

Student Social Mobility Awards



Recognising Outstanding Achievement

Platinum Partner:

Bank of America 

Organised by:

upReach Charities Times Awards **2019**
Charity of the Year **Winner**

Supported by:



**Social Mobility
Commission**

House of Lords | 27th November 2019

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

6.30pm Champagne, soft drinks and canapés will be served

7.10pm WELCOME ADDRESS

Baroness Helena Kennedy QC, Patron of upReach

THE *aspire* AWARDS FOR SIXTH FORMERS

Presented by Sir Dan Moynihan, Chief Executive of Harris Federation

THE SECTOR AWARDS

Recognising outstanding achievement in specific career sectors

CHAMPIONING SOCIAL MOBILITY AND THE IMPORTANCE OF ROLE MODELS

Bernard Mensah, President of Bank of America (UK and CEEMA)

THE COMMUNITY CHAMPION AWARDS

Recognising the *aspire* Teacher, Best Mentor, the Highest Impact Employer and University Initiatives and the Biggest Champion of Social Mobility

THE upReach TEN, AND THE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

7.50pm Closing remarks from John Craven, Chief Executive of upReach

8.30pm Carriages

WELCOME

Thank you for attending the second Student Social Mobility Awards. Tonight is important because it showcases dozens of fantastic accomplishments from young people who have often faced adversity. As with last year, the judging process has been designed to be thorough, independent and as free from bias as possible.

The 2018 winners have proved to be terrific role models for sixth formers, who can discover their top tips in videos on the new *aspire* website, or read about them in the *aspire* Guide. We added a teacher toolkit to the platform to help them broaden career horizons. Building on the success of the 2018 event, we have this year added additional awards for Sixth Formers and Teachers.

While giving a glimpse of the enormous talent that exists in this country, it is a reminder that with social mobility in the UK still worse than in most other OECD countries, there is much unrealised potential that we need to tap. The challenge for all of us here is to redouble our efforts, to make sure we are doing whatever we can to ensure everyone has the opportunity to realise their career potential, regardless of social background. At upReach, we strongly believe that by working in close partnership with employers and universities, we can together transform social mobility. I would like to thank all of our partners and donors for their generous support.



John Craven
Chief Executive
of upReach

At the Social Mobility Commission we are passionate about creating a fairer society where your background does not determine your future. However, we know that there is a long way to go – you are 70 per cent more likely to end up in a top professional job if one of your parents had one, compared to those whose parents were in routine or manual jobs. That is why we are supporting the Student Social Mobility Awards for the second year running. The Awards celebrate social mobility through recognising outstanding individuals who have overcome barriers and achieved exceptional results – not just for

themselves, but for others too. Many have made a hugely positive mark on society already. Through this I hope we can inspire young people to follow their aspirations. I also hope these awards, and other great initiatives like them, encourage employers, universities, and others to break down the barriers to social mobility. Congratulations to all the amazing winners and shortlisted candidates in the awards. Your achievements are truly outstanding and inspire us all.



Dame Martina Milburn
Chair of the Social
Mobility Commission



I'm delighted to host the Student Social Mobility Awards for the second year running. Tonight will showcase the outstanding achievements, often attained against the odds, by young people who have overcome significant barriers or difficult circumstances across the country. From first-hand experience, I understand how challenging it can be to break into the professions if you don't come from the 'right background'. Too many students from working class backgrounds find it difficult to access universities, and continue to struggle when it comes to graduate employment. upReach is doing all it can to level the playing field, and I'm delighted to be able to show my support by hosting this event at the House of Lords. I hope that the remarkable students that we are celebrating tonight will inspire others to succeed.

Baroness Helena Kennedy QC
upReach Patron



#upReachSSMA
@up_Reach

Our Hosts and Speakers



Baroness Helena Kennedy QC
upReach Patron

One of the United Kingdom's most distinguished lawyers, Baroness Kennedy has practised at the Bar for 40 years in the field of criminal law and has conducted many of the leading cases in those years. She has championed law reform for women, especially relating to sexual and domestic violence. Baroness Kennedy was also the leading voice for equal opportunities in the legal profession for women. She has chaired the British Council and the UK Human Genetics Commission. She has been a member of the House of Lords since 1997, where she sat on the Joint Committee of Human Rights, and was Chair of the EU Justice Sub-Committee. She is the President of Justice, the British arm of the International Commission of Jurists. She is the chair of the Booker Prize Foundation and a member of Microsoft Technology and Human Rights Advisory Council. She has stepped down as Principal of Mansfield College, Oxford and become the new Chancellor of Sheffield Hallam University. She is the Director of the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute.



Chris Millward

Director for Fair Access and Participation at the Office for Students, where his role is to ensure that universities and colleges are doing all they can to support underrepresented groups to access and succeed in higher education. Chris is an executive member of the Office for Students board.



Saeed Atcha MBE DL

Appointed to the Social Mobility Commission in 2018, Saeed is CEO of Youth Leads and Deputy Lieutenant of Greater Manchester. He established the charity Youth Leads at the age of 15 and has supported more than 5,000 disadvantaged young Greater Mancunians to access volunteering opportunities and skills development programmes. Saeed received Her Majesty the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service as leader of Youth Leads, is a recipient of the Prime Minister's Points of Light award and was awarded an MBE in the Queen's New Years Honours List 2019.



