

Ethnic Minority Welsh Women Achievement Association

Celebrating the achievement of women and girls of ethnic
minority origin living in Wales



SPRING 2019 NEWSLETTER

Welcome Speech by Professor Meena Upadhyaya, Founder and Chairperson of the Award

Dear Lords, Dames, Baronesses and honoured guests,

May I take this opportunity to welcome you all this evening. Thank you for joining us to celebrate the 10th anniversary of EMWWAA and our 5th award ceremony.

We are here to commemorate an inspirational and diverse group of women and girls representing approximately 20 different countries. Congratulations to all the finalists. It is a huge achievement and an honour to be a finalist.

As in previous years the judges were impressed by your inspirational stories. As usual, it was a challenging task to select the winners. All the finalists are true role models for women and girls, and were short-listed because of exceptional achievements in their specific category of award. Our judges have done a fantastic task in selecting the winners and it would be appropriate to say that our selection Committee and judges have played a significant role in the sustainability of our organisation.

2018 was a momentous year in which we celebrated 100 years of women's right to vote, and 70 years of the NHS. Last year our organisation supported the Ethnic Minority Women in Healthcare to launch public healthcare lectures and the mentorship programme for BME women in healthcare in Wales. At the beginning of this year, a majority of Welsh people voted for Betty Campbell as the subject of the first outdoor statue of a woman in Wales. Betty was the first black head teacher in Wales, and a formidable personality who fought for race equality and human rights. There has been a large appetite for multiculturalism in Wales during the last decade, sending a positive message and encouraging people to respect different cultures and religions.



We are very excited that the EMWWAA has been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund for a project entitled '70 years of struggles and achievements: life stories of ethnic minority women and girls in Wales'. Our sincere thanks go to Professor Weedon for her support for this project. We very much hope that you too, will support this new aspect of our organisation.

We pay our tribute to the late Right Honourable Rhodri Morgan who regularly graced this ceremony and presented certificates to all the finalists. It is a great pleasure to name our Ambassador's Award after him as The Rhodri Morgan Award. It was Rhodri's wish that nominees should represent all areas of Wales and I am delighted that there are 4 finalists from North Wales on this occasion. You are invited to attend the fundraising event for Rhodri's outdoor statue on the 14th of September in the Temple of Peace in Cardiff. I would like to thank our out-going ambassador Uzo Iwobi OBE for her unfailing support in raising the profile of EMWWAA and for nominating a large number of candidates from both South and North Wales.

We have lined up some outstanding international entertainment for this evening including Anup Biswas, the international cellist. This performance will be followed by a delicious dinner prepared by the multi-award winning chef Steve Gomes.

We are honoured and privileged to welcome Dame Professor Donna Kinnair, the Chief Executive and General Secretary of the Royal College of Nursing. We are also grateful to the Right Honourable Mark Drakeford AM First Minister of Wales for his presence.

Recently, in the run-up to Brexit, there has been some negative publicity about immigrants. This award ceremony will highlight the positive contributions of BME women and girls to this nation. Each one of them is a shining star for this country, but they are also Ambassadors for their country of origin. Over the years there have been initiatives to address both gender and ethnicity imbalances in many fields of work, but there is still a fundamental lack of BME women leaders - and this needs to change.

I sincerely thank all of our sponsors and supporters. Our main sponsor is once again the Cardiff University Vice Chancellor's Office. The other sponsors include BAWSO, Chwarae Teg, the Cardiff Sixth Form College, the Arts Council of Wales, the Royal Navy, the University of Wales Trinity Saint David, Barclays, Ethnic Minorities Youth Support Team Wales and Race Council Cymru. I am grateful to the compères for the evening: singer and broadcaster Beverley Humphreys and Uzo Iwobi, OBE. May I also extend my gratitude to the Selection Committee, EMWWAA Management Committee, volunteers and all those who have taken time to nominate people, and of course to the applicants themselves. My thanks to all of you here for joining us in our celebrations and I hope you enjoy the evening.

Chief Guest

Professor Dame Donna Kinnair

Donna Kinnair, DBE, RGN, HV, LLB, MA, CMI is currently the Chief Executive and General Secretary since August 2018. Together with the RCN's Executive Team, consisting of seven other senior members of staff, including directors of the three operational directorates and four country directors, Donna is responsible for delivering the RCN's strategic and operational plans.

