity by the nominee
- Broad range of audience and/or participants
- Feedback from audience, participants and/or collaborators has been sought and evaluated
- Indication that the impact/potential impact on audience, participants and/or nominee’s own work has been carefully considered
- Innovation (even when a project is small)
- Dedication (above and beyond)

THE AWARDS

Award certificates will be presented by Fiona Lettice (UEA Pro Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation) at a celebratory Award presentation and reception on **12 June**. All award winners will have a profile compiled, cited as a ‘case study’ by UEA and will be showcased on the Engagement Awards web page. Winners will be invited to participate in events that help to promote public and community engagement as an integral part of the University’s aims and objectives.

EXAMPLES OF WINNERS (2018/19)

STUDENT AWARD

Lucka Bibic – Postgraduate Researcher - School of Pharmacy

In her quest to take her own research on spider venoms as painkillers to a wider audience, Lucka decided that a virtual reality game would be a great engagement tool. She successfully applied for funding from the UEA Alumni Fund and recruited and supervised Computing Sciences student to develop the game ‘Bug Off Pain’, which launched at the 2017 Norwich Science Festival. She was also invited to present the game at the Innovation Showcase, hosted by UEA and Barclays Eagle Lab Norwich, and has been invited to speak at the 2018 Norwich Gaming Festival about the benefits of gamification in science. Along with three fellow PGRs in Pharmacy, Lucka formed the team ‘CryoThaw’ which won the ‘BiotechnologyYES 2017’ national competition and the ‘People’s Choice’ award at the final. Lucka’s internship at Naked Scientist resulted in 10 written news stories, 15 podcasts and the production of a one hour Naked Scientist radio show ‘Animation: The Reel Deal’ which was broadcast on BBC S’s ‘Live Science’ and ABC Australia. Her podcasts feature interviews with an impressive array of professionals including researchers from MIT, Harvard University, KU Leven Belgium and TV- celebrity from the Big Bang Theory—Dr Mayim Bailik. With over 100K downloads, the podcasts cover topics ranging from gin distilling, earth science, electronic noses, linguistics, odontology, digestion, cancer, and solar flight. Lucka is very active on Twitter (@LuckaBibic) promoting science, and through her participation in campaigns such as ‘Skype with a Scientist’, she is inspiring the next generation of scientists, increasing the understanding of scientific research and encouraging more girls to study STEM-related subjects.

PROJECT AWARD

Sync Norwich – Norwich Business School/UEA Careers Office

Sync the City (STC) has taken place in Norwich every November since 2014. It's a Start-up event in which attendees are challenged to build a digital business in 54 Hours. The event starts on a Thursday afternoon with one-minute pitches, in which anybody attending the event can pitch a problem and solution on stage. The best ideas are voted forward and teams are formed there and then. Each team must take the idea to reality, building a product and business in 54 hours, culminating in a StartUp pitch off and product demonstration on the Saturday evening to a panel of judges and public audience. STC provides an intensive opportunity for professionals and students to come together to create innovative outcomes. Students from UEA were the first to benefit from the experience and are now joined by students from NUA and the College of West Anglia. STC's success stems from the fact that it is truly collaborative, involving education, local government, corporates, charities, SME's and start-ups. Since its conception, STC has been successful in engaging a wide range of stakeholders, including local and national entrepreneurs, government officials, students, software developers and designers. STC has contributed to raising the profile of Norwich on the national technology landscape by attracting major national innovators to attend and meet the Norwich tech community. Growing year on year, STC has become an established part of the city's tech event calendar, serving as a springboard for highly innovative entrepreneurs (including students) to commercialise their ideas or to get access to a highly rewarded job due to the participation in the event. Since 2014, STC has attracted more entrepreneurs, government officials, students, sponsors to a city not previously nationally recognised for possessing a strong or relevant IT sector. Norwich is now placed amongst the top 10 within the country according to the Confederation of British Industry.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Dr Thomas Roebuck – Lecturer, School of Literature, Drama and Creative Writing

Tom is the founder and leader of the Unlocking the Archive (UTA) project, which began in 2015 as a partnership between LDC academics and the Norfolk Heritage Centre (NHC). He and his team have worked closely with NHC's librarians to develop innovative strategies to place Renaissance books at the heart of both the library's activities and of the diverse communities in the East of England. In November 2015, Tom organised 'Norwich's Renaissance Books': a daylong hands-on drop-in session at the NHC, where members of the public handled Renaissance books under the guidance of LDC lecturers and graduate students. The following year, Tom developed a merchandise range based on the Renaissance books, which he arranged to be sold in the Forum Shop by Jarrold. The range's success has inspired the NHC to plan a wider merchandise series based on their broader collections. In 2017-18, the project's next phase, 'New Impressions: Redesigning Norwich's Renaissance Books' engaged fresh audiences. With Dr Sophie Butler (LDC) and Darren Leader Studio, Tom brought together 16 local graphic designers to create new artworks inspired by the Renaissance books. Bringing the heritage and design industries together attracted new and younger audiences to a hands-on drop-in event at the NHC, attended by over 260 people. Tom is now working in partnership with the National Trust's Blickling Estate to develop a series of creative heritage events, inspired by the incredible rare books library at Blickling, opening up this collection to new audiences, in new ways. A project website will be launched in 2018— further enhancing the project reach.