



The Big Draw Press Release

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The Big Draw Festival 2020 and 2021 Award Winners Announced

Today, global visual literacy charity The Big Draw announces the winners of the annual Big Draw Festival Awards for 2020 and 2021. This announcement was delayed due to fallout from the Covid pandemic.

Award winners have been selected by two distinguished juries, taking place as part of The Big Draw 2020 celebrating 'A Climate of Change' and The Big Draw 2021 celebrating 'Make the Change'. The Big Draw Festival Awards mark a reflection on past The Big Draw Festival events that celebrate drawing and creativity without borders.

The Big Draw Festival now has a presence in countries around the world. 2020 Big Draw Festival Award winners include organisations from Seychelles to Scotland, and 2021 Big Draw Festival Award winners

Jane Barnes, Executive Director of The Big Draw, comments:

"Since 2020, there have been many changes in our lives as we chartered the unknown stormy seas of Covid. Familiar face to face events stopped abruptly and screens became a vital link to the outside world.

One of the changes at The Big Draw has been the departure of the Director Kate Mason, who worked tirelessly developing The Big Draw into the dynamic organisation it is today, recognised worldwide for its innovation in drawing. One of my tasks following my appointment as Executive Director has been to facilitate the completion of the 2020 and 2021 Big Draw Festival Awards. This has been a delightful task, and a privilege to see so much talent in the submissions. It gives me great pleasure to announce the winners for the 2020 and 2022 Big Draw Festival Awards, shared with you in our prize winners' video.

Thank you to all event organisers and artists for taking time to create and submit work during an extremely difficult time, we really appreciate it. I look forward to meeting all the winners for 2022 Big Draw Festival Awards, in the face-to-face Big Draw Festival Awards event next year. "

The 2020/21 Big Draw Festival Award judges are: **Kate Mason**, Former Director of The Big Draw, **Curtis Holder**, artist and Sky Portrait Artist of the Year and **Onyinye Iwu**, Illustrator and Design Tutor. The 2021/22 Big Draw Festival Award judges are **Jane Barnes**, The Big Draw Executive Director, **Russell Walker**, Illustrator and Educator and **Liz Atkin**, Big Draw Ambassador and Artist.

Organisers, including schools, libraries, museums, artists, local councils and community centres impressed our panels of judges and The Big Draw team with their fun, unique and experimental approaches to the Festival themes. offering Big Draw Festival visitors and organisers opportunities to explore the impact we have on the ever-changing world around us.

Each panel selected six awards. In addition to these, The Big Draw hosts one award which is determined by public vote, The People's Choice Award. The 2020/21 People's Choice Award winner is 24 Hour Drawing School, Italy, and the 2021/22 People's Choice Award winner is independent artist, Louisa Crispin.

The Big Draw would like to thank everyone who applied for the awards and took part in The Big Draw Festival 2020/21 and 2021/22.

The Big Draw 2020/21 winners

- Primary School Award winner **St George's CE Primary, Worcester**, hosted events including Twig weaving, den making, drawing games, workshops and a celebratory tea party.
- Secondary School and Higher Education Award winner **Tapton School, Sheffield**, invited students to work collaboratively to produce an illustration installation about climate change from their perspective.
- Arts Clubs & Societies Award winner **Arterial Seychelles, Eden Island, Seychelles**, drew on quotes from Greta Thurnberg as inspiration and were translated into French, Creole and English. Students filled in the letters with portraits and detailed studies of nature.
- Community, Participatory and Libraries Award winner **INSPIRE Libraries, Nottinghamshire**, partnered with Miner2Major, a landscape partnership scheme which encourages people to get involved with projects aimed at celebrating and conserving Nottinghamshire's Heritage. Participants designed and painted silk bunting flags which were shown in a touring exhibition.
- Community, Participatory and Libraries Award winner **Dr Anamica Bhattachayra, Manama, Bahrain** chose to celebrate nature through art through workshops, including watercolour and acrylic painting, upcycling and creating a mini terrarium forest.
- Museums and Galleries Award winner **The Courtauld, London**, hosted a day-long online festival made up of five workshops, a studio tour and a chance to get up close and personal with images of animals in the Courtauld's print and drawing collection.
- Guest Panellist's Choice Award winner **Aert Elements, Shetland**. led an inspirational series of 40 free daily drawing prompts which encouraged exploration of the local environment and natural world through drawing.
- The People's Choice Award winner **24 Hour Drawing Lab, Italy**. hosted events including talks with Filippo Sacca, Orio Gelend and Gabriele Luciani.

The Big Draw 2021/22 winners

- Primary School Award winner, **Braeburn Garden Estate School, Nairobi, Kenya**, took part in a fantastic array of activities for a huge mural of work, showcasing the reuse culture of Kenya and the values of the school, such as kindness.
- Secondary School and Higher Education Award winner, **Kingsdale Foundation School, London, UK**, focused on upcycling materials and the huge environmental impact that waste and fast fashion have on our planet, working with old school uniforms as a canvas, to express their message through drawing, painting, printing, fusing and sewing.
- Arts Clubs & Societies Award winner **Eye to Pencil, London, UK**, ran regular courses, talks and workshops in their drawing studio with guest speakers who shared insights into their drawing practice.
- Community, Participatory and Libraries Award winner **Biblioteques Municipals de Reus, Tarragona, Spain**, focused on discovering ways we can live in balance with the world and reconnect with others. The libraries ran twelve events throughout October 2022, including workshops and working with schools to draw the nature around them.
- Community, Participatory and Libraries Award winner **INSPIRE Libraries, Nottinghamshire**, introduced FACES, PLACES at libraries and primary schools in Nottinghamshire, making a mass portrait celebrating place and residents' connection to the county.

