

The Cable & Wireless



Bringing the Internet to Life



CABLE & WIRELESS




Childnet
International

The Cable & Wireless Childnet Awards highlight and reward children, and those working with them, who are developing outstanding, innovative Internet projects that directly benefit other children worldwide.


This year the programme attracted over 270 entries from 50 countries, across every continent. After an extensive short-listing and judging process, 12 projects were selected as winners and a further 14 projects were commended.

For full details on all these projects see the Awards website:

www.childnetawards.org

A woman with long dark hair and glasses is holding a large globe of the Earth. She is wearing a light-colored jacket. The background is a warm, orange-toned image of a globe.

The Awards are run by Childnet International, a non-profit organisation, in partnership with Cable & Wireless.

A man with short dark hair is holding a large globe of the Earth. He is wearing a dark jacket. The background is a warm, orange-toned image of a globe.

The winning projects appear in this booklet in alphabetical order. The final placings will be revealed at the Awards ceremony on 24th April 2003.





Cable & Wireless is delighted to continue its support for the Childnet Awards – an initiative we are proud to have been closely associated with since its inception, six years ago.

Each year, the awards highlight inspirational web projects, created by and with the involvement of young people. This year's finalists are no exception, illustrating just how powerful the Internet can be when utilised in a positive way.

Some have set out to break down barriers – building bridges and friendships in the process. Others have chosen to inspire their peers and share skills – motivating others to express their views and take action on important issues. Yet all have one thing in common – the ability to enthuse and encourage, setting an example to everyone who uses the Internet and demonstrating just what can be achieved.

Cable & Wireless is dedicated to bringing the Internet to life, empowering individuals from every generation to use Internet technology in a safe and positive way. As a provider of one of the world's leading Internet networks, we have a responsibility to ensure that the Internet is a secure and inspiring space, which can be utilised by young people as a tool for communication, education and learning.

We are also working to ensure that the many benefits of the web can be extended to communities and individuals that find themselves without the necessary skills and infrastructure required to access the web. Our support for Childnet International is one part of this process and we are particularly delighted to recognise the achievements of those entrants to the 'New to the Net' award category – for those trying to develop new projects online, especially when they have limited resources.

We have much to learn from this year's winners and we are delighted to welcome them, together with guests from around the world, to London, the home of Cable & Wireless.



Gareth James

Cable & Wireless
Chief Operating Officer, UK

Bringing the Internet to Life



2

Judging the Cable & Wireless Childnet Awards this year has reinforced for me the way that children and young people bring a straightforward, refreshing idealism to using the Internet. They want to celebrate the good, the inspiring, the humorous and even change the world in the process. How different this is from the approach taken by some adults who seem to exploit every new technical advance to try and cash in for selfish short term gain.

For example, like many Internet users, my personal mail box is swamped with junk mail, or spam as it is often called. Improbable marketing claims mix with every kind of scam and promotion for demeaning, destructive websites. A recent survey concluded that 25% of all e-mail was now unsolicited and unwelcome spam. As governments and industry around the world struggle with this latest facet of the darker side of the Internet, it is exciting and refreshing to focus on another side of the net's power.

The winning sites and projects in the Awards this year have been through a tough process of evaluation against rigorous criteria, by a young people's panel and an international group of expert judges. The sites illustrate all that is best about the Internet. It is these human stories and personal connections that bring the Internet to life. Celebrate with us, and ask yourself what you too can do to make a difference with the net.



Nigel Williams

Chair of Awards Judges &
CEO, Childnet International



This year's judges

This judging process includes a special children's panel who assess the entries from a young person's perspective and make their recommendations to the full judges' panel. Left to right: Lilly, Hettie, Tomi, Olivia, Rishi, Shivy, Jenny, Elisa, Ashley



Nigel Williams

Chair of Awards Judges & CEO, Childnet International



Judith Judd

Associate Editor, Times Educational Supplement



Heba Ramzy

Director, RITSEC, Egypt, and previous Childnet Award winner



Carol Vorderman

Television presenter



Trond Waage

Norwegian Ombudsman for Children



Dan Fitz

Group General Counsel, Cable & Wireless



Larry Magid

Founder of Safekids.com and technology consultant for CBS News



Lord Warner of Brockley

Chairman, NCVO and Youth Justice Board



Niel McLean

Director of Learning, BECTA

The Awards... the first 6 years

All too often, good news is no news. As a journalist, finding an interesting story which is newsworthy and unequivocally 'happy' is far too rare. I was privileged to report on the Cable & Wireless Childnet Awards in Washington (2001) and Paris (2002) and have seen how inspiring and impressive the projects can be. The Award winners are full of such goodwill and enthusiasm that it is impossible to remain unaffected. Childnet asked me to catch up with some of the winners that I'd reported on in the past and see how their projects have progressed.



Anna Soderblom



The winner in last year's Schools category was **College Les Tamarins**, from the tiny remote island of Reunion.

The site is a mix of information about Reunion, about the school and its pupils and projects in which other schools can take part. Winning the award had a great impact on the school. The prize money they received enabled them to obtain a broadband Internet connection, and increase the number of computers available for the children to use.