Jennifer Chamandi Boghossian

A member of the upReach Development Advisory Board, Jennifer had an accomplished career as a senior banker, before following her childhood dream to become a shoe designer. She has achieved global success, with her luxury footwear now stocked in Browns, Harrods and further afield including Beverley Hills, Dubai and New York. In 2019, Jennifer Chamandi won a place on the renowned Walpole Brands of Tomorrow Programme.



Bernard Mensah

Bernard Mensah is the President of the UK and Central Eastern Europe, Middle East and Africa region and co-head of Global Fixed Income, Currencies and Commodities Trading at Bank of America. Bernie has over 20 years global trading and investing experience. He joined the bank in 2010 from Goldman Sachs, where he was a partner and global head of Bank Loans and Distressed Debt. Bernard received his BA in Social Sciences at the Joint School of Philosophy and Economics at the University of Bristol in 1989.



John Craven

Chief Executive of upReach, John has been passionate about boosting social mobility since founding the successful Cambridge University Shadowing Scheme in 1999 that has since seen 4,000 sixth formers spend three days at the university. A former teacher, banker and charity trustee, he has led upReach for four years, during which time the Charity has quadrupled in size to support 1,600 students, winning Charity of the Year (<£1m) at the Charity Times Awards in October 2019.



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aspire Awards

This is a new awards category, inspired by the *aspire* project, which was launched after last year's Student Social Mobility Awards.

We were so inspired by the 2018 nominees and winners, that we wanted to share their stories with others, creating role models vital for boosting social mobility.

This culminated in the *aspire* project, a guide for sixth formers to their post-18 options. The experiences of the 2018 Student Social Mobility Award nominees were used in the guide with the goal of inspiring sixth formers all over the UK to **aim high, stretch themselves and realise their potential**.

The 2019 *aspire* Awards recognise Sixth Formers who have made a positive impact on their community, and those who have achieved outstanding success academically or in extra-curricular activities. These *aspire* Award winners have helped those from disadvantaged backgrounds to improve their employability prospects, or have made outstanding achievements whilst overcoming challenging circumstances, showing great potential to go on to achieve further success.



Head to www.aspire.upreach.org.uk to:

- Download a free copy of the *aspire* guide
- Watch videos from previous Student Social Mobility Awards winners, revealing their top tips for success
- Download a free *aspire* Teacher Toolkit, including an Assembly Pack

To find out more about advertising opportunities in the 2020 *aspire* guide, please email: anna.sawickismith@upreach.org.uk.

aspire Community Champion

Recognises the Sixth Former who has made the greatest impact on their community, specifically in helping those from disadvantaged backgrounds to improve their employability prospects.

Presented by Sir Dan Moynihan, Chief Executive of Harris Federation.



Aaron Ghataure
Allerton High School

A student at Allerton High School, Aaron is already well on the way to a career in the world of finance having secured work experience at employers including JP Morgan. He's an active ambassador for a national social mobility programme, helping to promote opportunities for support to hundreds of fellow sixth formers.



Holly Denton
Alton College

Holly has overcome the obstacle of health issues forcing her to take significant time off school to achieve an outstanding set of GCSE results. In addition, she's shown her dedication to help others to succeed by giving a huge amount of her time to volunteer in local youth clubs.



Bashirat Oladele
City of London Academy (Southwark)

Bashirat has shown huge dedication in embarking on internships every summer since she was 15, on her way to fulfilling her ambition and becoming a corporate lawyer. Among many achievements, she won a place on the prestigious Clifford Chance PRIME scheme. She also supports others with regular volunteer work.

aspire Rising Star

Recognises the Sixth Former who has overcome challenging circumstances to achieve outstanding success academically or in extra-curricular activities, and who shows greatest potential to go on to achieve further success.

Presented by Sir Dan Moynihan, Chief Executive of Harris Federation.



Seher Mirza
The Heathland School

Seher has achieved great things to become the first in her family to go to university, putting her on the path to a career in medicine. She overcame significant disadvantage to secure exceptional A-Level results in Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics, complementing the straight As she achieved in her GCSEs.



Megan Gyan
Brentwood Ursuline Convent High School

Megan has been one of Brentwood Ursuline Convent High School's most dedicated and hard working students. Working towards her long-held ambition of a career in medicine, she secured work experience in the Queens Hospital, Romford. Inspiring others, she has also become a STEM ambassador, helping younger girls to develop a love of maths and science.



Ema Kanlic
Woodhouse College

Ema regularly goes out of her way to help others in and out of lessons. Despite the responsibility of supporting members of her close family struggling with illness, Ema has achieved superb GCSE and A Level results and gained work experience at a hospital and with a sports doctor.



Prince Gandifere
Archbishop Sentamu Academy

Having come to the UK as a refugee, Prince has had a huge impact at Archbishop Sentamu Academy by following his passion for performing arts. He's taken a lead role in a number of school productions, served as Head Boy and achieved some of the strongest academic results in the academy's history, all despite challenging personal circumstances.



#upReachSSMA
@up_Reach

Why does upReach exist?

