



Central College  
Nottingham

**NO.1**

FOR STUDENT  
SATISFACTION  
IN NOTTINGHAM



\*FE COLLEGES

# Connect

CONNECTING YOU TO GREAT COURSES, CAREERS AND A STUDENT LIFESTYLE

 /centralnottingham

 /centralcollnott

JULY 2017

# CREATIVE SUCCESS at Central

STUDENTS HONOURED AT YOUNG CREATIVE AWARDS



**CONSTRUCTION  
INDUSTRY  
AWARD WINNERS**

**YOUNG  
LEADERSHIP  
PROGRAMME  
EVENT**

**REGIONAL SPORT  
AMBASSADOR  
APPOINTED**

**BUSINESS  
CHALLENGE  
SUCCESS**

**APPRENTICESHIP WEEK  
CELEBRATIONS**

**COURSES FOR REAL CAREERS**

**CENTRAL AND NCN  
JOIN FORCES**

**STUDENTS PREPARE  
FOR NURSING CAREER**

# Creative students DID US PROUD



WE'RE REALLY PROUD OF OUR CREATIVE STUDENTS WHO WERE HONOURED AT THE 2017 YOUNG CREATIVE AWARDS (YCA) IN MAY.

Five students were named winners of their individual categories in Fashion and Textiles, Photography, Visual Arts, and Film. Our students also scooped nine highly commended awards.

Mark Westlake (cover image) impressed the judges with his depiction of Nottingham that used computer motherboards to map out his vision of the city, both past and future. He took inspiration from the ever-changing nature of technology and cities, winning the 19 – 24 age category in Visual Arts.

Greta McKean (pictured above) was the winner of the 16 – 18 age category in Fashion and Textiles. She made a body adornment (inset) with found materials that she recycled into a stunning contemporary piece featuring cone shapes.

Hundreds of people attended the YCA awards. The awards aim to give people aged 13 – 24 who live, study or work in Nottingham the chance to show off their creative work, network with future employers and gain valuable industry experience and mentoring. A record number of young creatives submitted their work in 10 different categories this year to meet the 2017 theme of 'Nottingham, Future City'.



## Apprenticeship Week CELEBRATION

AS PART OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK IN MARCH, MORE THAN 200 SCHOOL PUPILS FROM SCHOOLS ACROSS NOTTINGHAMSHIRE CAME TO OUR APPRENTICESHIP FAIR.

They took part in hands-on activities connected with apprenticeships and discovered more about a variety of different sector areas such as courses in Automotive, Business Administration, Childcare, Construction, Engineering, Health and Social Care, Hair and Beauty, Science, and Sport.

Activities included science experiments, a construction challenge, virtual welder experience and a mini auto-show including a drag-car and electric car. Some of our apprentices gave visitors an insight into life as an apprentice and key local employers chatted to pupils about career opportunities. The companies included: Boots UK, British Gypsum, Kia, Nottingham City Council, and Nottingham Trent University.

Senior School and Events Officer, Jane Nutt, said: "The event allowed young people to access lots of information about the range of qualifications on offer. Apprenticeships are a real growth area locally and nationally and are a great way to gain a qualification, mixing on-the-job training with studying."

## SPORTY AMBER PROVES THIS GIRL DEFINITELY CAN

WE'RE THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE THAT ONE OF OUR SPORT STUDENTS HAS BEEN CHOSEN AS AN AMBASSADOR FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES (AOC) 'THIS GIRL CAN' CAMPAIGN.

Amber Maitland-Meek is one of 70 students selected nationally, from nearly 200 entries, to help raise awareness of the campaign to increase female participation in sport. Amber attended a special training event at the Olympic Park in London where she gained tips on event management and promotion. The role will provide valuable work experience and transferable skills for her future career.

Amber is studying a Level 3 Sport Coaching and Fitness Diploma. She is a keen hockey player and has also represented the AoC East Midlands' cross-country squad at national finals. She had always dreamt of joining the Royal Air Force as a physical training instructor but she was not able to apply due to her asthma condition.



Amber said: "I have always enjoyed sport and being a 'This Girl Can' ambassador is the perfect platform for me to use my own passion for sport to inspire others. Overcoming my own health issues means I am well placed to support girls from all walks of life. I will use my coaching training and experience to help other girls achieve their goals, excel in sport and be the best they possibly can be."

## COURSE IS A CATALYST FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

WE HELD A SPECIAL EVENT LAST TERM FOR STUDENTS OF THE CATALYST YOUNG LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME.

Catalyst is a dynamic and interactive leadership and life skills programme which brings young people together and focuses on themes including leadership, decision-making, interfaith, communication, community, citizenship and teamwork. Students from this year and previous years' programmes took part in an event where they shared ideas and listened to a variety of external speakers, including representatives from the Army.

Uniformed Public Services student James Carver is our current Students' Union EDI Officer and he led on organising this year's event. James said: "I took part in Catalyst 2016 and it was amazing. We learnt about so many different topics and had the chance to make new friends and find our true potential."



Hamza Sharif, an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) student who took part this year, said: "The course was really interesting and interactive. The idea is to help everyone get to know and understand more about people in their community."

Sam Coles, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Advisor, said: "The Catalyst programme helps us promote understanding between individuals and groups, which links in with British values and community cohesion. It also helps students develop the employability skills they need to work and live in modern day Britain."

The course is delivered by the St Philip's Centre in Leicester and funded by Near Neighbours. Catalyst aims to build the confidence of and make real the potential of young people aged 16 – 30 years so that they can change their communities for the better.