Jaques Libert, a teacher at the school, says, "The media coverage following our small secluded island winning an international prize encouraged and motivated all our pupils in the use of information technology. We are a small island lost at the end of the Indian Ocean, far away from the 'great Western metropolises', and the Internet is an amazing means with which to show our pupils the world outside and to connect them directly with other pupils all over the world. I would have to write pages and pages in order to sufficiently praise what the Internet brings to our little island, and to the students, most of whom have never left its shores."

www.ac-reunion.fr/pedagogie/cotamarp/



The authors of www.matmice.com, Emily, Sarah and Elise Boyd, three teenage sisters from Australia, found themselves the victims of their own success.

After winning the Individual category last year for their site, which gives children the tools to create their own homepages, the site became such a success, and had so many visitors, that their Internet server was unable to cope with the traffic! Cable & Wireless very generously stepped in and offered matmice free hosting, to enable them to keep up with the demand. The site continues to grow in popularity, and has gone from an already impressive 48,000 users when they won the award, to an incredible 267,792 users at the time of writing. In addition to the Childnet Award, matmice was a finalist in the prestigious 2002 Stockholm Challenge Awards, and winner in the 'Up to 15 years' category of the Global Junior Challenge Awards in Rome. Emily, the oldest of the sisters, was recently named New South Wales Young Australian of the Year.



Emily with Australian Prime Minister John Howard.

As the judges of the Not For-Profit category in 2001 said of winner **myhero.com**, "At a time when the popular media often singles out the losers in our society, this site provides a wonderful antidote."

Since winning the award, the site, which provides a place for people to nominate and learn about true heroes around the world, has gone from strength to strength. It seems that the award judges were not alone in their view that the media needed an influx of positive role models - myhero.com has become a member of the Associated Press (AP) news agency, which provides the site with access to the AP news feeds and photo archives. Jeanne Meyers, the site's founder says, "Our goal with this new addition to the website is to promote positive events taking place in the world. We select 15 images and stories a month from the AP news service that celebrate humanity. These stories are archived on myhero.com for 60 days so they can be accessed by teachers and students looking for 'good news in the world.' " My Hero has also produced a CDROM version of the site for organisations with limited Internet access, and is planning other off-line projects in the future. Plans are also afoot to include audio and video material on the site, and to produce a Spanish language version.



My Hero is continuing to work with Childnet International, and together they have set up a forum site, where visitors respond to the question, "How can we use the Internet as a tool for peace and hope?" Responses have come from all over the world - the myhero site now receives approximately 300,000 hits from 60,000 locations per month - and makes inspirational reading.



www.childnet-int.org/kids/yoursay.html

Pauline Yeung, winner in the New to the Net category 2002 for her Hong Kong based Children's Parliament site, hasn't had much time to update her site since the Award, and no wonder!

As a United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child - Child Ambassador, she, her fellow ambassadors and three NGOs (Against Child Abuse, HKUNICEF and Hong Kong Committee on Children's Rights) have successfully lobbied the Hong Kong government and set up the first ever Children's Council in the area. After co-authoring the Proposal and Action Plan for the Children's Council, Pauline is currently acting as the Council's youth facilitator, sharing her experience and knowledge on children's rights with 50 newly-recruited Child Legislators. The project will culminate in a two-day Forum in March 2003, when five child-related topics will be debated in a Legislative Council setting. She seems indefatigable, and says that her website will be updated sometime after her public examinations in the summer: "Childnet has given me the basic financial resources, while my involvement in the Children's Council has made it possible for me to enlist people to help develop the website. The first improvements to the site are likely to be ones catered towards the local



community - including the translation of the content from English to Chinese and the addition of the outcomes of the local Children's Council. From there onwards, progress can be made, step by step."

"Childnet is about passionate people, child-friendly technology and projects with a vision. I would strongly encourage you to enter the Awards, because you will reap not only harvests of hard work, but also blessings of goodwill."

Pauline Yeung

Individual Category

If I was only young again

Oh, I wish that I had the chance to grow up again! (My family might ask - why the "again" bit?) To have had the chance to use today's Internet when I was a teenager, to have had the world at my finger-tips and been able to express my hopes, creativity, even my anger at an unsuspecting world. Or as a student growing up in California in the 60s, what would the Internet have allowed me to do then? To campaign even harder against the war, the injustice, to have really changed the world around me?

As I judged the winners from the Individual category this year, I was humbled by such talent, passion and energy. I began to reflect on what I might have done with such an invention all those years ago. Andrew's Kidzdom site brilliantly mirrors back to me my own clumsiness and made me laugh out

loud. Sarah's simple but powerful Cool Kids for a Cool Climate website made me ask why I, as a "Frequent Flyer" hadn't thought about that? And talk about not being able to put a good book down - with Heather's Daily Prophet site I was glad for my wireless network!

Having worked with Childnet for the last six years on this programme, I am always heartened by the vision and hope that young people have in using this global medium. Whatever I might have done had I had these tools when I was young, I am challenged to think how I can use the net now - regardless of my age - for the greater good. I hope you too will learn from these young people and celebrate the positive life that this medium reflects and facilitates.