More young people from disadvantaged backgrounds than ever before are going to university, but when they graduate, they are less likely to secure a graduate job particularly in the most competitive sectors. Since 2005, the proportion of students eligible for free school meals that enter university has increased from 15% to over 25%. However, at Russell Group universities, less-disadvantaged students who get a first class degree are less likely to secure an elite

graduate job than their more privileged peers who only get a 2:2. The explanation is an Employability Skills Gap, whereby at school, those from less-disadvantaged backgrounds have inferior access to professional networks, career advice, extra-curricular activities and work experience. **upReach work in partnership with employers and universities, supporting 1,500 students to help close the employability skills gap.**

How do upReach support students?

A personalised support programme focused on employability-enhancing activities



Activities and bespoke support to broaden horizons, develop employability skills and increase self awareness.

- Online Resources Platform
- Exclusive Insight Days
- Career Academies
- Professional Experience Weeks

Employability-specific activities and networks to develop the required skills to obtain competitive jobs.

- Employability Skill-Focused Workshops
- 1-to-1 Career Coaching
- Professional Mentor Matching
- Daily Interactive Video Forums

Activities and bespoke support to prepare for application processes.

- CV & Application Guidance
- Mock Interviews
- Online Test Practice
- Exclusive Internship Opportunities

SECTOR AWARDS



BANKING & FINANCE

Presented by Nick Tucker, founder member of the upReach Fundraising Committee, and former Head of UK Domestic, UBS Wealth Management.



Arjun Jethwa
Queen Mary, University of London

Leaving school at 18, Arjun embarked on a school leaver programme at Close Brothers for 2.5 years before going to university, where he won an award for his contribution to the course. An upReach Associate, he is passionate about helping others who have faced similar challenges. After graduating this year, he joined JP Morgan as an Analyst in September 2019.



Naomi Elliott
University of Warwick

Naomi is passionate not only about achieving her career aspirations, but also supporting others in broadening their horizons. She founded a community programme in her local area to encourage more young people to go to university, as well as securing a placement role at Bank of America upon graduation. She continues to inspire those around her, advocating for mental health awareness and working to improve social mobility.



Sam Gugi
University of Lancaster

Despite never having anywhere to study at home, Sam became the first person in his whole family to go to university, where he joined upReach. A keen participant in multiple Insight programmes, he won the 2018 Stock Picking Competition, completed an exclusive upReach internship with Winterflood and Close Brothers, and converted a place on upReach's "Make Things Possible Academy" at Goldman Sachs into a graduate offer in their Securities division.



Sabina Shaqiri
King's College London

Sabina has worked incredibly hard, to secure four Spring Weeks in her first year, and multiple internships whilst at university, which she successfully converted into a graduate offer at Citi in Global Markets. At King's, she set up a campaign to help students afford expensive core textbooks, and was heavily involved in other societies. In summer 2018, she volunteered at upReach, working on multiple projects to improve impact, and presenting her findings to the trustee board.





CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

Presented by Clare Hix, Producer/Director at the BBC
(including the 2019 documentary *"How to Break into the Elite"*)



Ashwinnie Thushyanthan
University of Southampton

Ashwinnie is a recent graduate from the University of Southampton making a strong start to a career in the fashion industry by securing a place on the Buying Graduate Scheme at The Flannels Group. Ashwinnie also had an international impact through working with five NGOs on empowerment projects.



Philippa Ancla Uden
University of Exeter

Philippa has overcome the loss of both parents at a young age to achieve huge educational success. Philippa used her creative talents and passion to study at the University of Exeter. She has successfully secured a marketing internship at Unilever and works as a theatre director and poet.



William Graydon
University of Sunderland

After spending time in care as a teenager, William fought against the odds and is now in the final year of a Media Production degree at the University of Sunderland. Despite suffering the loss of close family members during his time at Sunderland, William has thrived in his studies and sought every opportunity to inspire others.



Tito Mogaji-Williams,
University of Bath

Tito draws inspiration from his mother, who raised him alone in a Nigerian home in East London. She instilled the curiosity and ambition that led him to become a freelance journalist, Chair of the University of Bath Race Equality Network, and achieve a year-long sales internship in San Francisco followed by a summer placement at Ogilvy.



GOVERNMENT, POLITICS AND THE PUBLIC SECTOR

Presented by Mat Illic, Former Special Adviser to the Prime Minister, and Chief Development Officer, Catch22



Esme Lillywhite
University of Exeter

Esme earned a first class degree in Politics at the University of Exeter. Despite working part time throughout her degree Esme took part in a leadership challenge in Mumbai and volunteered to support GCSE students from disadvantaged backgrounds. She is currently completing a Masters in International Development at Sciences Po in Paris.



Hannah Bain
University of Southampton

Following Hannah's academic success at the University of Southampton, she is now having an impact in the Civil Service. On the Ministry of Justice Summer Diversity Internship Programme, she has gone above and beyond to arrange initiatives that celebrate women in leadership.



Shauna Roberts
Newcastle University

Shauna has overcome dyslexia and the need to work a part time job, and has been awarded a First Class Integrated Masters Degree in Biomedical Sciences at Newcastle University. She has now successfully attained a place on the highly competitive NHS Graduate Management Training Scheme.



Thomas Leach
University of Nottingham

Thomas returned to education at 27 following a series of jobs that were not satisfying his potential. He has gone on to achieve a first class degree in Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham. Following two internships and a Student Union role, he has now started a placement on the highly competitive Speaker's Parliamentary Placement Scheme.