Donna joined the RCN as Head of Nursing in 2015, providing leadership to the Nursing departments. Donna was then promoted and

joined the RCN Executive Team as Director of Nursing, Policy and Practice in 2016, where her key role is to work with UK-wide RCN staff to drive and implement future RCN professional nursing, policy and practice strategies.

Prior to joining the RCN, Donna held various roles, including Clinical Director of Emergency Medicine at Barking, Havering and Redbridge University Hospitals Trust; Executive Director of Nursing, Southeast London Cluster Board; Director of Commissioning, London Borough of Southwark & Southwark PCT. She was the Strategic Commissioner for Lambeth, Southwark and Lewisham Health Authority's Children's Services. Donna advised the PM's Commission on the future of Nursing and Midwifery in 2010 and served as nurse/child health assessor to the Victoria Climbié Inquiry.



Presenters

Ms Beverley Humphreys

Operatic and Jazz Singer

BBC presenter

Radio and Classical Music Presenter

Writer

Inspirational Speaker

Chair of several mental health charities

Served in the office of High Sheriff in 2010

Ms. Humphreys has met all senior members of the Royal family and sung for the Queen and Prince Philip at the Royal Albert Hall.



Mrs UZO IWOBÍ OBE

Chief Executive Officer – Race Council

Cymru

Former Commissioner to the Commission for Racial Equality UK

International Chair for Diversity at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama

Commissioner to the Centenary Commission 2019

EMWWAA Ambassador 2018/19



Chef Steve Gomes's Menu

Starters

Dahi Samosa
Delhi Chaat
Onion Bhaji
Chicken Pahari Tikka

Main course

Butter Chicken
Saag Paneer
Dakshini Aloo Baingan
Paanchvati Dal
Chapati
Salad
Pickle, Chutney and Raita

Dessert

Rasmalai
Chilli Chocolate Mousse
Tea/Coffee

*****All meat dishes are Halal**

Steve Gomes is a Welsh chef, restaurateur and television personality. Based in Cardiff, and originally from Mumbai, he is renowned for his pioneering take on Indian recipes. He represented Wales in Series 10 of the Great British Menu in 2015. Steven Gomes has won multiple awards within the UK and outside. He is also committed to nurturing young talent, and as a former lecturer at the Asian Oriental School of catering in Hackney, has lectured in modern Indian cuisine.



Award Presenters

Science, Technology & Medicine:

Prof. Julian Sampson, Prof. Sue Wong

Management and Leadership:

Sue Essex, Prof. Kamila Hawthorne

Baroness Finlay, Det. Constable Krishna Chauhan

Maria Battle, Very Rev. Randolph Thomas

Arts, Culture & Sports:

Lord Mayor, Cerys Furlong, Felicity Evans

Social and Humanitarian:

Lord Lt. Murfudd Meredith, Aliya Mohammad

Prof. Jean White, Prof. Chris Weedon

Business:

Prof. Terry Threadgold, Lt. Cdr. Sue Lynch

Self-Development:

Prof. Mike Fernando, Tahmina Khan Mutale Merrill, Dr. Gareth Collier

Young Achiever:

Phil George , Dr. Sibani Roy

Violence Against Women Agenda:

Prof. Sue Denman, Catrin Pascoe Mohammad Asghar AM, Dr. Stella Diamantidi

Jenny Rathbone AM, Anishka Bhalla

Lifetime Achievement Award:

Jane Hutt AM, Bishop June

Prof. Karen Holford, Baroness Jenny Randerson

Vaughan Gething AM, Jane Davidson

Rhodri Morgan Award/s:

Julie Morgan AM

Dame Prof Donna Kinnair

EMWWAA Judging Panel

Science, Technology & Medicine and Management & Leadership

Professor Julian Sampson

Professor Sampson is an academic clinical geneticist working at the School of Medicine, Cardiff University and the NHS. He is Director of the Division of Cancer and Genetics, an honorary consultant with the All Wales Medical Genetics Service, Director of the Wales Gene Park and heads the Institute of Medical Genetics that received a Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher Education.



Professor Sue Wong

Susan Wong is Professor of Diabetes at Cardiff University and Honorary Consultant Physician in diabetes at UHW, Cardiff. She carries out basic and translational research in type 1 diabetes. Her specific clinical interests include structured education, as well as care of individuals with type 1 diabetes treated with insulin pumps.



