

QEPrize announces winner of first global trophy competition

London, 01 February 2017: The Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering today announced the winner of the first international competition to design the QEPrize trophy. The winning entry was submitted by 15 year-old Samuel Bentley from the UK, whose Snowdon inspired design reflects the achievement of receiving the prize.

Previously open to UK residents only, this year's contest invited aspiring designers aged 14-24 from around the world to create the most prestigious trophy in engineering. Using a brand new smartphone and tablet app, entrants put their design skills to the test, creating a timeless award to capture the spirit of modern engineering.

Following an overwhelming response from young people in 32 different countries, submissions were whittled down to just ten finalists. The top design was then selected by an expert panel of designers and engineers, led by Ian Blatchford, Director and Chief Executive of the Science Museum Group. Helping him reach the final decision were Roma Agrawal, a structural engineer at Interserve; Professor Mark Miodownik, materials scientist at University College London; and Rebeca Ramos, a designer at Heatherwick Studio.

The 15-year old is one of ten young designers aged between 15 and 24 who were shortlisted for the prize. Samuel, who is currently a student at Ysgol Glan Clwyd school in St Asaph, Wales, said his design was inspired by the highest Welsh peak, Snowdon. Samuel's design will be 3D-printed into an iconic trophy by BAE Systems and awarded to the 2017 winner of the £1 million Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering later this year.

Regarded as the world's foremost engineering prize, the biennial QEPrize celebrates the engineer (or group of engineers) responsible for a groundbreaking innovation that has had a significant positive impact on humanity. The 2017 prize is to be awarded to George Smith, Michael Tompsett, Nobukazu Teranishi and Eric Fossum for their contributions to the creation of digital imaging sensors later this year.

Commenting on the inspiration behind his design, Samuel said: "I enjoy the design aspect of engineering and seeing the finished product after all of the hard work has been put in. My trophy

was inspired by the great Welsh mountain, Snowdon; I think it looks like a rock face and it is an achievement to start at the bottom of Snowdon and climb to the top, just as it is an achievement to win the Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering.”

As well as receiving a top of the range laptop for creating the winning trophy, Samuel will also be invited to see his design presented to the winner of the 2017 Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering in London.

Also in the shortlist were Ben Worrall (UK); Harrison Savill (Australia); Connor Lee Barnett (USA); Vivian The (Singapore); Philip Hung, from the UK; Solomon Rorellien (India); Robert Turner (UK); Joe Ireland (Canada) and Andrew Onulak (USA).

The shortlisted designs can all be viewed at: qeprize.org/trophy-2017

Ian Blatchford, director of the Science Museum Group and chairman of the judging panel, said of the winning trophy: “What the judges were most drawn to in Samuel’s design was the wonderful combination of the expected and the unexpected; it reflects a conventional trophy, but with a twist. When you first look at this design, you think it is an entirely solid object, but as you begin to move around it, it is a combination of both a stable and unstable form. It has light and shade elements, and gives both surprise and reassurance. It also has a lot of visual appeal.”

Ends

About the competition

14-24 year olds were invited to submit a timeless design that encapsulated modern engineering. Entries were made via the Create the Trophy app, which remains available to download free through the [App Store](#), [Google Play](#) and the QEPrize website (www.qeprize.org/trophy). For more details (including rules and conditions), please go to: www.qeprize.org/trophy.

www.qeprize.org

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#createthetrophy

About the judging panel

Ian Blatchford is Director of the Science Museum and Chairman of the judging panel. He was

formerly deputy director of the V&A.

Ian is also Director of the Science Museum Group, which includes the National Railway Museum in York and Shildon; the Museum of Science & Industry; and the National Media Museum in Bradford. The Science Museum Group plays a vital role in helping to inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers, showcasing the best of British research and providing accessible and inspiring exhibitions and events for both adults and children.

www.sciencemuseum.org.uk

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Professor Mark Miodownik is professor of Materials & Society and Director of the UCL Institute of Making.

Prof Miodownik is a broadcaster and writer: he gave the 2010 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures and regularly presents BBC television programmes on engineering. In 2013 he was awarded the Rooke Medal, and in 2014 was elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering.

Mark said of choosing the winner: "We were looking for something which speaks about the distinctive nature of engineering. It is this particular way of looking at the world, of trying to find problems and solve them, of being original. We wanted a design that pushed the envelope of what you would expect from a trophy, while still feeling like a very special prize."

Roma Agrawal is a design manager at Interserve.

Previously, she worked as a senior structural engineer on the Shard in London. Roma was awarded the 'Diamond Award for Engineering Excellence' by the Association for Consultancy and Engineering and 'Young Structural Engineer of the Year' by the Institution of Structural Engineers.

Roma said of being on the panel: "One of my favourite parts about judging the competition was seeing the sheer amount of creativity that comes from all over the world. I really loved seeing all of the different ideas, designs and perspectives that the entrants had produced from the same brief. There was just so much variety, it really made choosing just one winner an incredibly difficult decision."

Rebeca Ramos is a designer at Heatherwick Studio.

She is currently instrumental in delivering the new 450sqm Maggie's Cancer Care Centre at St.

James's Hospital, Yorkshire. Rebeca has also contributed to a variety of private residential and cultural schemes in Venezuela, China and the UK.

Rebeca said of the competition: "Create the Trophy makes it easy for young people to get excited and engage with engineering. It helps to show young people that engineering is not something distant, but rather something they have access to and could do in the future. With a bit of courage to put their ideas out there and give the competition a go, they can test their design, improve it, change it, and make it better every time. These are fundamental skills in engineering."

Further information

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About the Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering

The Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering (QEPrize) is the world's leading engineering prize, celebrating the engineers responsible for a ground-breaking innovation in engineering that has been of global benefit to humanity. The biennial £1million prize aims to raise the public profile of engineering and inspire young people to take up the engineering challenges of the future.

The inaugural winners, in 2013, were Robert Kahn, Vint Cerf, Louis Pouzin, Sir Tim Berners-Lee and Marc Andreessen for revolutionising the way we communicate. In 2015, the QEPrize was awarded to Dr Robert Langer for his pioneering work into large molecule drug delivery systems.

About the Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering Foundation

The Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering Foundation is a charitable company limited by guarantee and was established to administer the Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering.

The Queen Elizabeth Prize for Engineering is funded by an endowment which has been established with generous support from the following corporate donors: BAE Systems plc, BP plc,

GlaxoSmithKline, Jaguar Land Rover, National Grid plc, Nissan Motor Corporation, Shell UK Ltd, Siemens UK, Sony, Tata Steel Europe, Tata Consultancy Services and Toshiba.

The chairman of the Queen Elizabeth Prize Foundation (QEPrize Foundation) is Lord Browne of Madingley. Making up the trustee board are Dame Ann Dowling, Mala Gaonkar, Sir Paul Nurse and Sir John Beddington. Sir Mark Walport, Chief Scientific Adviser to UK Government, is adviser to the board.

The QEPrize is run on behalf of the QEPrize Foundation by a team based at the Royal Academy of Engineering in the UK.

About the Royal Academy of Engineering

As the UK's national academy for engineering, we bring together the most successful and talented engineers for a shared purpose: to advance and promote excellence in engineering.

We have four strategic challenges: make the UK the leading nation for engineering innovation; address the engineering skills crisis; position engineering at the heart of society; and lead the profession.