Larry is founder of www.safekids.com and technology consultant for CBS News. He is a world expert on Internet safety for kids and has worked closely with Childnet on programs that build awareness and support online safety for children for the last six years. As a judge, Larry provides constructive feedback to sites that carry content that might jeopardize the privacy or safety of children, violate other people's copyright or otherwise fail to carry out what Childnet and the judges consider to be appropriate web site practices.

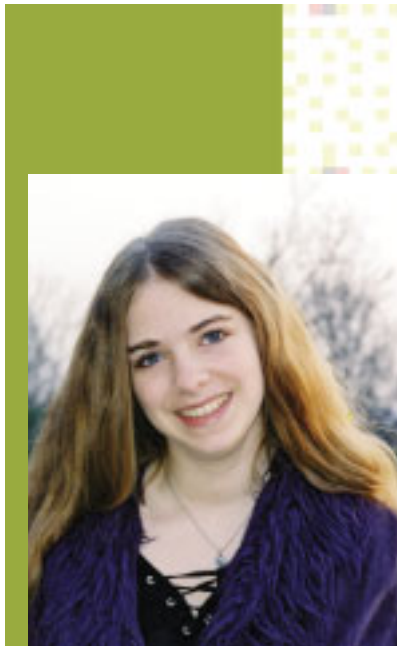
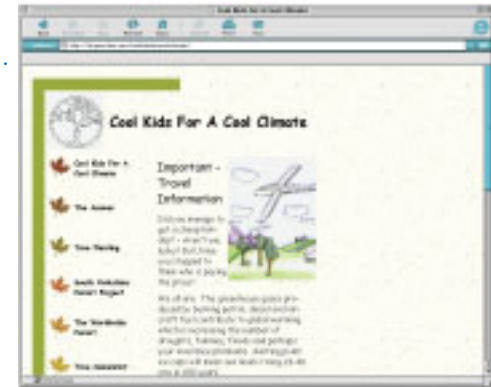


Larry Magid
Awards Judge
Individual Category

uk.geocities.com/coolkidsforacoolclimate/

Sarah Bowler

A simple website produced by 13 year old Sarah Bowler from the UK on the theme of "Think Global, Act Local." Returning from an international conference on the environment in Canada last year, Sarah launched the website to promote the idea of planting trees to compensate for the amount of pollution caused by different modes of transport. She has made arrangements with the local South Yorkshire forest to enable people to plant trees, and has offered on the site to do this for those living far away!



"I would like to see my project make an impact on the minds of people and make them think about their actions, reducing the amount of fossil fuels that they burn. I would like to see the politicians work out policies that think further into the future and sort out the mess we're in. We've got to stop climate change where it starts and cut down our CO2 emissions now. It is brilliant to be shortlisted for the Childnet Awards. My website is very new, and there are so many other great projects."

Sarah Bowler

"This is a wonderful example of how young people can turn ideas into action using the web and extend an offline activity so others can take part online. Working on limited resources, Sarah has produced a simple, easy to understand website which has huge potential. A superb achievement for a young girl."

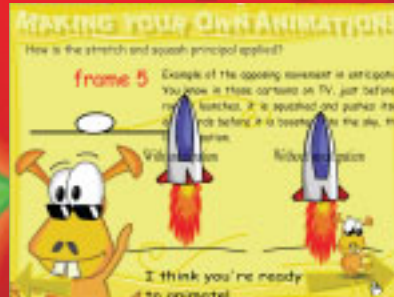
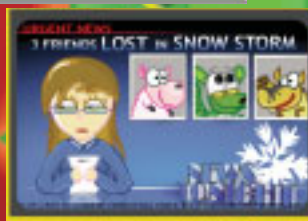
Award Judges

www.kidzdom.com

Andrew Fei



Kidzdom is a fun website produced entirely by 16 year old Andrew Fei, a student in a local high school, who taught himself animation to “bring entertainment to children and children at heart around the world.” The site includes a series of animated cartoons and colouring exercises for young children, as well as an excellent animation tutorial showing others how they can produce their own animation.



“An innovative, fun, engaging and “sticky” website for children from a young designer who is using the web to share his talent in animation with both children and adults alike. The simple non-verbal cartoons communicate beyond language and culture and Andrew has made excellent use of the medium. There is real potential to expand this resource and help children create their own media.”

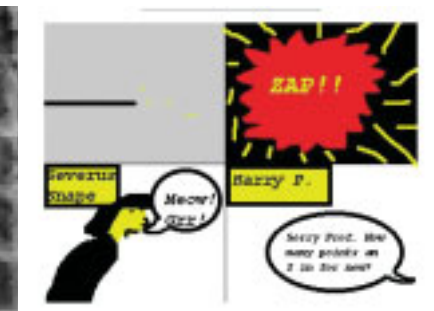
Award Judges

“It is great that programs like the Childnet Awards exist to recognise and support the fantastic projects out there, which are doing wonderful things via the internet. Being a finalist for such a prestigious award has lifted my website's profile and attracted more people to enjoy what it has to offer. As I create more entertaining cartoons and animation tutorials in the future, I hope Kidzdom continues to inspire creativity amongst children and young people.”

Andrew Fei

Heather Lawver

The Daily Prophet is a remarkable Harry Potter fan site serving children around the world who have a love of good literature and writing. Designed by 17 year old Heather Lawver from Virginia, USA who has overcome illness to help over 100 children from all over the world serve as columnists on the site under Heather's tutoring. All the contributors write using a pseudonym (taken from characters in the books).