## Central and ncn merge to become NOTTINGHAM COLLEGE

WE'RE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT CENTRAL HAS NOW FORMALLY MERGED WITH NEW COLLEGE NOTTINGHAM (NCN) TO CREATE NOTTINGHAM COLLEGE – SET TO BE ONE OF THE LARGEST COLLEGES IN THE COUNTRY.

The two colleges share an ambition to transform the career prospects of young school leavers and adult learners across the City. Nottingham College will become a national pioneer in technical skills delivery through apprenticeships and post-16 and adult education.

The announcement comes after months of complex planning. With an estimated annual turnover of over £80m, Nottingham College expects to support up to 40,000 full and part-time students into employment, higher-level apprenticeships and degree courses.

Nottingham College CEO John van de Laarschot says: "We have a unique opportunity to bring students and employers into a single, dynamic learning environment and I want to encourage employers, partners, parents and students to join us as we design a new and very different kind of College.

"We are redefining the relationship that exists between education and work – shaping the college around the needs of employers to equip our students with the employability and technical skills to be successful in the workplace. We've already entered into discussions with representatives of local and national employers to make sure that the Nottingham College curriculum is designed around their needs for a sustainable and skilled workforce and we will continue to prioritise investment in areas of our business which support the region's economic growth plans."



Be part of something

# EXCITING

If you have applied to study at Central or ncn this September, don't worry as your offer is still secure and you do not need to do anything different, as we will continue to progress your application and offer.

For more information about the merger you can visit [centralnottingham.ac.uk/merger](http://centralnottingham.ac.uk/merger) and if you have any specific queries regarding your application email [enquiries@centralnottingham.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@centralnottingham.ac.uk).

We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to Nottingham College!

NOT APPLIED YET? THERE'S STILL TIME! VISIT [CENTRALNOTTINGHAM.AC.UK/APPLY](http://CENTRALNOTTINGHAM.AC.UK/APPLY)

# Business challenge adds up to **SUCCESS!**



A GROUP OF OUR ACCOUNTING AND BUSINESS STUDENTS BEAT OFF STIFF COMPETITION FROM ACROSS THE EAST MIDLANDS TO BE ANNOUNCED RUNNERS UP IN AN INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IN ENGLAND AND WALES (ICAEW) COMPETITION LAST TERM.

The annual 'BASE' competition invites teams of Business and Accounting students aged 16-19 from schools, academies and colleges to compete in a live business challenge.

The team of six Level 2 AAT Accounting and Business students battled it out against other teams from across Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire at the event at Notts County Football Club. Their task was to impress the industry judges by analysing a business, including its history and financial forecasts, then identifying proposals and innovative recommendations for the business' success moving forward. The group received a runner-up trophy at the end of the event.

Some of the group are going onto a Level 3 full-time course and others plan to start an apprenticeship in accounting.

Student Charley Dexter, 19, said: "Working under pressure and improving our time management while completing tasks was reflective of the work environment. It was a great opportunity to meet potential employers and speak to them face-to-face, as this opens up more opportunities to get into the accounting industry."

## Work experience programme **WINS INDUSTRY AWARD**



OUR WORK EXPERIENCE PARTNERSHIP WITH BROXTOWE BOROUGH COUNCIL AND ITS CONSTRUCTION PARTNER UNITED LIVING WON A BUILDING COMMUNITIES AWARD THIS YEAR, AFTER MORE THAN 150 OF OUR STUDENTS COMPLETED WORK EXPERIENCE PLACEMENTS AS PART OF A JOINT SCHEME.

The three partners were recognised in the Training category of the awards, which recognise the professionalism, excellence and innovation sitting at the heart of the region's construction and housing community.

The students' efforts have supported local communities in residential areas that are overseen by Broxtowe Council's Housing Modernisations Contract - a seven year agreement to upgrade managed homes across West Nottinghamshire. They mainly worked on projects which involved the replacement of kitchens and bathrooms, as well as upgrades to electrical installations.

Kirsty Walsh, Faculty Area Manager for Built Environment, said: "We're delighted that the project has been recognised with an award. Working with partners such as Broxtowe Borough Council and United Living helps us to offer quality work placements for our students, to better equip them for the working world. It allows them to give back to the community at the same time and to explore potential career paths."

### COURSES FOR REAL CAREERS

## ADULTS ACCESS NURSING CAREER

FRIDAY 12 MAY WAS NURSES' DAY, HELD EVERY YEAR TO CELEBRATE THE AMAZING WORK THAT NURSING STAFF DO. WE SPOKE TO TWO OF OUR ACCESS TO NURSING AND MIDWIFERY STUDENTS TO FIND OUT A BIT MORE ABOUT THEM AND THE COURSE.

Access courses are designed for adults who want to return to education after a break. They prepare people to progress to study at university-level or develop a new career.



Iulia Serbu is 21, and is nearly at the end of her Access course. She is going to university in September.

She said: "I have an offer from the University

of Nottingham to study a BSc in Adult Nursing. The course really prepares you for university study, because you have to study independently and complete assignments. The teachers at college are very helpful too."



Dee Pfende is 29, and is planning to become a mental health nurse.

Dee said: "I have offers from the University of Nottingham and the University of

Derby to study Mental Health Nursing. I work as a carer, but my mum is a nurse in a brain injury unit and she inspired me to go further and qualify as a nurse. I've come back to college as an adult and there was a really good induction week, so I felt very welcome. I met really nice people on the course too! I've nearly completed this course and I'm so glad that I can now look forward to achieving my dream of becoming a nurse. I'd definitely recommend the Access course!"