Sue Essex

Sue Essex served as a Member of the National Assembly for Wales for Cardiff North from 1999 to 2007. From 1999 to 2003 she was Minister for Environment, Planning & Transport, with responsibility for the introduction of the Wales Spatial Plan; and from 2003 to 2007 Minister for Finance, Local Government & Public Services. Since 2007 she has operated as a self-employed consultant, most notably with the "Review of Affordable Housing in Wales".



EMWWAA Judging Panel

Arts, Culture & Sports and Social & Humanitarian

Professor Chris Weedon

Chris Weedon is Professor Emerita at Cardiff University where she directed the Centre for Critical and Cultural Theory. She has published widely on feminist theory, cultural politics, culture and identity, women's writing, British Black and Asian writing and multi-ethnic Britain. She is currently directing a Heritage Lottery funded project for EMWWAA on women's life stories. Please get in touch if you would like to be involved: emwwaa5@gmail.com.



Julie Morgan AM

Julie Morgan, Assembly Member for Cardiff North, has represented the area for 21 years both as an MP and an AM. Julie's key interests include health, equality, women's issues, the environment and children's rights. In December 2018 Julie was appointed Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services in the Welsh Government.



Kully Thiarai

Kully Thiarai has been Artistic Director and Chief Executive of National Theatre Wales since 2016, during which time she has directed productions including Sisters, The Stick Maker Tales and Tide Whisperer. Kully has led a number of organisations and companies and was the founding Director of Cast in Doncaster. She is a Clore Theatre Fellow, Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a Trustee of the Manchester International Festival.



EMWWAA Judging Panel

Business and Self-Development

Mutale Merrill

Mutale Merrill is the founding Chief Executive of Bawso, a leading third sector provider for BME women and children facing domestic abuse and all other forms of violence. Mutale has spent many years occupying a number of important roles within the public and voluntary sectors in Wales, including being the first Independent Chair of the Board of Community Health Councils in Wales.



Professor Terry Threadgold

Terry Threadgold was Professor of Communication and Cultural studies and was formerly head of the Cardiff School of Journalism, Media and Cultural Studies. She was Pro Vice-Chancellor for Staff and Diversity (2007-2012). She has extensive academic and administrative experience in HE in Australia, the USA and the UK. She has been working with Performance for All (PFA) since late 2014, facilitating workshops and acting as a consultant on equality, workload, performances and cultural change in organisations.



Professor Michael Fernando

Professor Mike Fernando is the Dean of the Faculty of Architecture, Computing and Engineering at University of Wales Trinity Saint David. Mike is a Chartered Engineer and is passionate about encouraging the next generation learners to take up STEM based careers.



EMWWAA Judging Panel

Young Achiever and Violence Against Women Agenda

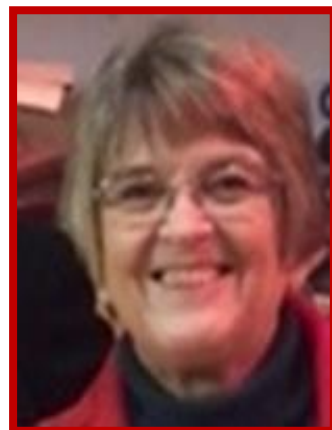
Professor Sue Denman

Professor Sue Denman came to Wales in 2001 to set up the Research Monitoring and Evaluation Unit for the Wales European Funding Office. She remained at the Welsh Government to manage the Wales Office of Research and Development in health and social care, taking over as Director in 2007. She then joined the staff at the School of Medicine, Cardiff University where she set up the South East Wales Academic Health Science Partnership. Since retirement Sue has kept in close contact with the University and has undertaken some consultancy work.



Dr. Joan Williams

Consultant in Chemical Pathology and Metabolic Medicine, also held the posts of Postgraduate Organiser, Clinical Director of Pathology, Assessor on various appointments Committees, Inspector for Clinical Pathology Accreditation and completed time at Bro Morgannwg NHS Trust as Deputy Medical Director. Member of Soroptimists International, an advocate of Anti-Human Trafficking Activities with the Wales Anti-Slavery Operational Group raising awareness of this heinous crime and supporting those who support the victims.