"Working with children has been a much-needed reminder that the coming generations are both wiser and more adept to technology than any generation before them. It has been a privilege to help them to grow, to watch as they develop their own unique minds and talents. My hope is that the Daily Prophet will grow with them, adapting to suit the needs of an even wider and more influential classroom."

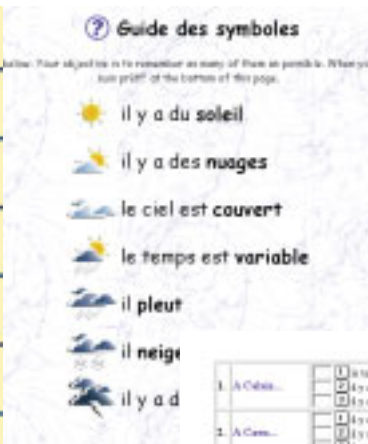
Heather Lawver

"If the Harry Potter books encouraged children to read, then this site engages children with both appreciation and creation of writing. Heather Lawver is clearly a gifted writer, graphic artist and campaigner and through this online newspaper has created a remarkable online community stretching around the world."

Award Judges

Stephane Derone

A site by an individual French technology teacher working in the UK whose idea was to provide good, fun and relevant resources to help pupils learn French. The website presents subjects in a fun and interactive way using games, quizzes, and exercises on various topics and is already used by thousands of schools world-wide. Stephane has now extended this model and developed similar sister sites for the teaching of Italian, German and Spanish.



1. A Colbe...	<input type="checkbox"/> il temps est variable
	<input type="checkbox"/> il y a du soleil
	<input type="checkbox"/> il y a des nuages
1. A Com...	<input type="checkbox"/> il y a du soleil
	<input type="checkbox"/> il y a des nuages
	<input type="checkbox"/> le temps
1. A Fleury...	<input type="checkbox"/> il y a du soleil
	<input type="checkbox"/> le temps est variable
1. A Brevaux...	<input type="checkbox"/> il y a du soleil
	<input type="checkbox"/> il pleut
	<input type="checkbox"/> le ciel est couvert
1. A Poliers...	<input type="checkbox"/> il y a des nuages
	<input type="checkbox"/> il y a du soleil
	<input type="checkbox"/> le temps



"A real labour of love from one individual teacher who has responded to a need to produce language resources in an accessible, fun and relevant way. It is excellent that the site is non-commercial and clearly teachers, parents and students are benefiting from one individual's dedication to help others learn French. The opportunities to replicate this model for other languages are enormous."

Award Judges

"The website lies on a simple concept: learning and teaching resources should be shared among teachers. In today's world, no single textbook can match the needs of all pupils. It's up to teachers themselves to create, select and adapt resources to meet the needs of their particular audience. New technologies make it possible."

Stephane Derone

Commended projects

The judges decided to commend another three projects in the Individual Category

Jonathan Boss

Written and moderated by two teenagers, this forum site allows other young people to share their views and experiences of different computer games and machines.

www.playedthegame.co.uk/portal.php

UK



Karen Eini

A multicultural collaborative learning project, started by an individual Israeli teacher to encourage schools to participate in joint international activities around the theme of friendship.

www.friendsandflags.org

Israel



Tiki the Penguin

A fun and engaging site for kids looking at environment and development issues, produced by one individual penguin in his own spare time.

www.oneworld.net/penguin/

UK



Not For Profit Category

Roll on the future

During the six years of my time being a judge in the Childnet Awards programme, we have seen "Dot.com" come and go and promises of new technology such as WAP phones failing to deliver. However, underneath we have seen how children - working with their teachers or parents - have brought life to the Internet. Indeed when I think about the future of the Internet, I don't think about the new technology platforms we are told the net will support, nor do I feel qualified to consider the ways in which the medium will bring real benefits to business. What I do imagine - indeed hope for - is an evolving technology which is constantly being shaped by the energy, vision and creativity of young people themselves.

This year again we have a range of outstanding Not-For-Profit organisations each in their own way using technology

to bring real benefit and change to children's lives worldwide. Doctors, playwrights and activists are working with children to use the net to tell their stories and express their dreams and hopes for a better world.

Professor Peter Cochrane, co-founder of Concept Labs says, "If you want an accurate prediction of the future, don't ask an expert. Instead you should ask the man on the street - it doesn't matter what age they are, so long as they've got the mind and imagination of a nine-year old child." I agree! That's why in my work of Ombudsman for Children in Norway, I prioritise my work with Childnet and spend time each year working alongside these winners who are using the internet to bring and reflect life to so many. Roll on the future!

Trond is the Norwegian Ombudsman for Children and has been a Childnet Awards Judge for the last six years. Trond travels widely and has been heavily involved in ensuring effective implementation of the UN's Convention on the Rights of the Child as such he is uniquely placed to judge the entries in the Non-For-Profit category.



Trond Waage

Norwegian Ombudsman
for Children

www.gosh.nhs.uk/kidsandteens/index.html

Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital

A highly attractive website written by and with children at Britain's biggest specialist hospital for children. The site is carefully segmented for different age groups and provides a powerful platform on which children can reach out from the confines of their hospital wards, share their experiences and learn about a range of medical issues as well as have access to fun interactive resources.