LAW

Presented by Vimal Tilakapala, Partner at Allen & Overy



Ahlaam Said
School of Oriental and African Studies

Ahlaam attended one of the worst performing schools in West London, but through her positive mindset and determination to succeed, she gained a place to study Law at SOAS and has secured a training contract at Osborne Clarke. Alongside her studies, she works as an Outreach Student Ambassador to help students from similar backgrounds achieve their full potential.



Muhamad Muhamad
University of Warwick

Despite Muhamad attending one of the worst secondary schools in the country and facing language barriers due to his refugee background, he excelled academically and achieved the highest grades in his sixth-form for his A-Levels. His determination to succeed and improve life for his family has continued at university, where he dedicates himself to his studies and helping other students. This perseverance paid off this summer when he deservedly gained a training contract at White & Case.



Emma Burton
University of Exeter

Emma is a future trainee solicitor at Baker McKenzie, and comes from a state school background and low income family. After having no success with applications in her first year, she spent her second year at university improving her employability skills and career knowledge, whilst also excelling in her studies to achieve a Dean's Commendation. She gained a place on two summer vacation schemes, and successfully secured a training contract at the end of the year.



Eva Browning
University of Manchester

Eva uses her challenging experiences to help others. Her dissertation highlighted how individuals from 'non-traditional' backgrounds struggle in elite universities, which she dedicated to her late mother. Her dissertation achieved the second highest grade in her cohort, and she attained a 1st overall in her degree. Eva now juggles a full-time role in family law with part-time work supporting a non-profit organisation supporting others in similar situations.

Are you an undergraduate eligible for upReach's support?

upReach provide a free, comprehensive programme to help you achieve your career ambitions, including:

- Personalised support from a dedicated Programme Coordinator
- Expert CV and Application Reviews
- Mock Interviews and Assessment Centres
- Exclusive opportunities with top employers
- Online platform to boost your career knowledge and commercial awareness
- Our Associates have secured roles at 55 'Times Top 100' firms.
- Average salary over £5,500 more than the average graduate (2016).

Find out if you are eligible and apply now at
www.upreach.org.uk/apply-now/





PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND CONSULTING

Presented by Stephanie Lieber, former Deloitte Partner, and Head of Programmes & Impact at upReach



Fatima Patel
University of Warwick

Fatima has completed internships in Financial Journalism with Bloomberg and Investment Banking at NatWest Markets. After completing a Professional Experience Week at Deloitte, she converted this into a graduate job offer in Audit. Fatima has also represented the UK in Argentina, competing in the international finals for KPMG's Innovation and Collaboration Challenge.



Rakib Anand
University of Liverpool

Rakib was placed in local authority care where he completed his A-Levels. He received a scholarship when he began medical school in 2014. Rakib switched his degree to Economics to follow his dream of working in Banking and Finance and worked a summer internship with Lloyds. He is now at Deloitte on a graduate programme in Corporate Finance.



Jacob Rix
University College London

Jacob has overcome significant barriers. Despite being a young carer, he achieved one of the top results at his school for GCSEs. Although he was severely ill, he self-taught much of his A-Levels and became the first of his family to attend university. His determination and desire to succeed have seen him earn a graduate job at Deloitte, working in Strategy and Analytics.



Robert Saul-Georgel
University of Exeter

Despite growing up in a single parent family and suffering from poor health during his A-Levels, Robbie has always remained focussed and ambitious. He recently won the McKinsey Solvett consulting competition, graduated with a first-class degree, and gained graduate offers from KPMG, North Highland and Deloitte.



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS

Presented by Reggie Nelson, upReach Mentor



Abbie McCarrick
University of Liverpool

Abbie was the highest performing student in her year at her secondary school and one of the first Head Coaches at her University's Career Coaching Programme. Abbie has represented her University internationally in Nepal and Amsterdam where she completed a research project in Condensed Matter Physics and won the Amsterdam Sustainable Business Challenge.



Sandra Addai
University of Bristol

Overcoming severe personal circumstances, Sandra has excelled at university in numerous extra-curricular roles. Notably, she has secured positions to enhance her career prospects: two spring weeks and an internship in China during her penultimate year. She has also successfully completed an introductory course in web development with CodeFirst:Girls, having built PCs as a hobby in the past. Sandra hopes to secure a graduate position in technology.



Callum White
University of Birmingham

Callum received nine awards for academic merit and contribution to school life, and went on to achieve the highest overall mark of all undergraduate civil engineering students across the country. He demonstrates his resolve to break down barriers by volunteering as a STEM ambassador and a mentor, as well as at university open days.



Sophie Lee
Lancaster University

Despite Sophie suffering from illness in school, she has thrived at university and won numerous academic awards including The Women into Science Accolade for outstanding female academic performance in STEM-related subjects. She has also secured a place on a highly competitive field trip to the Amazon.

aspire Teacher

Recognises the teacher who has made an outstanding contribution to the success of sixth formers from less-advantaged backgrounds

Presented by Professor Dame Alison Peacock, Chief Executive, Chartered College of Teaching



Christopher Tsannos
Hertswood Academy

Christopher goes above and beyond for his students. Through extra contact hours and organising work experience placements, he ensures his students do not feel constrained by their backgrounds, and instead leave school feeling empowered and supported. He aims to give students the confidence to create a path in life and pursue it.



