



The Big Draw Press Release

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The Big Draw Festival 2022 and 2023 Award Winners Announced

Today, global visual literacy charity The Big Draw proudly announces the winners of the annual Big Draw Festival Awards for 2022 and 2023. These awards celebrate creativity and the universal language of drawing, recognising outstanding contributions to The Big Draw Festival over the past two years.

The awards were judged by a distinguished panel: Penny Harris (Co-founder of Parker Harris), Eric Reynolds (Founding Director of Urban Space Management), Matilda Barratt (Director of The Big Draw), and Patrycja Nowak (Head of PR & Marketing at Urban Space Management).

Winners are selected based on how well their projects embody the festival themes: 'Come Back to Colour' (2022) and 'Drawing with Senses' (2023). The award categories cover a broad range of participants, from primary and secondary schools to museums, libraries, and more.

Matilda Barratt, Director of The Big Draw, comments:

"This year's winners have exemplified the power of creativity and community. Their innovative approaches to drawing not only inspire but offer meaningful ways to connect, reflect, and engage with the world around us. I am thrilled to celebrate their remarkable achievements, and I'd like to sincerely thank everyone who took part in The Big Draw Festival 2022 and 2023.

"The Big Draw Festival continues to expand globally, with events taking place across over 30 countries over the past decade, spanning all six continents! The 2022 and 2023 award winners reflect the diversity and creativity that make The Big Draw Festival so unique and impactful."

Organisations from all different sectors, from Kenya to Scotland, impressed the judging panel with their creative, experimental approaches to the Festival themes. Their projects offered visitors opportunities to engage with and reflect on the world around them through drawing.

The panel selected a total of 11 awards across 2022 and 2023. In addition to these, The Big Draw hosts the People's Choice Award, which is determined by public vote. The 2022 People's Choice Award was won by St Oswald's Primary School, and the 2023 People's Choice Award was won by South Oxford Community Centre.

The Big Draw would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the organisers, artists, and participants who made The Big Draw Festival 2022 and 2023 such a success.

2022 Big Draw Festival 'Come Back to Colour' Award Winners:

- **Big Draw Schools Award 2022** winner **Braeburn Garden Estate School**, ran a series of creative activities and significant charitable initiatives, including mural renovations at a slum school and organising a festive 'Santa Day' for underprivileged children.
- **Secondary School Award 2022** joint winner, **Aga Khan Academies**, engaged students in visual arts, dance, and poetry, fostering a renewed appreciation for the arts.
- **Secondary School Award 2022** joint winner, **the Purcell School**, explored the relationship between sound and colour, with students participating in a large collaborative artwork in response to student Mikhail Pankin's accordion performance.
- **Clubs and Societies Award 2022** winner, **Sun Pier House CIC**, ran an event that featured inclusive artist-led workshops, drop-in drawing activities, and accessible resources that encouraged children to showcase their artwork in a welcoming gallery space.
- **Community, Library and Participatory Award 2022** winner, **Inspire: Culture, Learning and Libraries**, hosted dynamic workshops led by dance artist Takeshi Matsumoto, blending movement and drawing to create vibrant, collaborative artworks.
- **Galleries and Museums Award 2022** winner, **Bradford Museums & Galleries**, ran a hands-on workshop led by artist Morwenna Catt, where families created pyramid lanterns for the Lister Lantern Parade, encouraging multi-generational engagement and joyful artistic exploration.
- **Guest Panellists' Choice Award 2022** winner, **Sarah Longley**, led a collaborative community-driven project, inspired by the poem, 'Totem', by Michael Longley, where participants created colourful totem installations celebrating their Highland locale.
- **People's Choice Award 2022** winner, **St Oswald's C of E Primary**, delivered a project where students decorated colourful cut-out figures themed around connection, wellbeing, and the environment, with the artwork culminating in a giant globe made from recycled materials.