"GOSHKids aims to be THE health website by and for children. Putting children first and always. Being nominated for a Childnet Award is a great honour because it recognises the importance of supporting children, as well as their parents, through illness and health worries."

**Gary Loach, children & families editor,
Great Ormond Street Hospital and the
Institute of Child Health.**

"This is an outstanding example of how a hospital can create quality, authoritative information on issues relating to health in a fun, child-centred and accessible way. The site respects the confidentiality of the patients, whilst at the same time giving them space to share personal stories and learn from each other. Whilst international collaboration is currently limited, this could be a role model for other hospitals to replicate world-wide."

Award Judges

Polka Theatre



Produced by the non-profit children's theatre company, Polka Theatre, the WebPlay project uses the net to link primary schools in different countries, encouraging collaboration using playwriting and performance as a framework. Each school swaps information about their lives, using the "Think.com" secure website platform. The partner school then puts on a performance with help from the Polka Theatre company.



"A simple project which serves as an antidote to the notion that the web is only about presentation of information. Rather, technology is used to help students connect with each other in a protected environment and to share personal stories. It is great that the project uses the web in a natural way to combine culture and learning. An excellent example of the web strengthening offline collaboration and allow children to share their creativity both online and offline."

Award Judges

"WebPlay is using technology to further and enhance the live theatre experience for children. Technology and theatre are two of our most powerful forms of communication. One is ancient and one is brand new, but together they can be harnessed in a way that furthers both."

Sydney Thornburg - WebPlay co-ordinator

www.youthnoise.com

YouthNOISE

YouthNOISE shows the racket a bunch of young people can generate when they get together online to make their voices heard. The site helps get young people to engage in global issues and topics such as hunger, homelessness, HIV/AIDS, intolerance and so on through campaigning, volunteering and discussion. Over 50% of the content is created by young people themselves.



"Since YouthNOISE.com launched in 2001, hundreds of thousands of teens from around the world have entered its online community - learning, sharing and connecting with each other to help change the world. These NOISEmakers discover and invent opportunities to get involved and become active citizens, creating local and global positive change by volunteering, fundraising and speaking out."

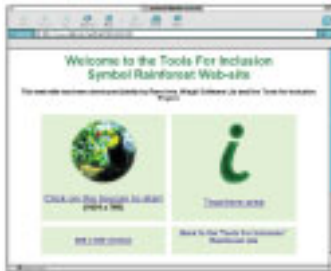
Karoline and the team at YouthNOISE

"A global action site empowering kids to understand international challenges. The site "feels" like it belongs to the people who write for it, and the interactive features help young people engage in real life issues and collaborate with their peers to help change the world."

Award Judges

Commended projects

The judges decided to commend another four projects in the Not-for-Profit Category.



Institute of Education - tools for inclusion

A rich website resource about rainforests in Costa Rica for children and teachers worldwide. The site uses special symbols which have been developed to help those children with special physical and/or learning needs.

www.widgit.com/rainforest/html/start.htm

UK & Costa Rica



Save the Children - Eye to Eye project

A very powerful website created with Palestinian children who use photographs and stories to share their experiences of living in a refugee camp. Other children can exchange views and send messages through the site.

www.savethechildren.org.uk/eyetoeye/

Lebanon and UK



Taking it Global

Founded by a 17 and 19 year old, Taking IT Global is a vibrant international community, providing young people with an opportunity to discuss, publish and take action on issues that effect them all over the world.

www.takingitglobal.org/home.html

Canada



Woodcraft Folk

Produced by a team of young people from the Woodcraft movement around the theme of sustainable development, this site tracks important offline events - including the 2002 Johannesburg Earth Summit - and gives other young people important information about environmental issues.

www.woodcraft.org.uk/earthsummit/

UK

Schools Category

Bringing the curriculum to life

The finalists in the Schools category this year exemplify the way in which the Internet is revolutionising education and transforming schools from separate institutions to connected learning organisations. To see pupils be given online space to create and publish their own work and collaborate with others in different countries across language and culture is enormously inspiring. Furthermore, for schools to use the web to produce their own quality curriculum resources for other schools to use world-wide, points the way to the future.

One of the criteria we as School judges were looking at carefully in this category was evidence of learning taking place in the process of producing these websites. In all of these sites there is something "raw" and home grown - not necessarily slick and flash, yet owned and used by

the pupils. Bringing the Internet to life - yes, but also reflecting school environments full of life, promise, energy and excitement.

Niel Mclean is Director of Learning at the British Educational Communications and Technology Agency (BECTA). As someone with very many years of experience in identifying effective practice of using ICT in schools he is well placed to judge this year's Childnet Award Schools Category entries.

Judith Judd is associate editor of the Times Educational Supplement (TES) in the UK and has written extensively on education issues. She was previously education editor at The Independent and Independent on Sunday and education correspondent at The Observer.



Niel Mclean

Awards Judge
Schools Category



Judith Judd

Awards Judge
Schools Category

Italy

www.gdmland.it/giornalino_matera/giornalinomatera.asp

Liceo Classico "Duni" - Matera



A small scale online newspaper project from a school in Southern Italy which is linking up with students in other schools in different countries to design and produce news content. The local newspaper has offered free web space and a template for the students.



