

British Council launches Study UK Alumni Awards to celebrate international UK alumni achievements

EMBARGOED UNTIL 1 SEPTEMBER 2026 (London, UK)

The British Council is proud to announce the thirteenth year of its Study UK Alumni Awards, recognising the outstanding achievements of international UK alumni worldwide. These awards honour leaders who have leveraged their UK education to make significant contributions to their communities, industries, and countries.

This year's categories include Business and Innovation, Culture, Creativity and Sport, Science and Sustainability, and Social Action. Applications open on 1 September 2026 and close on 15 October 2026. Eligible applicants will be considered for both national Alumni Awards in participating countries and the global Alumni Awards.

Global awards

The finalists and winners of the global Alumni Awards will be announced in 2027 and celebrated through a digital campaign highlighting their remarkable stories and successes. As part of their award, global award winners will be invited to visit the UK, where they will reconnect with their universities, meet and inspire current GREAT scholars, and engage with other global winners. This prestigious visit not only offers a chance to enhance their international profiles and advance their careers, but also fosters meaningful connections within the academic community.

National awards

In addition to the global awards, a small number of countries will host national ceremonies. Finalists of the national awards will be announced between December 2026 and May 2027. The national awards are generally hosted by the British Ambassador or High Commissioner, with VIPs attending as special guests, leading to extensive press and PR coverage of finalists.

What our award winners say



Study UK Alumni Awards

‘Receiving this award would allow me to engage with cutting-edge European research and professional networks in autism, directly enhancing my doctoral research and enabling me to promote more inclusive, neurodiversity-affirming practices in Greece.’

Melina-Sofia Armaganidou

National winner of the Social Action Award in 2026, Greece

City St George’s University of London

‘Recognition on this prestigious platform is a milestone of inspiration, excellence, and growth, reinforcing a commitment to progress.’

Dr Shahman Moishan

National winner of the Culture and Creativity Award in 2025, Bangladesh

University of Birmingham alumnus

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:

Study UK Alumni Awards team

StudyUK.Alumni@britishcouncil.org

Check out the details of previous Alumni Awards finalists and winners on [our website](#).

Follow the Alumni Awards on Study UK’s social media channels: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#)

ENDS



Notes to editors

Alumni Award categories

- **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, but are not limited to: entrepreneurship, business, technology and finance.

- **Culture, Creativity and Sport Award** - recognising alumni who have carved a career for themselves in arts, culture and sport. We are looking for individuals who can demonstrate their artistic ingenuity, influence and creativity.

Areas of work could include, but are not limited to: arts, design, humanities, traditional media, music, video, TV, sports and online content and audiovisual media creation (e.g blogging, vlogging including for YouTube and social media).

- **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, but are not limited to: climate action, clean energy, medicine, sustainable cities and communities, engineering, industry and construction.

- **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, but are not limited to: education, peace and justice and reducing inequality, poverty and hunger and broader humanitarian work or work for social good.

About Study UK

Study UK is a global campaign that promotes the UK as the first-choice study destination to international students and their influencers. It is the UK's only national-level campaign that showcases the UK's outstanding higher education offering and the life-changing opportunities it brings. Study UK is led and delivered by the British Council in partnership with the UK government's GREAT Britain and Northern Ireland Campaign.

Study UK Alumni Awards

For more information visit <https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/> . You can also keep in touch with Study UK through <https://study-uk.britishcouncil.org/blog>.

About the British Council

The British Council is the UK's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We support peace and prosperity by building connections, understanding and trust between people in the UK and countries worldwide. We do this through our work in arts and culture, education, and the English language. We work with people in more than 200 countries and territories and are on the ground in more than 100 countries. In 2024-25 we reached 600 million people.

For more information, please visit: www.britishcouncil.org. You can also keep in touch with the British Council through <http://blog.britishcouncil.org/>.