2023 Big Draw Festival 'Drawing with Senses' Award Winners:

- **Big Draw Schools Award 2023** winner, **St George's CE Primary**, engaged participants in a sensory-rich open day, featuring activities like walking drawings in the garden, immersive shadow play in a sensory room, and biscuit decorating.
- **Clubs and Societies Award 2023** winner, **The Royal Society of Sculptors**, engaged hundreds of participants in a range of inclusive, sensory-focused activities such as wildlife drawing with owls, edible art workshops, creative dyslexia workshops, and game design workshops.
- **Community, Library and Participatory Award 2023** winner, **Tees Valley Museums**, hosted free workshops across five local authorities, offering free events such as printmaking, photography, comic book drawing, and even a Paint Off!
- **Galleries and Museums Award 2023** winner, **Hauser & Wirth**, engaged participants across their global locations in workshops incorporating recordings, drawings, and creative writing.
- **People's Choice Award 2023** winner, **South Oxford Community Centre**, hosted a series of community workshops featuring artist-led sessions including monoprinting and life drawing.

Quotes from the winners of The Big Draw Festival Awards 2022 and 2023:

"In the Art Department, we aimed to show that drawing is for everyone and can be a powerful tool for expression, connection, and creativity. [...] We love getting involved with The Big Draw!"

– The Purcell School,
Secondary School Award 2022

"Over 300 children hung their artwork in our Riverside gallery and received a certificate to take home. [...] we are looking forward to celebrating The Big Draw Festival's 25th Birthday!"

– Sun Pier House CIC,
Clubs and Societies Award 2022

"Inspire is community in everything it does, and using The Big Draw as a vehicle for outreach and engagement through drawing and dance showed the power creativity can have."

– Peter Gaw, Inspire: Culture, Learning & Libraries,
Community, Library and Participatory Award 2022

"It was such a lovely way to welcome people back to Cartwright Hall Art Gallery. Hearing the laughter and chatter of different generations being creative and having a good time was a tonic."

– Sonja Kielty, Bradford Museums & Galleries,
Galleries and Museums Award 2022

"We transformed our wee church hall into a forest of magnificent totems, and watching the pride on kids' faces as they showed their work to their families was wonderful."

– Sarah Longley, The Big Totem Draw,
Guest Panellists' Choice Award 2022

"The Big Draw is something we have participated in for years, and always encourage parents and carers to join us to make it a community event."

– St Oswald's Primary School
People's Choice Award 2022

"It was a joyous school event where experimentation and creativity was celebrated by the whole community."

– St George's CE Primary School,
Big Draw Schools Award 2023

"We're such big fans of The Big Draw, and each year we tailor our programming to celebrate its mission and the importance of drawing."

– Royal Society of Sculptors,
Clubs and Societies Award 2023

"Winning this award in our 10th year with The Big Draw is very special. The campaign brings to life how creativity can contribute to our well-being."

– Debbie Hillyerd, Senior Director Learning, Hauser & Wirth,
Galleries and Museums Award 2023

"We are enormously grateful and pleasantly surprised to receive 'The People's Choice Award.' Our event was truly a community one, exactly what we aimed to create."

– South Oxford Community Centre,
People's Choice Award 2023

IN SUMMARY

The Big Draw Festival 2022 Award Winners:

Big Draw Schools Award

Winner: [Braeburn Garden Estate School](#)

Secondary School Award

Joint winner: [Aga Khan Academies](#)

Joint winner: [The Purcell School](#)

Clubs and Societies Award

Winner: [Sun Pier House CIC](#)

Community, Library and Participatory Award

Winner: [Inspire: Culture, Learning and Libraries](#)

Galleries and Museums Award

Winner: [Bradford Museums & Galleries](#)

Guest Panellists' Choice Award

Winner: [Sarah Longley](#)

People's Choice Award

Winner: [St Oswald's C of E Primary](#)

The Big Draw Festival 2023 Award Winners:

Big Draw Schools Award

Winner: [St George's CE Primary](#)

Clubs and Societies Award

Winner: [The Royal Society of Sculptors](#)

Community, Library and Participatory Award

Winner: [Tees Valley Museums](#)

Galleries and Museums Award

Winner: [Hauser & Wirth](#)

People's Choice Award

Winner: [South Oxford Community Centre](#)

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#DrawinginMotion #BDF2024 #TheBigDraw

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, worldwide festival. While the flagship month takes place in October, events now take place all throughout the year.