Dr. Stella Diamantidi

Stella is a Principal Lecturer and Head of Department, Business Studies at Cardiff Metropolitan University. She started her career as a lecturer in law with particular expertise in Commercial & Business Law and then moved into quality assurance, leadership and management positions. She is passionate about equality of opportunity for all and her current research interests include female leadership constructs in Higher Education Institutions.



The EMWWAA Candidates

Science, Technology and Healthcare

Dr. Indu Thakur

Dr. Indu Thakur is one of only 4 women of ethnic minority origin in the UK working as Consultant Paediatric Haematologist. Having trained in Birmingham, she joined as a consultant in Cardiff in 2013. Besides clinical service provision in Paediatric Haematology, her interests include clinical research, undergraduate/postgraduate education and quality improvement.



Diana De

Diana has worked in higher education for the last fifteen years in order to enhance inclusivity and promote culturally safer care. During this period, changes in population demographics and strategic developments within the health and social sector have given rise to the need for Diana's specialist cultural diversity related pedagogy.



Shantini Paranjothy

As a junior doctor, Shantini was inspired by the use of clinical data to improve patient care, and completed a PhD in Epidemiology. She is currently a Professor of Preventive Medicine at Cardiff University and a Non Executive Director on the Board of Public Health Wales NHS Trust.



Justna Muhith

Justna has always challenged the balance between Eastern and Western cultures. She followed her dream of progressing in education, but submitted herself to cultural pressures in marriage. Now feeling the challenges of being a submissive dutiful Bengali, she strives to use this experience to fight her own demons whilst contributing to the awareness of Marriage Fraud issues in UK British-Asian life.



Management and Leadership

Vinita Templeton

She has been ranked as a Recommended lawyer in the Legal 500 every year since 2014 for her asylum and immigration work in Wales. In Legal 500 she has been described as “highly regarded”, “Committed to the plight of those most vulnerable”, “deeply committed to clients’ interests” and a “specialist in immigration judicial review claims”.



Shavanah Taj

Shavanah Taj is a Trade Unionist and Labour party socialist. She is passionate about protecting and improving worker’s rights, spending much of her time holding employers like Welsh government and NAFW to account, challenging bias and discrimination, demanding the removal of any barriers to achieving equality, freedom and justice.



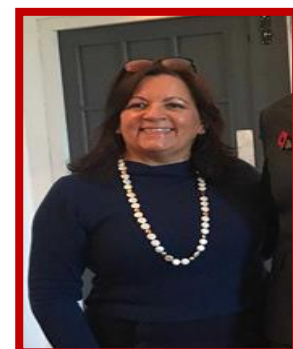
Hilary Brown

Hilary is the CEO of Virgo Consultancy Services Ltd which is law firm with offices in Barry and Brixton in South London. Born and bred in Barry, she is of Caribbean and Welsh origin, Hilary has pioneered a number of 1st in what is often considered to be an antiquated profession consumed by pomp and ceremony and usually male dominated.



Maria Messa

Maria is Director of Women Connect First & has 25 years’ experience of managing & developing innovative services & projects. She has championed BME women’s rights tirelessly & has been involved in countless community projects & setting up networks to help BME women in Wales to thrive. Maria arrived in Wales in 1978 as a political refugee, fleeing Colombia because of her involvement in politics.



Ama Eyo

Dr Eyo is Director of the LLM in Public Procurement Law & Strategy, at Bangor University. She designed the programme which empowers candidates to become world class procurement professionals, who would deliver value for money and sustainable development through efficient procurement.



Arts, Culture and Sports

Nikesha Patel

Nikesha is a British Indian film actress born and brought up in Wales who has completed 32 films as the lead and is currently brand ambassador of many companies. Apart from acting she won the Miss Charity Wales title in 2006 for Miss World Pageant and has been an animal activist in her part time job.



Sinjini Chakraborty

Sinjini Chakraborty is founder of Dance with Sinjini and teaches Kathak and Bollywood. With dance presentations across UK and Europe, including the UK Parliament, she has created her own distinct vocabulary in dance that revives Indian traditional and folk dances and fuses them with a wide range of Bollywood, modern and world music, to make these dance forms accessible and enjoyable to different communities.



Loren Henry

Loren is a highly motivated and enthusiastic Youth Worker, with an extreme passion for the arts and working with young people. She is the founder member and managing director of G-Expressions a community dance group and project coordinator Urban Circle Productions is a youth development project that implements high quality youth work practices in challenging communities using arts. She is a holder of MSc Working with Children and Young people.