James Handscombe
Harris Westminster
Sixth Form

James' vision as the Principal of Harris Westminster has seen students from some of London's most deprived areas enjoy the benefits of a world class start in life. Thanks to the tireless work of James and his team, the school has helped hundreds of students achieve outstanding academic success and opened their eyes to a world of possibilities.



Nusrath Sharmin
Coopers' Company
and Coborn School

Nusrath has had a very personal impact on her students, helping even those in the most challenging of circumstances to achieve their goals. She builds relationships based on hopeful words, relentless action and ongoing support, this inspires students to achieve more than they ever believed that they could.

Best Mentor

Recognising an individual who has made a significant contribution to improving the employability of students from less-advantaged backgrounds.

Presented by Hannah Stoddart, Sector Programmes & Mentoring Manager, upReach



Robbie Fox
University of Bristol
Careers Service

Robbie has worked for the University of Bristol Careers Service for 14 years and is committed to helping students from 'non-traditional' backgrounds make the most of their time there. To that end, he designed a new mentoring programme at Bristol, pairing students from disadvantaged backgrounds with the University's alumni.



Daniel Lister
Deloitte

Daniel has worked hard at Deloitte to enhance the employability of students from less advantaged backgrounds. As a strong believer in mentoring partnerships, he recognises mentorship as a truly collaborative exercise. He is keen to highlight how the drive and ambition of students is an inspiration to their mentors.



Ross Stephen Taylor
Morgan Stanley

Ross has worked tirelessly to support his mentees, consistently going above and beyond to support the young people that he works with. Open, approachable and incredibly generous with his time, Ross has made a huge difference to his mentees.



Tanya Epstein
Bank of America

The experience and insights that Tanya has shared from her career have been greatly appreciated by her mentee while the care and attention she has offered have been a source of support in tough times. Tanya finds the mentoring experience hugely rewarding and enjoys seeing hidden talents emerge for the world to see.



Highest Impact University Initiative

Recognising a university initiative that has improved the future prospects and/or employability skills of students from less-advantaged backgrounds, as voted for by students

Presented by Gemma Exelby, University Partnerships Manager, upReach



Access to Your Career, University of Birmingham



On this programme, students from less-advantaged backgrounds work with local employers to solve real business problems, and gain insights into employers through 'Company Treks'. A bursary scheme of up to £2000 enables students to access work experience opportunities, including abroad, that may have previously been closed to them.

Careers+ Micro-Placements, Birmingham City University



The Careers+ Micro-Placements Programme offers students predominantly from disadvantaged backgrounds funded, flexible, short-term placements. The 2019 pilot saw 132 students completing placements against a target of 100, and involved over 80 West Midlands employers. 83% of participants were from disadvantaged backgrounds and will continue to be supported throughout the remainder of their degree.

Enhanced Third Term, Manchester Metropolitan University



Enhanced Third Term aims for students to become confident applying their skills in a broad field, and to co-create their educational experience. Through participation in Third Term activities on campus and with employers, as well as reflective work, students are able to demonstrate the learning outcomes they have and gain 30 academic credits to carry forward into their next academic year.

Capital Connections Programme, Lancaster University



Capital Connections works with first and penultimate year undergraduates to increase their social and cultural capital. Through employer visits in Manchester and London, students develop professional networks, broaden horizons and increase confidence to compete in the graduate labour market. 77% felt more confident about making applications for graduate jobs or internships.

Crankstart Internship Programme, University of Oxford



This programme is designed to improve the future prospects and employability skills of students. Participants are encouraged to find work experience and can access support from programme staff, funding for their internship, and exclusive opportunities including with organisations such as the United Nations.

First Generation Scholarship, Manchester Metropolitan University



Manchester Metropolitan works with local college students interested in going to university who are the first in their families to do so. Participants are supported in accessing and transitioning to university, through a range of activities including a four-day residential. Although students are not required to apply to this university, any who do so receive continued financial and professional support.

GradVantage, City, University of London



GradVantage provides final-year students from disadvantaged backgrounds with employability support and an opportunity to network with SMEs. This involves career readiness workshops, 1:1 career coaching and speed recruitment events where students interview for graduate internships. In 2018/19, 75 students benefited from the Programme and 10 successfully obtained paid graduate employment.

Professional Pathways Programme, University of Exeter



The Professional Pathways Programme provides an opportunity for students to undertake a training week delivered by industry experts, followed by a paid internship with a company within that sector. Students develop strong networks and learn from experts in their field. 64 students from less-advantaged backgrounds were involved in 2018/19, giving universally positive feedback.

Sanctuary Scholarship, University of Bristol



Since 2016 the University of Bristol has provided 38 scholarships to students living in the UK from forced migration backgrounds. Through fee waivers and stipends, the scheme aims to remove barriers in accessing Higher Education for asylum seekers and refugees. Students apply to the scheme from a wide range of countries and subject interests.

Politics in Action, Royal Holloway



Politics in Action is an assessed full-unit undergraduate module, which offers finalists the opportunity to gain experience in politics-related workplace environments. Through a combination of work experience, one-to-one meetings and workshops, students are supported to develop key transferable skills, increase their knowledge of the public sector and grow in confidence.

Bradford Mobility Initiative, Queens' College, Cambridge



The initiative has embedded outreach staff in the local community in response to patterns of a low number of applications from this area. Their Schools Liaison Officer has built partnerships with local schools and organisations to deliver application support and outreach initiatives, resulting in a 50% increase in applications.