"It is exciting to see a local school work with both the local newspaper and other schools in creating an authentic collaboration through which children themselves can publish short articles on a range of different topical issues in different languages. There is something very real about this site which shows that the children are learning a great deal through engaging with one another and in publishing online."

Award Judges

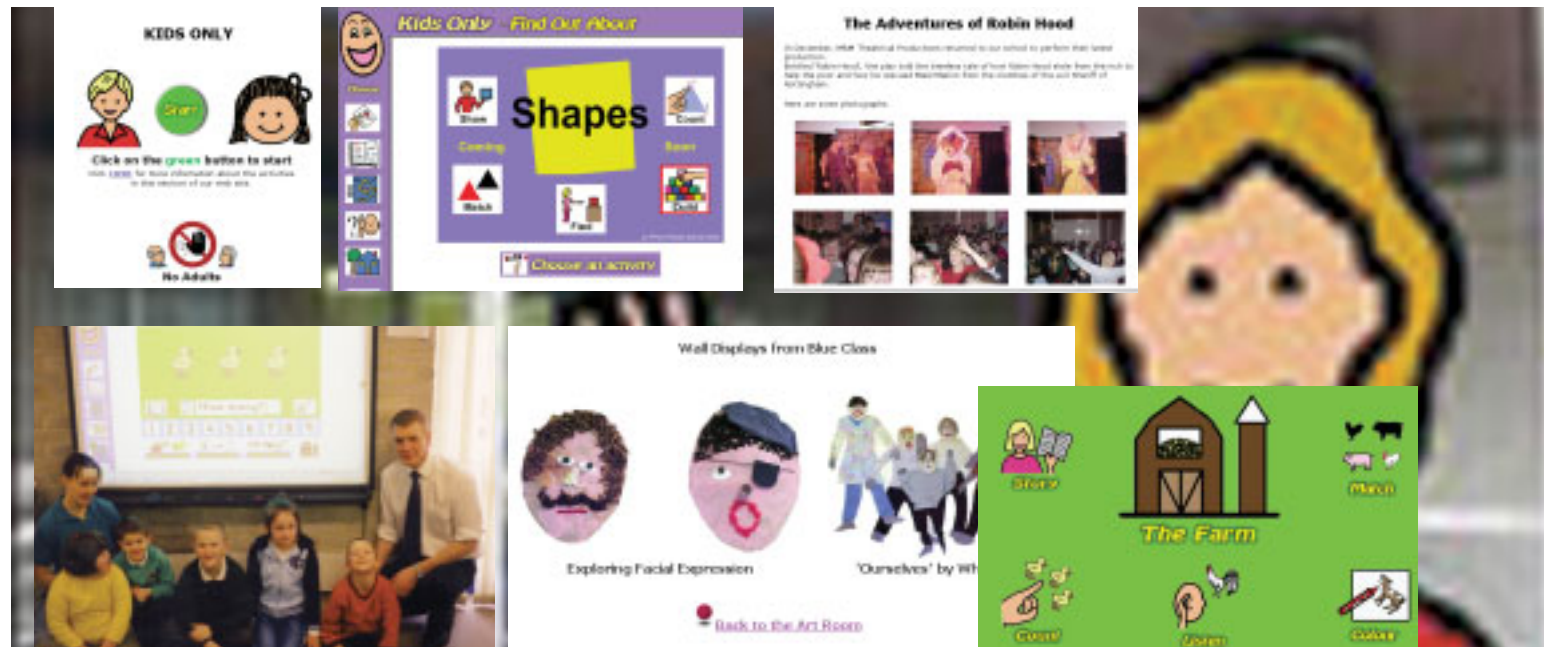
"Born of an idea of a journalist, the project was promptly embraced by a teacher of "Liceo Duni". In its first year of life it was addressed to students of Basilicata, in southern Italy. Soon we noticed the unusual possibilities the project had to get ourselves in touch with other realities in Europe and throughout the world, through the Internet, to know each other, to express our ideas and grow together."

Maria Teresa Asprella

www.priorywoods.middlesbrough.sch.uk

Priory Woods School

Priory Woods is a school catering for pupils with severe learning difficulties. The website, produced by the staff with the pupils, has very strong content for a range of audiences and many non-English children and teachers are able to use the resources, particularly in the 'kids only' zone.



"Children and young people with learning difficulties face many challenges in their lives. At Priory Woods, we believe that using the Internet shouldn't be one of them. Through our web site we have attempted to make one tiny corner of the web a safe and friendlier place for everyone to learn and have fun. This award means a great deal to us because it will allow us to expand our work to enable and empower children and young people with disabilities to use the web more autonomously."

Ian Bean, Priory Woods School

"This site which is both child and adult friendly, will inspire many other schools (not just those working with Special Needs children) to use the web so that both teachers and pupils can connect with each other and their wider community. The simple activities for children are especially strong and the material very appropriate. It is excellent that the site is actively involving parents in the creation of this online community."

Award Judges

www.schoolcentral.com/willoughby4

Willoughby Elementary



Willoughby school have a vision to use the Internet to break down the walls of the school. Their website is full of the reality of school life, and includes excellent interactive learning resources created by the children themselves, plus a range of learning tools from other sources.



