



British Universities Film & Video Council Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Winners Announced at the Learning on Screen Awards 2012

London, 27 April 2012: The British Universities Film & Video Council (BUFVC) is delighted to announce the winners of the [Learning on Screen Awards 2012](#). The awards ceremony took place last night at the **BFI Southbank, London**, with the winners receiving their awards from **leading-academic, Professor Lord Winston** and **former Chief Executive at ITN, Professor Stewart Purvis CBE**.

The Learning on Screen Awards celebrate and reward excellence in the use of moving image and related media in learning, teaching and research. This year over 100 entries were received from more than 55 organisations.

Sir Ron Cooke, Chair of the Awards Jury, said:

‘As in previous years we were overwhelmed by the quality and diversity of the material submitted. We dealt with a range from highly professional, publically transmitted and heavily invested products to the outstanding early work of beginners. What stands out for me is the great depth of creative talent which exists in creating film and video and how excellence can be found in everything from training videos to fantasy games.’

The **General Education Broadcast (Production)** Award, a category for programmes produced for a general audience, but that has significant educational benefit, was awarded to **KEO north** for **Terry Pratchett: Choosing to Die**. The programme is a frank and personal documentary in which author and Alzheimer’s sufferer Sir Terry Pratchett explores the possibility of his own death. The jury described the entry as “an engaging programme from beginning to end with courageous filmmaking; an outstandingly valuable contribution to educational media.”

The **General Education Non Broadcast** Award was presented to the **Institute of Physics and Picnic Films** for **STEM Career Clips** DVD resource, which illustrates the breadth of career options available to those that study physics at A level. Ian Wall, Founder of Film Education, said the DVD “stood out for its educational value and ability to meet the needs of its target audience head-on by linking the application of science with important world issues.”

The Award for **General Education Multimedia** went to **BBC Learning** for **Stargazing LIVE**. This entry was a nationwide learning campaign linked to a three night broadcast on BBC Two presented by Brian Cox to motivate the nation to look up at the sky. Ian Wall summed up the jury’s thoughts of the resource as: “a website bursting with content, incredibly focused and inspirational to a wide audience by providing a plethora of comprehensive links and live interaction.”

This year two awards were presented in the **Courseware and Curriculum** category. This category is intended for content created for use among specific target groups of students who need to obtain particular knowledge and skills, or who are at a specific stage in a course of learning. The first winner was **Two-Four & The British Heart Foundation** for **Heartstart: Skills for Life**. Juror Dr Ceri Higgins, a filmmaker and lecturer at the Arts University College Bournemouth, described the training DVD as having “an excellent script, gripping narrative and clear graphics.”

The second winner in this category was **Twig World Ltd** for **Twig Science** - a multimedia entry praised by the jury “for its scale, flexible structure and comprehensive content.” Twig Science is made-up of hundreds of brand new three minute films available online to enliven science teaching.

The Award for the **Student Production Undergraduate & FE** category, sponsored by Avid, went to **David Winstone** from the **University of Westminster** who directed **For Elsie** – a short film about a pathetic piano teacher who is forced to teach a Russian gangster daughter Fur Elise by the end of the day or have his hands broken. Murray Weston, Senior Advisor at the BUFVC, commented that the entry was: “a highly accomplished and seamless piece of work.”

Director **Afarin Eghbal** from the **National Film and Television School** took home the Avid sponsored **Student Production Postgraduate** award for her film **Abuelas** – an animated documentary that uses real-life testimonials to raise issues of memory, repression and loss. Eghbal also received the jury’s **Premier Award** for the same production, which was described by juror Murray Weston as: “an excellent professional production portraying a difficult and moving theme in a novel way via a variety of innovative techniques.”

Two **Special Jury Awards** were also presented to entries that stood out for their unique content. The first went to **A Boatload of Wild Irishmen**, an entry by **LMDÓC** in association with the **University of Lincoln and Bright Spark Studios**. A film about documentary pioneer Robert Flaherty that was praised for its “unique and fresh use of archive material, much of which has never been seen before.”

The second **Special Jury Award** went to the **Tyneside Cinema** for its multimedia alternative reality game: **Time Machine**. The game, aimed at engaging children with the history of the Tyneside Cinema, was praised by the jury “for the unique experience it provides to students on the history of the local area. It is a resource which is ambitious, stylish, engaging and at the cutting-edge of education.”

Special Commendation certificates were also presented to **St. George’s, University of London** for the online resource **Virtually There** and to **Eoin Patrick Doran** from **The Manchester College** for his short film **Something’s Gotta Give**.

View further details regarding the winners, nominees and award categories on the BUFVC website: <http://bufvc.ac.uk/learningonscreen>

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Note to Editors:

Photos and videos from the Learning on Screen Awards 2012:

Please see below a photo of Professor Lord Winston presenting the Learning on Screen Awards 2012. This photo may be used with the above press release (a high resolution version is available on request). Please credit: Gabriel Hernandez.

Additional photos and short videos from the Learning on Screen Awards 2012 will be added to the website shortly: <http://bufvc.ac.uk/learningonscreen>



British Universities Film & Video Council

The [British Universities Film & Video Council \(BUFVC\)](http://bufvc.ac.uk/) is a charity and membership organisation whose mission is to support the advancement of education by promoting the production, study, use and knowledge of moving image, sound and related media within post-compulsory education and research.

The BUFVC aims to enhance the teaching and learning experience of students and researchers by improving the access to and knowledge of film, television and radio content in education. It does this primarily through its comprehensive provision of databases, information (including copyright advice), publications, the off-air recording back-up service and research.

The Learning on Screen Awards are organised by the BUFVC to celebrate and reward excellence in the use of moving image and related media in learning, teaching and research. The Awards are open to broadcast, non-broadcast and multimedia entries, from broadcasters, production companies, education providers, museum personnel, postgraduate, undergraduate and further education students, amongst others.

<http://bufvc.ac.uk/> Twitter: [@bufvc](https://twitter.com/bufvc) (#LoSAwards)

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