We Care, University of Sunderland



We Care supports estranged students to access and progress in Higher Education. Students receive bespoke personalised support based on their individual needs, and a £2,000 bursary. This has had a huge impact on student retention, with only 6 estranged students dropping out last academic year - significantly below the national average.

Future Charity Leaders Programme

upReach **2019**
Charity of the Year **Winner**

The UK's leading Charity Graduate Scheme at an Award-Winning Employer

The upReach Future Charity Leaders Programme (FCLP) is a unique 2.5 year graduate scheme combining rotations in key areas of charity management, with supporting university students on upReach's personalised programmes.

Student support: 4 days per week

Help boost social mobility by providing personalised career support to 80 undergraduates from less-advantaged backgrounds, planning events and liaising with our partners and funders.

Charity Management Rotations: 1 day per week, 6 months per rotation

Fundraising



Design & Marketing



Social media



Volunteer Management



HR & Governance



Events Management



Policy & Research



External Affairs



Social Impact Measurement



Technology



Finance



Partnerships



How can Universities partner with upReach to close the Progression Gap?

The challenge:

Students from working class backgrounds who achieve a first class degree are less likely to enter a top occupation than those from more privileged backgrounds at the same University who achieve a 2.2.

Sam Friedman, The Class Ceiling

The research is consistent with IFS research that shows a 10% earnings differential for students studying the same course at the same university, and data from individual universities

that show gaps in both employment and average salaries. The Progression Gap is due to an Employability Skills Gap, whereby disadvantaged students have typically had less access to work experience, professional networks, extra-curricular activities and career advice, which are critical to their success in a competitive graduate labour market.

Partnering with upReach

upReach work in close partnership with universities to help them achieve their progression goals. Effective collaboration with Widening Participation and Careers Services are crucial to our success. Specifically, upReach's comprehensive programme of professional development helps universities increase the proportion of students from a WP background that

secure internships and graduate jobs. Through personalised support from a dedicated Programme Coordinator, and a range of exclusive opportunities with our partner employers, upReach help engage students, broaden horizons, raise aspirations and help students develop the skills, networks and experience they need to succeed. Our close partnerships with employers in a diverse range of sectors provide exclusive work experience and paid internships, and unlimited Insight Days all over the country with travel expenses reimbursed. Trained mentors from our partners are matched according to individual student needs.

On average, upReach Associates are 5 times more likely to be successful in applications to the employers we work with. A detailed Impact Report is available on our website. upReach Associates are at 53 universities.

upReach would like to thank our Partner Universities including:



Engaging Students with their Employability

upReach's Graduate Employability Framework (GEF) was developed in 2015 by upReach in consultation with top graduate employers, universities and sector experts. Designed to provide a real-time picture of employability skill development, the GEF underpins upReach's programmes of professional development support and ensures that students on our programmes develop the skills needed to succeed in the world of work. It provides a level from 1 to 5 in each of ten areas, allowing students to understand their employability strengths and development areas.



Name: Matthew

University: Lancaster

Subject Studied: Physics

upReach Associate:

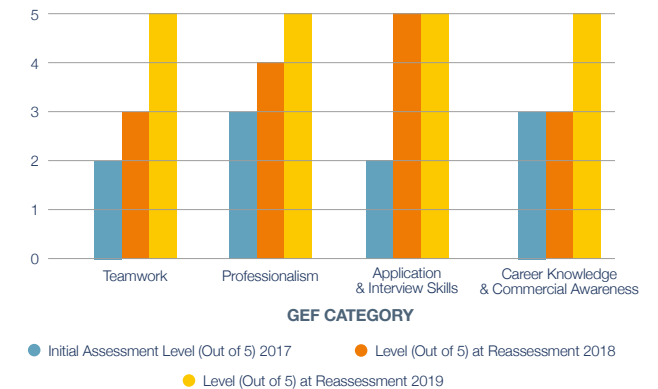
Since October 2017

Success: 1st year Spring Week, summer internship and graduate offer at an elite firm.

"The resources I had access to through upReach were invaluable in allowing me to develop my key employability skills. When I joined upReach I lacked commercial awareness, and they helped me develop this through video forums, pairing me with a professional mentor and regular skills workshops and employer events."

Tracking Associate Progress Using the Graduate Employability Framework:

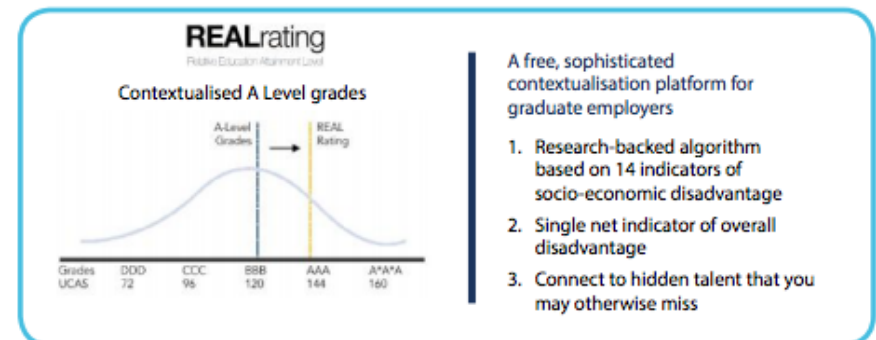
Growth in Key Employability Skill Areas During Time with upReach



Contextualising Academic Performance

"A Level grades can only be considered to be a robust measure of potential if they are considered alongside the context in which they are achieved"

Chris Millward, Director for Fair Access and Participation, Office for Students



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Biggest Champion of Social Mobility

This award recognises students who have made a significant contribution to tackling social mobility. This could involve speaking at events, supporting their University Widening Participation department, or setting up initiatives in their own time to improve social mobility on a local or national level.

