

# **THE WEAVERS' COMPANY TEXTILE EDUCATION FUND**



## **SUMMARY OF TEXTILE AWARDS 2020/2021**

The Worshipful Company of Weavers is the oldest recorded of the City of London Livery Companies. Its earliest Charter, in 1155, confirmed the Company's monopoly of its craft and rights of supervision of craftsmen in the Cities of London and Westminster, and the Borough of Southwark. With the growth of the Industrial Revolution the Weavers' Company gradually lost active control of its trade, although it has continued to keep in touch, both through its educational work and through its members, many of whom remain connected with the industry in one way or another.

In the 21st century, the Weavers' Company seeks to build on almost nine hundred years of involvement in the craft and manufacture of textiles, especially weaving, through its Textile Education Fund. The main aims and objectives of the Fund are to encourage excellence in all spheres of the United Kingdom woven textile industry by identifying, supporting and nurturing exceptional students during their training; to sponsor young talent working within the industry; supporting centres of excellence in textile education; and finally recognising and working with those who have made the most significant contribution to the industry.

## **The Weavers' Company Silver Medal**

The Company's Silver Medal is awarded in recognition of an individual's contribution to the weaving industry in the field of technology, management, education or the craft of weaving. This year it has been awarded to *Annette Poulton*, in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the field of textile education.

## **Awards to Educational Establishments**

The principal aim of the Weavers' Company is to uphold and enhance its traditions, its fellowship and its assets, allowing them to benefit the weaving and textile industry, the chosen objectives of the Company's charities, and future generations of the Weavers' Company.

In 2007 it was agreed that a small number of colleges offering textile-related degree courses should be identified as centres of excellence to which the Company's grant giving would be directed. Visits were undertaken to a number of colleges across the UK and six were selected to form an initial core group: Membership of the core group is regularly reviewed.

Exceptionally, students from seven colleges were invited to apply for scholarship awards for the academic year 2020/21. Those colleges were Falmouth University, Glasgow School of Art, Heriot-Watt University, The University of Huddersfield, Manchester Metropolitan University, Nottingham Trent University and Winchester School of Art.

### **Scholarships**

Scholarships totalling £50,000 were awarded to students at the colleges:

Falmouth University	£8,000
Glasgow School of Art	£9,000
Heriot-Watt University	£7,000
Huddersfield University	£9,000
Manchester Metropolitan University	£7,000
Nottingham Trent University	£8,000
Winchester School of Art	£2,000

The Company's top scholarship is titled the Stuart Hollander Scholarship and commemorates the life and work of Stuart Hollander CBE, a member of the Livery, who played a significant part in the UK textile industry. The Stuart Hollander Scholarship 2020 was awarded to *Jonathan MacKinnon from Glasgow School of Art*.

## **Support for Education Awards**

The Support for Education Award helps weaving departments to upgrade or renew existing equipment, purchase new equipment, or enable their students to gain experience of modern technology, and visit mills and factories. In addition to capital projects, Support for Education Awards also provide assistance with work experience placements, the purchase of yarns and projects linked to industry which help students prepare for employment.

No Support for Education awards were made for the academic year 2020/21.

## **Industrial Placements**

This is the thirteenth year that the Weavers' Company has used its industrial contacts to identify textile companies that would like to take on new or recent graduates for a trial period of six months. The Weavers' Company awards a grant of £6,000 towards salary costs, with the balance paid by the employing company. For the tenth year the Worshipful Company of Clothworkers has very kindly agreed to match our funding, which enabled us to place ten students

In 2020 placements were awarded to:

- Ms Rebecca Jones, *Abraham Moon*
- Ms Kate Ruttle, *Bower Roebuck*
- Ms Evie Crawshaw, *Calzeat & Co Ltd*
- Ms Shannon Graham, *English Tailoring Co*
- Ms Samantha Sully, *John Spencer (Textiles) Ltd*
- Ms Alice Milivoyevich, *Lochcarron of Scotland*
- Ms Jeanette Keenan, *Mourne Textiles*
- Ms Sarah Hampson, *Standfast & Barracks*
- Ms Rebekah Hendrickse, *Vorteq Sports*
- Ms Cara Wyatt, *Wallace Sewell*

## **Presentation of Awards**

Because of the restrictions imposed by Covid-19, the annual lunch at which awards are normally presented was cancelled.