

Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd
Press Release



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DEIREADH

Ma tha sibh ag iarraidh tuilleadh fiosrachaidh air na tha sa bhrath-naidheachd seo, cuiribh fios, le ur toil, gu Steven MacIomhair, Manaidsear Corporra & Conaltraidh, Bòrd na Gàidhlig, post-d steven@gaidhlig.org.uk no fònaibh 01463 225 454.

NOTAICHEAN DHA LUCHD-DEASACHAIDH

26/08/2013

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Bòrd na Gàidhlig to sponsor Gaelic Awards

Bòrd na Gàidhlig has announced a new partnership with Media Scotland, the largest publishing group in Scotland, to create a series of awards which look to reward all aspects of the Gaelic language and culture across Scotland.

The Gaelic Awards will look to reward all aspects of Scotland's Gaelic culture and language, highlighting the excellent work undertaken to maintain its growth and heritage.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig Ceannard (CEO), John Angus MacKay said: "The creation of the Gaelic Awards is a positive step to recognise some of the hard work, dedication, and commitment of those involved in the development and maintaining of the Gaelic Language, not only in Scotland but worldwide. Awards do not only acknowledge success; they recognise many other qualities: ability, struggle, effort and, above all, excellence. We are delighted also to be working with Media Scotland on this project as it follows a successful partnership over the last 2 years in sponsoring the Scottish Education Awards. We congratulate them on recognising the importance of celebrating the contribution that a range of people make to the Gaelic language and culture in Scotland."

Nominations for the awards open today (Monday 26 August), with a total of 10 categories. Entries can be made through a dedicated website for the event.

The award ceremony itself will take place on the evening of Wednesday the 20th November in the Royal Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh. The celebrations will embrace a variety of traditional and modern entertainment.

Minister for Scottish Languages, Dr Alasdair Allan said: "These awards, and the variety of categories, recognise the importance of Gaelic in modern Scotland. They give us the chance to celebrate the people across the country, from all disciplines, who are not only ambassadors for the language but also help to encourage others to learn it. I would like to congratulate the Bòrd and the Daily Record for their hard work in creating these new Gaelic awards and look forward to hearing about the many deserving entries that I am sure will be submitted."

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Also welcoming the partnership, Editor in Chief at the Daily Record, Allan Rennie said: “The Daily Record is proud to be part of this first Gaelic Awards. I am personally not a Gaelic speaker but we feel that it is important that our nation recognises the outstanding contribution the Gaelic language has made to our culture, heritage and our future. I am looking forward to the night.”

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NOTES TO THE EDITOR:

For full information on the awards please visit:
<http://www.7daysscotland.co.uk/sites/events/gaelic-awards/gaelic-awards-2013/index.html>.

The 10 categories for the awards are:

- **Learner Award**

For the most outstanding contribution to Gaelic from the Learner community. Learners are one of the most important sectors of the Gaelic speaking community and this award will recognise outstanding effort by individuals or organisations to involve themselves in the language. The award could also go to groups or organisations that reach out to learners, devise new methods of teaching or entertaining learners.

- **Arts & Culture Award**

For the most outstanding contribution to Gaelic culture in 2012/13. The award can cover literature, poetry, visual art, film or television.

- **Event Award**

For the best Gaelic language event, one off or regular that has taken place in 2012/13. The award can go to a long established event.

- **Community, Heritage & Tourism Award**

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For the group, organisation, village or school community that has done most to celebrate its heritage in 2012/13. The award could cover things like interpretive exhibitions, village walks, recording village place names etc.

- **Best Contribution Award**

For the individual or organisation that has done the most for Gaelic. This could be an award for outstanding achievement but the category should be wide enough to include outstanding potential. As well as recognising those who have been promoting Gaelic for years and deserve some credit, it allows the celebration of those who have broken new ground in the language.

- **International Award**

For the individual, event or organisation that best places Gaelic in an international, non-English speaking, context.

- **Innovation in Education Award – Sponsored by Education Scotland**

For the service providers or students showing the best ideas and commitment to delivering Gaelic education. This could be at any level from pre-school to higher education.

- **Young Gaelic Ambassador of the Year Award**

For the Gaidheal Og, the outstanding young Gael of 2012/13 who has made a significant contribution to the promotion of the Gaelic language (Under 25).

- **Workplace Initiative Award**

To recognise significant progress made by organisations or individuals in promoting the use of Gaelic in the workplace.

- **Sport Award**

For the best contribution from the Gaelic sporting world, from practitioners, commentators or fans.

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For further information on the contents of this news release please contact Steven MacIver, Corporate and Communications Manager, Bòrd na Gàidhlig by e-mailing steven@gaidhlig.org.uk or phoning 01463 225 454.

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