

Young Arts Report AGM 2024

In the 2023/24 three TASN bursaries of £500 each were provided to final year students in the Department of Fashion, Textiles and Knitwear Design at Nottingham Trent University (NTU) to assist with the cost of materials for their final year projects. There was considerable interest from students in the bursaries and six shortlisted candidates made presentations about their proposed projects which resulted in the following three students receiving bursaries.

Venetia Ejembi (Knitwear Design) who has developed innovative knitwear weaves with a structural dimension informed by Yoruba folklore.

Hannah Hyman (Fashion Design) whose 'human centred design' project was focused on developing a clothing collection aimed at younger women with dexterity issues using alternative fastenings to assist independent dressing.

Iris Zhi- Ting Guo (Fashion Design), who has developed a fashion collection using entirely sustainable materials amenable to offering both structure and flexibility with designs inspired by the nature found in her native Taiwan.

Students in the final year are required to develop their original concepts through a process of technical designs and extensive workbooks which are submitted for examination. A small sample of their work is shown at a final exhibition and those members of the TASN Committee involved in Young Arts attended this year's exhibition in May 2024 and were very impressed with the creativity, quality and technical skills on display not only in the bursary students' final projects but also those of other final year students.

The aim of the TASN bursaries is to provide tangible support to students planning careers in a range of arts related roles and past bursary winners have been successful in this. This year is my final report as the Young Arts representative and it is pleasing to note that, since 2019 when the bursary scheme began, it has been possible to increase the number of bursaries to three a year. It is also encouraging that those students who have received TASN bursaries have continued to work in their chosen area after graduating, as designers within an organisation, running their own business, as independent artists or teaching in an area of the arts.

Lynette Harris

Heritage Volunteers Report AGM – 2024

Last year's projects have continued with TAS Nottingham and TAS Trent Valley members working together with volunteers from the host organisations.

Book Conservation:

Bromley House Library – Caroline Bendix has run another training day for volunteers. Four groups rotate on a four-weekly cycle.

Trent Bridge Library – Work in the main library is complete, and volunteers are now concentrating on the gallery. The three groups meet fortnightly.

Thrumpton Hall Library – The volunteers meet fortnightly under the leadership of Tessa Day, the TAS Trent Valley HV Rep. As last year, the project will take a short break this summer, while the Hall is in use by the owner and her family.

Textiles:

Wollaton Hall – The volunteers have been creating garments for mannequins to be situated in the Tudor kitchens. One team has completed the clothes for a "spit-boy" – a child employed to turn the spit. The other has finished the under-steward's garments, and is now working on clothes for the cook. The under-steward and spit-boy are installed in the kitchens at Wollaton, along with a notice acknowledging the work of our volunteers.

We are keen to start new projects, and would like to hear from anyone who has contacts in potential host organisations. Options currently being explored include textiles and book conservation projects at Wollaton Hall, and book conservation at Newark Civil War Centre.

Vivienne Jarvis