The sun shown brightly against the crystal clear sky. It was the second day of my journey to the Capilano fish hatchery, where I needed to lay my eggs. The force of the river's currents enlarged, causing me to lose confidence. But I urged myself on. The only thing that kept me going was the energy that I gained from the luscious taste of algae.



"This school points the way to the future use of ICT in education to bring the whole school community together. The site uses appropriate technology which is inviting and doesn't "clog" the viewer's experience. The content is very diverse and it is exciting to see the partnerships the school is making with others overseas."

Award Judges

"Designed to empower children to learn in cross-cultural collaborating communities, the theme of our web site is "School Without Walls." Transparency has been achieved both by the creation of rich highly interactive learning modules and by the development of a powerful set of web administration, publishing and communication tools. These tools fit together to allow the creation of cohesive class, school and research e-communities. This award has significantly heightened our students' self-esteem and their motivation to produce high quality online learning resources."

John Harris

Commended projects

The judges decided to commend another three projects in the Schools Category

Cumberland School

A valuable teaching directory on curriculum subjects produced by one school as a means to develop skills and provide resources for others.

www.kevinsplayroom.co.uk/

UK



Diocesan Girls School

A site which makes environmental information easily available to children using ideas and concepts to which they can relate. Planned, written and designed by five girls from the school's computer club.

enviro.nicesoda.com/~S077_01/

Hong Kong



Sleat Primary School

A simple website, produced by 17 Gaelic-speaking pupils in a small primary school on the island of Skye, through which the pupils are exploring language, culture and emigrant links with schools in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia.

www.ceangal.org.uk/

UK



New To The Net Category

Inspired by the Future

As a previous Childnet Awards winner I can speak from first hand experience at the positive way in which the Awards have helped strengthen projects not only through the funding, but equally importantly in helping to raise the profile of the projects. As I travel through Africa I am conscious of the need for project champions which will inspire and motivate local children. Thanks to the initiatives such as the Childnet Awards we are beginning to see this happening.

I am delighted therefore to be a judge for the New to the Net category again this year, with its emphasis on providing funding and recognition for new ideas. It is so important that we recognise not only what has been achieved but what could be. This award is beginning to play a small, but important, role in helping to break the so called "digital divide".

Part of the prize for winning projects is the opportunity to meet with other young people from all over the world during the

ceremony week. This has been especially important this year as the authors of YoungBiz.net – from Egypt and USA – will meet for the very first time at the ceremony winner's week!

As I assessed the projects in this category I was particularly looking at how innovative and appropriate the project was to the environment? What future plans the project had? How sustainable was the model? What was the commitment on behalf of the project to collaborate with others internationally? I am therefore thrilled to see that the young people from Sierra Leone have continued to develop their remarkable www.childsoldiers.org project (a commended project last year) and now have plans to extend their peace and reconciliation work through their new site!

I hope, like me, you are inspired to see what these young people are committing themselves to develop with the support of Childnet.

Heba Ramzy is the Director of Electronic Publishing and Kids Information Highway Department of the Regional Information Technology and Software Engineering Centre (RITSEC) Egypt, which is a group of organizations leading the usage of Information Technology in a variety of fields on a regional and a global level. Heba is serving as a member of African Technical Advisory Committee (ATAC) of Africa Information Society Initiative (AISII) advisory board. She is also a member of the SchoolNet Africa steering committee. See www.schoolnet africa.org.eg. In 1999 Heba's RITSEC project was 1st prize winner in the Cable & Wireless Childnet Awards Not-For-Profit category.

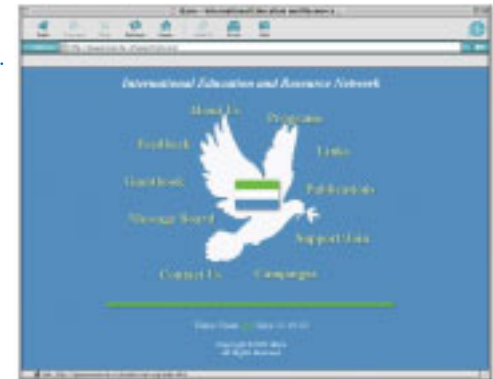


Heba Ramzy
Awards Judge
New to The Net Category

www.childsoldiers.org and peacereconcile.virtualactivism.org

IEARN Sierra Leone

Building on www.childsoldiers.org which was commended by the Cable & Wireless Childnet awards last year, the young people working with the International Education and Resource Network in Sierra Leone are developing an exciting web resource on the theme of Peace and Reconciliation. In this way those who have been affected directly by war can interact with others who have a desire for peace and can share their ideas and engage with other children.



"Together with young people and my partners, I have steadfastly worked on the www.childsoldiers.org website, which gave voices to youth affected by war, and the Peace-Reconcile Internet-based project that has helped transform former war affected youth to active peace promoters within our community. Where there is poor Internet connectivity and very little opportunity for young people in Sierra Leone, the recognition of our efforts through the Childnet Awards brings forth a deluge of hope."

