

**British Council launches international awards to celebrate UK alumni achievements.****EMBARGOED UNTIL 1 September 2021 (London, UK)**

The British Council is pleased to announce the eighth year of its Study UK Alumni Awards programme celebrating the outstanding achievements of UK alumni around the world.

The awards winners and finalists are leaders in their fields who have used their experience of studying at a UK university to make a positive contribution to their communities, industries and countries.

This year's award categories include science and sustainability, business and innovation, creativity and culture and social action.

The call for applications opens on **1 September 2021** and closes on **29 October 2021**. All eligible applicants will be put forward for the global Alumni Awards and national Alumni Awards which will be hosted in participating countries.

**Global Awards**

The finalists and winners of the global Alumni Awards will be announced in 2022 and celebrated in a digital campaign that will raise the profile of their story and successes. Award winners have the opportunity to raise their international profile, expand their professional networks, and to enhance their careers, through a professional networking visit to the UK (Subject to Covid-19 restrictions at the time).

**National Awards**

In addition to the global awards, a small number of countries will host ceremonies. Finalists for the national awards will be announced between December 2021 and March 2022. The national awards are generally hosted by the British Ambassador or High Commissioner, with VIPs and royalty attending as special guests, leading to extensive press and PR coverage of finalists. Subject to local Covid-19 restrictions at the time.

For full details on the eligibility criteria and participating countries, please refer to <https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/alumni-awards>

**For more information please contact:**

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For a list of previous Alumni Award winners, see <https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/alumni-awards/winners>

Follow the Alumni Awards on Study UK [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#)

**ENDS**

## Notes to Editors

### Alumni Award categories

The award categories will change as of 2021-22 to:

- **Science and Sustainability Award**

Recognising alumni who have distinguished themselves through their career and achievements in the world of science and sustainability, and who can demonstrate the impact and scale of their achievements in their profession, and beyond.

*Areas of work could include: Climate action, clean energy, medicine, sustainable cities and communities, engineering, industry and construction.*

- **Culture and Creativity Award**

Recognising alumni who have carved a career for themselves in arts and culture. We are looking for individuals who can demonstrate their artistic ingenuity, influence and creativity.

*Areas of work could include: Arts, design, media, video, TV, music, bloggers, vloggers, Youtubers and the humanities.*

- **Social Action Award**

Recognising alumni who have made an exceptional contribution and commitment to creating positive social change and improving the lives of others.

*Areas of work could include: Reducing inequality, poverty and hunger. Education and upskilling. Peace and justice.*

- **Business and Innovation Award**

Recognising alumni who are active in initiating and contributing to innovative or creative new ideas, solutions or business opportunities, that have the potential for growth.

*Areas of work could include: Entrepreneurship, business, technology.*

### About the British Council

The British Council is the UK's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We build connections, understanding and trust between people in the UK and other countries through arts and culture, education and the English language. Last year we reached over 80 million people directly and 791 million people overall including online, broadcasts and publications. Founded in 1934 we are a UK charity governed by Royal Charter and a UK public body. We receive a 15 per cent core funding grant from the UK government. [www.britishcouncil.org](http://www.britishcouncil.org)

For more information, please visit: [www.britishcouncil.org](http://www.britishcouncil.org). You can also keep in touch with the British Council through <http://twitter.com/britishcouncil> and <http://blog.britishcouncil.org/>.