Presented by Jonny Briggs, Global Head of Talent Acquisition and Inclusion, Aviva.



Sabina Shaqiri
King's College London

Sabina spent two summers volunteering at the social mobility charity, upReach, improving the breadth and quality of online employability resources to improve the chances of career success for students from less-advantaged backgrounds. She founded a campaign to get subsidised textbooks for less well-off students, and tutored under-performing students. After securing a graduate role at a top investment bank, she continued to support others to follow in her footsteps.



Mohamed Ahmed
University College London

Mohamed has been an exemplary figure in co-founding a mobile barbering service, Tapercutz, and setting up the "no blades just fades" initiative. He aims to develop the employability skills of 16-18 year olds in the local community with an emphasis on steering them away from knife crime, and aims to spread his initiative to four additional London boroughs by 2020.



Layla Kouara
University of Leeds

Despite the large responsibility of caring for her mother and numerous challenges, Layla's achievements are significant. Having secured her placement year working as a research assistant at the Centre for Immersive Technologies in Leeds, she is well on her way to graduating with top grades, whilst establishing a social enterprise which raises the aspirations of local disadvantaged Key Stage 4 pupils.



Ibrahim Mohammed
University of Cambridge

Ibrahim is currently studying to become an Education Lawyer. Despite significant barriers, he now inspires other individuals who face similar challenges, he has mentored 72 under-represented individuals, was appointed Equality & Diversity Officer and was awarded 'Outstanding Student Contribution Award'. He also has a Youtube channel where advice and guidance is given on applying to university, which has been recognised by the BBC, The Guardian and many more.



Christopher Cooper
University of York

Despite a traumatic childhood, Christopher made a conscious decision to turn his life around. Aged 23, he met an inspirational student from the University of York, without whom he could well be in a very different place. Because of this, he established "Role Models Yorkshire", to inspire children from low socio-economic backgrounds to do more with their lives.



Mary Bonsu
University of Oxford

Mary is the daughter of Ghanaian immigrants and first in her family to go to university. She regularly speaks on BBC Radio about social and racial inequality within access to Education. She has active roles as Senior Access & Outreach officer of the Oxford African & Caribbean Society, a Target Oxbridge mentor, a Linklaters Oxford Law Ambassador and an Undergraduate Admissions and Outreach Ambassador.



Bernard Mensah speaking to students at the Student Social Mobility Awards Launch, June 2019



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The upReach Ten

The top ten students who have achieved, or have the highest potential to achieve, outstanding success academically, professionally and/or personally. This could be demonstrated by resilience, initiative, work experience, holding significant leadership roles, or by efforts made to boost their employability in unique and innovative ways.

Presented by Bernard Mensah, President of Bank of America (UK and CEEMA).

10



Angelica Olawepo,
London School of Economics
and Political Science

Angelica acts as a mentor and role model for students from less-advantaged backgrounds who are navigating the university experience. She successfully founded the Sophie Foundation, runs her own YouTube educational influencer channel "Angeliculture", and has been fostering efforts to tackle social mobility since becoming her borough's first ever Young Mayor in 2015.



Eva Browning,
University of Manchester

Eva uses her challenging experiences to help others. Her dissertation highlighted how individuals from 'non-traditional' backgrounds struggle in elite universities, which she dedicated to her late mother. Her dissertation achieved the second highest grade in her cohort, and she attained a first class degree. Eva now juggles a full-time role in family law with part-time work supporting a non-profit organisation supporting others in similar situations.



Ibrahim Mohammed,
University of Cambridge

Ibrahim Mohammed, University of Cambridge
Ibrahim is currently studying to become an Education Lawyer. Despite significant barriers, he now inspires other individuals who face similar challenges, he mentored 72 under-represented individuals, was appointed Equality & Diversity Officer and was awarded 'Outstanding Student Contribution Award'. He also has a Youtube channel where advice and guidance is given on applying to university, which has been recognised by the BBC, The Guardian and many more.



Muhammad Arkam Babar,
King's College London

Arkam was part of a campaign which overturned the law preventing young migrants who had grown up in the UK being eligible for student loans. He also campaigned for universities to make scholarships for students in this situation, as a result, received the Sanctuary Scholarship from King's. At university, Arkam won a Desmond Tutu Scholarship, the Outstanding Student Collaboration Award and the Jelf Medal for academic achievement.



Muhamad Muhamad,
University of Warwick

Despite Muhamad attending one of the worst secondary schools in the country and facing language barriers due to his refugee background, he excelled academically and achieved the highest grades in his sixth-form for his A-Levels. His determination to succeed and improve life for his family has continued at university, where he dedicates himself to his studies and helping other students. This perseverance paid off this summer when he deservedly gained a training contract at White & Case.