- Museums and Galleries Award winner **Hauser + Wirth in Somerset, UK and Menorca, Spain**, created a drawing resource to use across their various galleries which invited participants to engage in three activities, which focused on close looking, drawing, using the senses, and designing their own sculpture inspired by Eduardo Chillida.
- Guest Panellist's Choice Award winner **Medley, Spilsby, UK**, ran 'Birds A-Z', a weekly drawing prompt from August to December 2021, where participants were invited to draw a different bird for each letter of the alphabet.
- The Peoples' Choice Award winner **Louisa Crispin, Kent, UK** aimed to draw attention to nature corridors and the plight of insects through art by creating a "Great Big Wildlife Corridor."

In summary: The Big Draw Festival 2020 Award Winners

Primary School Award

Winner: St George's CE Primary, Worcester, UK

Secondary School and Higher Education Award

Winner: Tipton School, Sheffield, UK

Art Clubs and Societies Award

Winner: Arterial Seychelles, Eden Island, Seychelles

Community, Participatory and Libraries Award

Winner [1]: Inspire, Nottinghamshire, UK

Community, Participatory and Libraries Award

Winner [2]: Dr Anamica Bhattachayra, Manama, Bahrain

Museums and Galleries Award

Winner: The Courtauld, London, UK

Guest Panellist's Choice Award

Winner: Aert Elements, Shetland, Scotland

The People's Choice Award

Winner: 24 Hour Drawing Lab, Rome, Italy

In summary: The Big Draw Festival 2021 Award Winners

Primary School Award

Winner: Braeburn Garden Estate School, Nairobi, Kenya

Secondary School and Higher Education Award

Winner: Kingsdale Foundation School, London, UK

Art Clubs and Societies Award

Winner: Eye to Pencil, London, UK

Community, Participatory and Libraries Award

Winner [1]: Biblioteques Municipals de Reus, Tarragona, Spain

Community, Participatory and Libraries Award

Winner [2]: INSPIRE Libraries, Nottinghamshire, UK

Museums and Galleries Award

Winner: Hauser + Wirth in Somerset, UK and Menorca, Spain

Guest Panellist's Choice Award

Winner: Medley, Spilsby, UK

The People's Choice Award

Winner: Louisa Crispin, Kent, UK

These Awards are kindly supported by The Alan Davidson Foundation, The Guild of St George and Arts Council England.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

The Big Draw

The Big Draw is a visual literacy charity promoting the universal language of drawing as a tool for thought, creativity, social and cultural engagement. The Big Draw (formerly The Campaign for Drawing) was launched in 2000 with support from and spearheaded by The Guild of St George, the charity founded by John Ruskin in 1871 - becoming an independent arts education charity in 2006.

The charity leads a diverse programme of advocacy, empowerment and engagement, and is the founder and driving force behind The Big Draw Festival – the world's biggest celebration of drawing. The Big Draw manages collaborative research projects, campaigns and educational conferences on visual literacy, digital technology and STEAM. The charity supports professional and emerging artists through its national contemporary art prize, The John Ruskin Prize and exhibition, and through events, awards, and competitions, creates platforms for anyone who wants to draw.

www.thebigdraw.org | Charity no. 1114811

The Big Draw Festival

Launched in October 2000, The Big Draw Festival has encouraged over five million people back to the drawing board. It has notched up two world records – for the longest drawing in the world (one kilometre) and the greatest number of people drawing simultaneously (over 7,000). The first Big Draw Festival in 2000 attracted 180 partner organisations. Since then, the number has risen to over 1,000, with over 500,000 people participating each year. What began as a one-day celebration of drawing in October 2000 in the UK, is now an annual festival of drawing across the world.

The John Ruskin Prize

The John Ruskin Prize was initiated in 2012 by The Big Draw in partnership with the Guild of St George. The Prize is the fastest growing multi-disciplinary arts and crafts prize in the UK. With the values of the radical polymath John Ruskin at its core, the #RuskinPrize has a growing representation for supporting and promoting artists, designers and makers whose work defies easy categorisation.

www.ruskinprize.co.uk

The Alan Davidson Foundation

The Alan Davidson Foundation is a UK registered charity that supports a wide range of causes. There is a strong focus on MND research, care and initiatives that help support those with disabling neurological conditions. It also supports architecture and architectural initiatives. The Davidson Prize has just been launched, a new architectural prize rewarding innovative concepts that imaginatively rethink the design of the contemporary home.

alandavidsonfoundation.org

The Guild of St George

The Guild of St George is an educational charity, founded in 1871 by the Victorian art and social critic, John Ruskin, devoted to the arts, crafts and the rural economy. The Guild is based in England but has a worldwide membership of Companions, which seeks to uphold the values and put into practice the ideas of its founder, John Ruskin

(1819-1900). The Guild of St George founded “Campaign for Drawing” in 2000 which is now, The Big Draw.

www.guildofstgeorge.org.uk

Arts Council England

Arts Council England is a government-funded body dedicated to promoting the performing, visual and literary arts in England. Since 1994, Arts Council England has been responsible for distributing lottery funding. This investment has helped to transform the building stock of arts organisations and to create much additional high-quality arts activity.

www.artscouncil.org.uk