Ify Iwobi

Ify is a multi-award winning Swansea born and bred pianist/composer who studied Music Performance at Brunel University London. She is an accomplished classical & contemporary pianist performing across Swansea, Wales, London, Ohio, Texas and Nigeria. Ify composes film music as well as scores for soundtracks and her own acoustic works (33 original pieces).



Social and Humanitarian

Humie Webbe

Humie Webbe, born in Tiger and brought up in Ely, part of the Windrush second generation, her parents arrived in Wales from St Kitts. Humie is a singer, a community leader and activist; an influential figure in the equalities field over the last 40 years.



Michelle Alexis

Michelle has worked in higher education management for over a decade and has championed BME women wherever she has worked. She is passionate about women's equality and has used her skills to progress and mentor women in the workplace. She is also Co-Chair of Women's Equality Network (WEN) Wales and has been involved in fundraising and event management for Sickle Cell Anaemia.



Katerina Lantzou

Katerina Lantzou was born in Barry in 1942, married a Greek sailor in 1960, has three sons and 10 grandchildren. She's balanced being a mother, running her own business, whilst devoting time to charity fundraising and supporting the Greek community in Cardiff. She is a dedicated and enthusiastic member and president of the Greek Ladies Association of St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church for over 55 years.



Rocio Cifuentes

Rocio is the Chief Executive of EYST Wales and has led and developed the organisation since its inception in 2005. She was born in Chile and came to Wales as a baby with her parents as political refugees. She is also a committee member of the EHRC in Wales.



Nilufar Ahmed

Dr Nilufar Ahmed is currently a Senior Lecturer at Swansea University. She graduated from Swansea University with a BA (Hons) in Psychology and went on to gain an MSc in Applied Psychology from the University of Surrey, and PhD in Human Geography from Swansea University.



Business

Daphne Voigt

Daphne is Chinese Malaysian and have always worked towards a career in business combining music and events management which are two of her passions. Together with her partner, she is now running the International Music School Cardiff.



Sandhya Gajjar

Sandhya Gajjar is a post mistress and a very hardworking and enthusiastic person and a volunteer at Sanatan Temple. She has won 2 awards. She helps her customers and staff with whatever their needs are. She takes care of her elderly mother in law and recently has become a grandmother.



Nancy Buka

Nancy is a beautician. She is a graduate of Business Management from Swansea University in 2013 and she has been involved in charity for over ten years. Nancy holds workshops at zero cost to participant. She has taken on apprentice, and she is always available to support and encourage anyone willing to go into the beauty business.



Self-Development

Shirley Xuehua Au-Yeung

Originally from Guangdong, China. Further completed her first degree in Chemical Engineering, Shirley came to Cardiff to further studies in 2005 and completed a master's degree in Business Administration. She is now a mother to two lovely children. Shirley currently works as a community Cantonese/Mandarin Interpreter and as a Global Business Consultant.



Christina Roy

Christina Roy is currently working in Cathays High school with the autism Base, community languages and parent learning. She is a senior examiner with the AQA board for Bengali GCSE. She has two children and two elderly in laws suffering from dementia along with a full time job.



Abi Lasebikan

Abi is a forty-four-year-old African Welsh woman who has spent most of her professional career working in the public sector, specifically the Welsh Government and the National Assembly of Wales serving the people of Wales. Abi has worked in various departments, including working in the Minister with responsibility for Equality's department.



Rekha Girish

Mrs. Rekha Girish, is an accomplished Indian classical dance artist. She is first candidate in UK to successfully complete the Diploma In Dance Instruction (DDI). Rekha received the ISTD 2012 AWARD in Folk and Bollywood dance that she choreographed. Rekha currently runs her own dance school called Rekha Natya Academy.



Iolanda Banu Viegas

Iolanda Banu Viegas was born in Mozambique with Portuguese heritage. She is a determined and exceptional community activist, living in Wrexham. She is dedicated to providing voluntary assistance not only to the 2000 Portuguese speaking community members in Wrexham which she considers to be her home town of Wrexham.