Sandra Addai,
University of Bristol

Overcoming severe personal circumstances, Sandra has excelled at university in numerous extra-curricular roles. Notably, she has secured positions to enhance her career prospects: two spring weeks and an internship in China during her penultimate year. She has also successfully completed an introductory course in web development with CodeFirst:Girls, having built PCs as a hobby in the past. Sandra hopes to secure a graduate position in Technology.



Shauna Roberts,
Newcastle University

Shauna has overcome dyslexia and the need to work a part time job, and has been awarded a First Class Integrated Masters Degree in Biomedical Sciences at Newcastle University. She has now successfully attained a place on the highly competitive NHS Graduate Management Training Scheme.



Thomas Leach,
University of Nottingham

Thomas returned to education at 27 following a series of jobs that were not satisfying his potential. He has gone on to achieve a first class degree in Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Nottingham. Following two internships and a Student Union role, he has now started a placement in the Leader of the Opposition's Parliamentary office.



Victoria Ayodeji,
University of Cambridge

Despite growing up in a single parent household in London's most deprived boroughs, Victoria achieved A* A* A* at A-Level and went on to secure a place at Cambridge University. At 16, she spoke at the Theatre Royal with an audience of 2,000 and recently at the Houses of Parliament. As an intern she was nominated for the Accenture Community Champion award and out of 600 students was awarded the Queens' College Cyril Bibby Prize.



William Carter,
University of Bristol

From winning the 'London Schools and the Black Child' award in 2016, William co-founded Phillennials at the University of Bristol, which advocates for political philosophy education in schools. He has spoken at Commonwealth Parliamentarians Forum 2018 and the EU-Council of Europe Symposium whilst winning a study-abroad place at the prestigious University of California Berkeley.

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The Outstanding Achievement Award

This award will go to the student who has achieved the most, as determined by the Judging Panel and a student vote

Presented by Bernie Mensah, President of Bank of America (UK and CEEMA)



THANK YOU

upReach would like to thank everyone involved for their generous support of the Student Social Mobility Awards, without which the event would not have been possible

Judging Panel

A huge thank you to our independent Judging Panel, comprised of leading representatives from the fields of politics, academia, education and business. We are very grateful to all the judges for their support.



Dr Louise Ashley
Senior Lecturer and social mobility expert; specialist in researching the implementation and development of diversity and inclusion programmes in large, multinational professional service firms



Anush Newman
Managing Partner of JMAN Group



Valentina Quintero
Assistant Project Manager at Lendlease, upReach Trustee and Alumni



Saeed Atcha
MBE DL CEO of Youth Leads, Deputy Lieutenant of Greater Manchester and Government Social Mobility Commissioner



Andy Ratcliffe
CEO of Impetus Private Equity Foundation



Fatima Benkhalel
upReach Associate at King's College London and host of the 2018 SSMA



Owain Service
Former Managing Director of the Behavioural Insights Team and upReach Trustee



Paul Kissack
UK Government Director General, formerly at the Department for Education responsible for children's services and early years policy; and most recently Deputy Chief Executive at New Zealand's Ministry for Children



Nero Ughwujabo
Former Special Adviser to The Prime Minister at 10 Downing Street, on Social Justice, Young People and Opportunities. Former CEO of the Croydon BME Forum



Reggie Nelson
Investment Management Analyst at LGIM and Group Chair of ACCA Emerging Talent Advisory Group



Sponsors and Supporters

Our Sponsors and Supporters have not only covered the costs of hosting the event in full, but have also helped to ensure that shortlisted nominees from all over the UK have been able to attend at no cost, with their travel expenses refunded.

In particular we would like to thank:

Baroness Helena Kennedy QC

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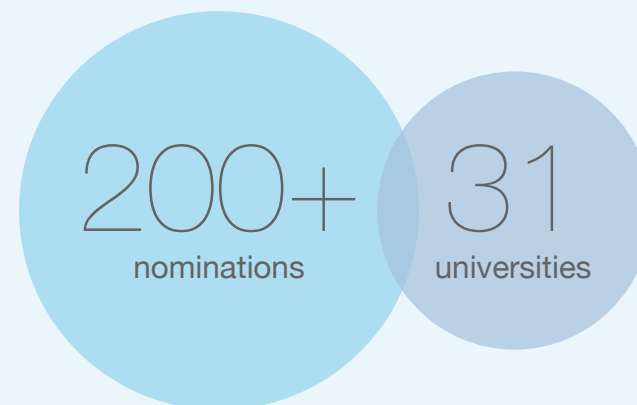
DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO SOCIAL MOBILITY?

upReach have ambitious plans to grow our impact. With your help, we can support 2,500 students per year by 2022. If you're interested to know more about our 2022 strategy, please get in touch.



To find out more, visit www.upreach.org.uk/get-involved or email team@upreach.org.uk

The Student Nominees



79%
parents did not
attend university

62%
eligible for free
school meals

42%
IMD (Deprivation)
deciles 1-3

27%
POLAR4
quintiles 1-2

19%
caring
responsibilities

17%
school performance
deciles 1-3

upReach are only able to achieve our impact due to generous support of donors. These individuals play an essential role in our progress in boosting social mobility. Join them and help us support more students, to reach our goal of working with 2,500 students by 2022:



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**Nominations were received
from all over England and Wales**



- Student home town
- University attended

upReach

Working in partnership with leading
graduate employers and universities
to boost social mobility

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