Andrew Greene

"Wonderful to see young people who have been caught up in conflict at first hand leading the way in using the Internet creatively and positively to share with their peers their experiences and lessons learnt during the time to conflict. The team are now moving on to help other young people around the world to reflect on how to make a better future. The project is already being adopted by schools in Sierra Leone and there is tremendous potential to extend this in other areas of the world where there has been conflict."

Award Judges

Young biznet.com



Two Egyptian youths working with an American teenager whom they have never met face to face have a great idea of using the Internet to encourage other young people to develop online businesses.



"This simple idea underlines the enormous potential the Internet has to help young people collaborate and help others and ensure that future leaders become global citizens. Wonderful that that the project has been developed by young people themselves to work across geographical boundaries and encourage cross culture dialogue. A great url and project idea which with encouragement and mentoring could go far"

Award Judges

"The goal of Youngbiznet.com is to help children all over the globe realize their potential, turning business ideas into reality. Childnet has been an immensely helpful experience for our team of volunteers, providing not just financial resources, but support for our ideas, and a chance to cross the globe and meet for the first time in London. It's though this support that Childnet embodies the future potential of the Internet, today."

Ahmed Sobhi

Commended projects

The judges decided to commend another four projects in the New to the Net Category.

Blind Education and Rehabilitation Development Organisation

Ambitious project by a small rehabilitation organisation working with the blind in Bangladesh called BERDO which is seeking to give Internet facility through sound and Braille software for visually impaired people.

[no website](#)

Bangladesh

IEARN Macedonia

With limited resources this IEARN project has developed an excellent example of how technology can be used to bring young people from different backgrounds together, creating an environment for sharing ideas, exchanging experiences, interacting and learning cross-culturally.

www.imor.org.mk/programmes/bridges/

Macedonia

One Dirham

An exciting project which asks students in the UAE to give one dirham (about 20p) a week to support a proposed e-learning portal giving free education to those without good resources in schools.

www.onedirham.com/

UAE

Susie Rasmussen

Simple idea from a Samoan bilingual teacher working in New Zealand to create a Samoan website to encourage Samoan-speaking children round the world to use their mother tongue in everyday life in order to ensure the language does not die out.

[no website](#)

New Zealand

Next year the Cable & Wireless Childnet Awards will introduce an exciting new format - **the Awards Academy**



The Awards provide a unique opportunity for young people from around the world to share knowledge, discuss ideas and learn from each other, in a positive and exciting environment. Previous winners tell us that the support they receive from other web creators together with the expert advice provided by Childnet International are amongst the most valuable elements of a busy Awards week.

In order to allow many more aspiring web creators to benefit from this valuable experience we are

introducing an exciting new format for the Cable & Wireless Childnet Awards. Next year, Award finalists will be invited to participate in an Awards Academy - providing specialist support, leadership training and technical advice to young web entrepreneurs as they develop their projects.

Next year's Awards will also feature an enhanced prize fund, enabling winners to dedicate additional resources to their own web projects and a chance to interact with previous Award winners from around the world.

More information about this exciting new programme will be available, from June 2003, on the Cable & Wireless Childnet Awards website - www.childnetawards.org

This programme has been developed jointly by Childnet International and Cable & Wireless.



Childnet

Childnet International (a non-profit organisation) was set up in 1995 with the aim of helping to make the Internet a great and safe place for children. The organisation works in four key function areas:

Access - promoting access to the Internet to those who stand most to benefit. For example this awards programme - see www.childnetawards.org

Awareness - helping children acquire new net literacy skills and giving advice to parents and the media about Internet safety. For example see www.kidsmart.org.uk

Protection - promoting innovative projects and connecting organisations working to protect children online. For example see www.chatdanger.com

Policy - advising Government and Industry on policy issues relating to children's safe use of the Internet. Full details of this work and the specific projects run by Childnet is available at www.childnet-int.org.

Cable & Wireless

Cable & Wireless provides global communications services primarily to business customers using its world class Internet network.

Support for the work of Childnet International plays a central role in its community investment programme which is designed to support the communities in which it operates and to encourage individuals to utilise the Internet as a tool for communication, education and learning.

The Awards have been made possible by the kind support of many, including:
IBM
em:seven
Science Museum
Carol Vorderman
BBC
Jake Tilson & Associates.



Design by **Jake Tilson & Associates**
design@areaatlas.com

Photography by Stephen Carrick-Davies,
Jake Tilson, Tariq Chaudry, Michel Cesbron,
PA Photos, East Anglian Daily Times.

Cover images show members of the Childnet
Awards children's jury for 2003.

Photographs used with permission of the
children and their parents.

© Childnet International 2003

© Jake Tilson & Associates 2003

Typeset in Interstate by Tobias Frere-Jones.

Printed by Furnival Press, London

Childnet is a registered charity. Reg no 1080173.

Childnet International

Studio 14
Brockley Cross Business Centre
96 Endwell Road
London SE4 2PD
UK

T +44 (0)20 7639 6967

F +44 (0)20 7639 7027

Further details of next year's Academy
programme will be provided on the
Childnet Awards website at
www.childnetawards.org from June 2003.

If organisations, schools and individuals
wish to support this initiative and
publicise the Awards, publicity resources
can be ordered from
Stephen Carrick-Davies, the Awards
project manager at Childnet.

E-mail: Stephen@childnet-int.org.