Young Achiever

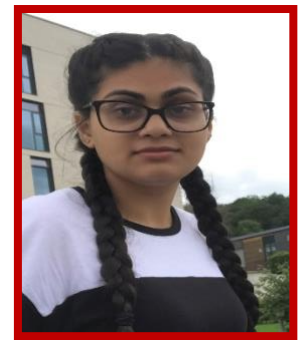
Chloe Lau

Currently only 17 years of age, Chloe is studying for her A2 qualifications in Physics, Further Maths, and Chemistry with the aim of studying Computer Science at university in the UK. A dedicated and aspirational young woman, Chloe will achieve great things in her life and career!



Fatima Hameed

Currently in her first year of A-levels, Fatima is a very determined, motivated and dedicated young lady. She has been a part of LGBTQ+ committee, race committee and UNCRC. She is studying Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics, with an aim to study medicine at Cambridge University.



Nicole Chiu

Nicole is from Hong Kong and is currently studying A-levels in Cardiff. She is studying Chemistry, Biology, Maths and psychology. She aspires to become a doctor and help others. Nicole is 18 years old and intends to continue her studies in the UK at university next year.



Saiba Sashin Ahuja

Saiba Ahuja is a year 11 pupil currently doing her GCSEs. She is a black belt (1st Dan and completing 2nd Dan end of November 2018). She is running for the Welsh Youth parliament from Cardiff North and her priorities are mental health, children's rights and obesity and healthy eating.



Violence Against Women Agenda

Rachel McDonald

Rachel is a previous service user of BAWSO, a survivor of domestic abuse. Rachel has participated in many of BAWSO Violence against women Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence agenda within her role of Vice-Chairperson of BAWSO, survivor and service user.



Wanjiku Ngotho-Mbugua

Wanjiku Mbugua holds a Bachelor of Arts degree and Postgraduate degree in Education and a Masters Degree in Community Development from Bangor University. She is currently Bawso's Head of Services in North Wales Regional Manager, leading the Domestic abuse service delivery functions of Bawso with 12 employees and 40 volunteers.



Dawn Archibald

Dawn was born and brought up in Guyana where she trained as a nurse before coming to practice nursing in the UK in 2003. She currently works for BAWSO as a support worker for victims of Modern Day Slavery. Before she started work with BAWSO, Dawn worked as a volunteer with various humanitarian organisations including British Red Cross, BAWSO and Wrexham Asylum Seekers Support Group (WRASSG).



Lifetime Achievement Awards

Mrs. Vernesta Cyril OBE

Mrs. Vernesta Cyril OBE was born in Castries, St Lucia and travelled to the UK in 1962. She carried with her one burning ambition – to become a nurse. Mrs. Cyril trained first as a nurse at the Royal Gwent and St Woolos Hospitals in Newport and then as a midwife. She worked at Lydia Beynon Maternity Hospital [now part of the Celtic Manor Resort] for three years, before returning to the Royal Gwent where she remained for the next thirty years. Mrs. Cyril worked tirelessly and was promoted to senior midwife manager.



Miss Anju Kumar

Miss Anju Kumar, MBBS, DGO, FRCOG, Dip Medical Leadership recently retired after distinguished career in NHS (England & Wales) spanning 38 years. Since 2000, she has held the post of Consultant in Obstetrics and Gynecology in Rotherham (April 2000-Nov.2008) and Newport (Dec.2008 to date) and including Clinical Director (2004-to date).



Patricia Hallgren (Patti Flynn)

Single mother, singer and activist Patti Flynn has been performing music and raising money and awareness of charitable causes for over 60 years. She has championed such causes as supporting individuals with dementia, to raising awareness of the sacrifices that black members of the armed forces made during the war.



Winners



Justna Muhith

Science, Technology and
Healthcare.



Shavanah Taj

Management and Leadership



Hilary Brown

Management and Leadership



Maria Mesa

Management and Leadership



Loren Henry

Arts, Culture and Sports



Humie Webbe

Social and Humanitarian

Winners



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Mrs Vernesta Cyril OBE

Lifetime Achievement Award



Miss Anju Kumar

Lifetime Achievement Award



Patricia Hallgren (Petti Flynn)

Lifetime Achievement Award

Winners

Rhodri Morgan Award



Lolanda Banu Viegas



Humie Webbe

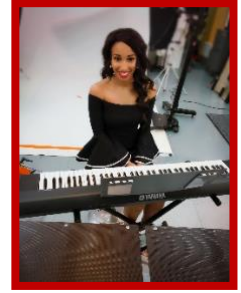


Shavanah Taj

Entertainment

Ify Iwobi

Ify is a multi-award winning Swansea born and bred pianist/composer who studied Music Performance at Brunel University London. She is an accomplished classical & contemporary pianist performing across Swansea, Wales, London, Ohio, Texas and Nigeria. Ify composes film music as well as scores for soundtracks and her own acoustic works.



