SPRINGBOARD AWARDS
NIGHT SUCCESS

In November we held our annual GEM (Going the Extra Mile) Awards at the Best Western Roker Hotel, to celebrate the successes of our learners, staff and employers throughout the year. We were also lucky enough to have The Apprentice star and local girl Katie Bulmer-Cooke to present the awards to all of our 24 deserving winners.

The venue was full of proud tutors, families, employers and Springboard staff. The evening began with a short introduction from Denise Wilson, our Trust Secretary, who talked about how proud she was of the staff, and how far we have come over the past 40 years. Our guest Katie Bulmer-Cooke, gave a fantastic monologue about her first ever audition on The Apprentice. She encouraged everyone to step outside of their comfort zone, as she had, in order to strive for success.

Denise said; “We work so hard here at Springboard all year round, and we like to make sure that staff and learners know they are appreciated with a night to celebrate their hard work. Some of our learners come from very challenging backgrounds, and it is a pleasure to watch their confidence grow as they achieve success in each step of their training. We also like to acknowledge the important role local employers make by investing their time in our apprentices and trainees.”

All of our GEM 2015 Winners and Apprentice of the Year Adam Walmsley with Katie Bulmer-Cooke
THE WINNERS

Construction Learner of the Year - Michael Price
Hospitality Learner of the Year – Natasia Gibson
Horticulture Learner of the Year – Daniel Todd
Sports Learner of the Year – Daniel Maughan
Public Services Learner of the Year – Laurie Naisbitt
Childcare Learner of the Year – Bethany Goodings
Teaching Assistant Learner of the Year – Hollie Turner
Health and Social Care Learner of the Year – Sara Atkinson
Business Admin Learner of the Year – Josh Gilbert
Property Services Learner of the Year – Lauren Pennock
Retail Learner of the Year – Sam Holvey
PMO Learner of the Year – Callum Keen
Warehousing Learner of the Year – Dan Thompson
Design and Print Learner of the Year – Aidan Churlish
Skills for Life Learner of the Year – Wesley Redpath
Springboard Works Learner of the Year – Amy O’Sullivan
Study Programme Learner of the Year – Caitlyn Hardy
Trainee Learner of the Year – Salma Shafi
Apprentice of the Year – Adam Walmsley
Placement Supervisor of the Year – Doreen Carver
Employer Placement of the Year – Rapid Windows
Tutor/Assessor of the Year – Sarah Ludlow
Staff Member of the Year – Fred Wood
The Sara Keen Award – Ebony Reeves

Well done to all the winners and the nominees!

SPOTLIGHT ON ...

Design and Print Learner of the Year – Aidan Churlish

Aidan was one of our advanced apprentices who was employed at Tower Design in Hartlepool from 2014-2015.

He was chosen as the Design and Print Learner of the Year in a very competitive category.

Aidan was selected as the winner because he has been such a positive, enthusiastic presence in the studio. He gained so much in confidence over the year, produced some great products for the customers, in addition to producing some impressive work in his NVQ and technical certificates.

His tutor Helen Smith said; “All of the apprentices who work in the studio are fantastic and produce fabulous work for our customers, so it was hard for the judges to call.

Aidan always arrived at work with a big smile on his face and got on with the tasks at hand. He was extremely reliable, had excellent attendance and was always keen to volunteer and help out over and above the delegated tasks the team were given. He was a joy to have around.”

This September Aidan began a degree course in Illustration at Cleveland College of Art. Higher education was something that Aidan did not believe possible, but with the achievement of his advanced apprenticeship, he is now thriving in this environment.

He said; “I was over the moon I won the award. I really loved my time at Tower Design with Springboard, and I have made some friends for life!”

Well done to all the winners and the nominees!
Some of our Study Programme learners recently took part in an enterprise project as part of their learning programme. The learners devised their own Christmas craft business where they made and sold their own festive products.

The project took weeks of careful planning and lots of creativity, as the group worked together on every aspect of the business from production through to marketing. The Thingymabobs team included Lauren Gleeson, Laurie Dowson, Britney Smith, Caitlin Joyce, Chloe Moore, Jasmine Treadaway, Amy Cuniff and Olivia Thomson. The profit they made from their project was donated to Children in Need.

Their tutor Leanne Green said; “The girls did a fabulous job with this enterprise project. It incorporated a range of skills such as creativity, teamwork, leadership, literacy and numeracy, which was fun to do outside of a classroom setting”.

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**THE GREAT OUTDOORS!**

Our horticulture learners have still been busy over the autumn and winter months. These keen gardeners work in placement or with our team, where they are able to get first hand experience of all aspects of horticulture and gardening.

The learners work towards qualifications and learn real skills which could lead to employed apprenticeship opportunities.

GCSEs are not required for this programme, but you would need to be prepared to put in some hard graft in all weathers!

To find out more call 01429 287075.

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**Sport & Leisure**

**Study Programme Vacancies**

A part-time sports programme for 16-19 year olds, who have an interest in sport / health and fitness and want a practical way of learning. You will be entitled to a bursary payment per week. Call 01429 287075

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Well done to these Springboard girls who made cakes and sold tickets to raise money for Children in Need. Along with the enterprise project they donated a grand total of £203.77 to Pudsey!!
NEW BRANDING FOR THE STUDIO

Our graphic design and print studio based in Hartlepool rebranded with a new logo in November.

Tower Design’s simple yet sleek new logo will help to move the business forward, as we reach out and engage much more actively with our clients and partners.

Find us on Facebook TowerDesignHartlepool to view and like our recent work and product albums.

For design and print quotations contact Helen on infotowerdesign@gmail.com or call 01429 287075 @TowerDesign77

Tower Design continues to provide a fantastic design and print service in Hartlepool and is an excellent learning platform for young graphic design apprentices. A number of recent achievements in the Advanced Graphic Design Apprenticeship Programme mean that although we say a sad goodbye to some of our 2015 crew, we are safe in the knowledge that their years work experience in the studio, will help them achieve bigger and better things, be it in higher education or in their working life for the future.

The graphics programme gives the apprentices a unique opportunity of a years employment, a level 3 qualification and a portfolio of real client work with the skills and knowledge to back it up.

We are always on the look out for creative apprentices. Candidates should apply via the apprenticeships website and are selected for interview based on their suitability to the post.

For more information contact Helen on infotowerdesign@gmail.com

IN BRIEF ...

Well done to Springboard Tutor Lawrence Sharratt, who came away from a prestigious flower show at the end of the season with accolades for his prize dahlias. He can be found passing his extensive skills and knowledge to our horticulture learners each day and will be aiming for the gold medal next year.

Springboard continues to support job seekers who are 19+ and are keen to develop their skills to improve their employability.

The Springboard Works team identify the strengths and development needs of each learner, and put into place a plan which may include gaining vocational qualifications, certificates in ICT, literacy and numeracy, employability skills and real work experience.

Project Officer Kate Bassham works at the Hartlepool site with learners who are working towards ICT qualifications.

She said: “Many of these learners are starting to use a computer for the very first time, and it is opening a whole new world to them. They are using emails, spreadsheets and filling in forms online. Although this can be daunting, they are enjoying learning new skills and techniques and can see how this can help them in their quest to find work.”

You can be referred by the Job Centre, Connexions or you can contact Springboard directly yourself and make an appointment.