Hiroko Sue

Hiroko Sue was born in Japan. She started to learn the Koto at the age of 9, a traditional Japanese instrument with 13 strings, and went on to study at Tokyo University of Arts and Music. In 2018, Hiroko released an album of compositions made during her time in Wales: "A470 Reflections".



Amrutha Koppula

Amrutha is a medical student. She has been learning Bharatanatyam from Mrs Rekha Girish and Amrutha has completed Arangetram (a graduation performance in a traditional format, completed under the guidance of teacher). Amrutha is performing Thrikala jathi. Sollukattus (garlands of syllables) and corresponding series of adavus are executed in three speeds. Varnam always commences with Thrikala jathi.



Aarona Sarkar & Ritija Biswas

The dance being performed is a semi classical Bollywood medley. Bollywood dance is the most internationally widespread Indian dance form. It blends together a wide range of dance styles thus creating a unique style of its own. The students from Dance with Sinjini along with Sinjini herself will give us a taste of Bollywood through their vibrant and colourful dance number.



Chinese Dance

A traditional Chinese dance with long Sleeve costume. The artists include Jane Cheng, Meihni Cheng and April Kong. The background music is a song called Cai Wei (Flowers Harvest) This elegant dance shows the scene of folk women picking Wei - a kind of vegetable with small beautiful flowers, which reflects a simple, joyful, and calm rural life pursued by Confucius.



Entertainment

Kaavya Sudheer

My dance journey began at the age of 6 when I started learning Bharatnatyam in India. After moving to the UK I continued to learn Bharatnatyam under kalamandalam Sruthi and Santosh Nair, after which I really got inspired. I began to choreograph my own dances for special functions and I have choreographed dances for a school play as well.



Anup Kumar Biswas

The world renowned cellist Anup Kumar Biswas is an extraordinary and versatile musician of the highest caliber of his generation. He has performed around the globe in major concert venues. He has been invited to perform for the British Royal family on many occasions. He has appeared as a soloist in the most prestigious concert venues such as Royal Albert Hall, Carnegie Hall New York, St James' Palace, Lambeth Palace, Queen Elizabeth Hall, Purcell Room, Wigmore Hall, St John's Smith Square, Westminster Abbey, St Paul's Cathedral, House of Commons, the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, Riverside Studios and Grays Inn (where, in addition to a Vivaldi concerto, he played an Indian raga at the personal request of HRH the Prince of Wales). He has appeared as a soloist playing the Dvorak Cello Concerto with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to a capacity audience. Biswas has received numerous favourable reviews of his performances from major newspapers internationally.



Megan Morris

Welsh harpist Megan Morris BMus (Hons) trained at the RWCMD. She has performed for several VIPs including TRH Prince of Wales, Duchess of Cornwall, Duke of Cambridge and the Duchess of Cambridge. Megan is a member of Yehudi Menuhin's prestigious Live Music Now scheme with her trio *The Vesta Trio*.



Victor Frederick—Drummer

Multi-instrumentalist, percussionist, workshop leader, singer, writer. Highly experienced and very versatile.



Acknowledgements

Cardiff University, BAWSO, Chwarae Teg, Cardiff Sixth Form College, Arts Council of Wales, Barclays, Royal Navy, EYST and RCC.

Patrons:

Julie Morgan AM Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services, Jane Hutt AM Deputy Minister and Chief Whip

EMWWAA Management Committee and Supporters:

Prof Meena Upadhyaya OBE, Vimla Patel MBE, Sivanes Sivapalan, Kaori Onoda, Chetna Sinha, Nisha Nair, Samsunear Ali, Gurmit Randhawa MBE, Roma Taylor

We are grateful to the following for their support:

Dame Professor Donna Kinnair

Uzo Iwobi

Beverley Humphreys

Dr Rhian Morgan

Dr Juping Yu

Ayesha Hameed

Steve Gomes

Andy Mousoulou

Doctor's Academy

Helen Stewart (Drake)

KBE Drinks

Lilly Asraf

Institute of Medical Genetics

Cardiff University

ITV Wales

BBC Wales



