

MAKING

waves

The termly magazine Summer 2019



West Thames
College London

Celebrating success

Talent on
show during
Creative
Arts Season.

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Science student
wins place at
Oxford.

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Footballers
are surpassing
expectations.

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Start
here,
go far

Welcome to West Thames College.

Work Experience, Employability & Careers Manager **Martina Greeves** welcomes you to the Summer edition of Making Waves.

Dear Reader

We're really proud of what our students achieve at West Thames College, both on their programmes of study as well as outside the classroom. This edition of Making Waves highlights some recent achievements.

- The college's Creative Arts Season showcased the talents of students in the Visual & Performing Arts and Media [pages 4-5](#)
- Nesrin came to West Thames College in 2015 speaking very little English. Now she's won a place at Oxford [page 6](#)
- Construction students built a pop-up juice and cocktail bar for London's Southbank Centre [page 7](#)
- Our talented footballers are going far on the Brentford FC Elite Development programme [page 10](#)
- Logistics apprentice Sarah Griffiths has been awarded a prestigious bursary [page 11](#)

We are a vibrant college inspiring all our learners to achieve their dreams and ambitions. Come along to enrolment starting on **Thursday 22 August** to begin your journey to success with us.

Yours sincerely,
Martina Greeves



100+ COURSES

IN 24 COURSE AREAS

GREAT WORK EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES



EXCELLENT LINKS WITH EMPLOYERS



HIGH ACHIEVEMENT AND PROGRESSION RATES



STATE OF-THE-ART FACILITIES

COURSES TAUGHT BY INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS



Start here, go far

#StartHereGoFar

Highlights from Creative Arts Season



The annual Creative Arts Season celebrates our students' hard work and talent, giving them a chance to show what they've achieved in spectacular shows and exhibitions.

For the Specialist Makeup graduate show *See and Be Seen*, students designed a unique look incorporating hair, makeup and costume inspired by one of seven themes: literary subjects, virtual reality, the natural world, cultural traits, historical portraiture, city life, war and death.

Performing Arts students presented powerful pieces *A Way Out*, *In* and *A Handbag*, while our Dance students' outstanding performance, *Society in the Modern World*, showcased their talent in urban and contemporary dance.

Music students awed the audience with their production *Behind the Mind*. Media students took part in showreel events, and the work of art and design students was featured in exhibitions open to the public.

If you are interested in a creative career, visit our website west-thames.ac.uk for more details of our courses.



See highlights from our Specialist Makeup show filmed by Simona Zinevičiūtė youtu.be/8YU75jsADzM

Science student earns a place at Oxford



When Nesrin Alhasan arrived at West Thames College in 2015, she knew very little English and joined our ESOL Threshold programme. Nesrin excelled in English and soon completed her GCSEs, progressing to Level 3 Applied Science.

Alongside her course, Nesrin worked as a student ambassador, representing the college at Open Events, had a part-time job as a teaching assistant, and completed all the units of her course with distinctions.

She won two awards in 2019: Outstanding Academic Achievement and Science Student of the Year. Her hard work and determination has paid off – she has been offered a place to study biomedical science at Oxford University.

“West Thames College provided me with all the support, motivation, skills and experience that I need to succeed in the future,” Nesrin says.



Freshly juiced

Last year, Level 1 and 2 students at the Skills+Logistics Centre worked on an exciting project that saw them build and paint a large kiosk for a pop-up juice bar.

Daniel Gently, owner of Elephant Juice, commissioned the project. It was built by carpentry students and decorated by painting and decorating students before installation at London's Southbank Centre.

The kiosk was so successful that this year Elephant Juice commissioned a bigger L-shaped structure to serve juice, smoothies and cocktails, and other companies have expressed an interest in commissioning kiosks from our students.

Elephant Juice Bar is on Queen's Walk, under Hungerford Bridge, until Sunday 23 September. It's open from 11am to 11pm and offers juices and smoothies made fresh on the stall. Why not drop by and grab yourself a healthy drink?



COLLEGE ALL-STARS

Summer term is awards season – when West Thames College marks the achievements of our students and staff.



On Wednesday 26 June we held a traditional graduation ceremony for students completing higher education courses at the college.



The annual Student Awards Ceremony – held this year on Thursday 4 July – honours students who have achieved academic excellence, as well as those who overcome difficulties in order to succeed or go out of their way to help others.

Our guest speakers, former students Samuel Benta and Josephine Balfour-Oatts, presented certificates to the award-winning students.



Our Staff Awards ceremony is an opportunity to recognise just a few of our inspiring staff – from teachers who always look for new ways to help students learn, to support staff who provide an outstanding service to the college, our students and their colleagues.



Oscar Yong, Uniformed Public Services Student of the Year and recipient of the Contribution to the College Award, is a truly exemplary student.

Oscar has participated in community events including the 2019 Association of Colleges Sport National Championships and received praise for his involvement in Leaders Unlocked, an organisation that campaigns for a greater voice for young people and looks at key issues such as knife crime in London.

He is keen to progress to studying law and criminology at university and has secured impressive work experience through the Debate Chamber Law Summer School and with the Crown Prosecution Service.

In addition to all these activities, Oscar worked extremely hard to achieve distinctions in all of his units and volunteered as a course representative. He has been elected as 2019-20 Student Union President at West Thames College.

Young footballers start here, go far

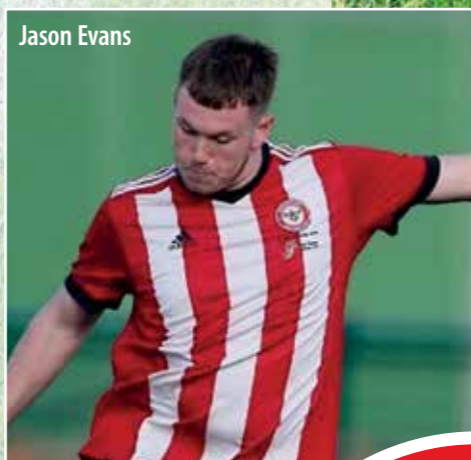
Students Jan Zamburek and Jason Evans are surpassing expectations playing for Brentford FC as part of the Brentford FC Elite Development course.

Jan made club history as one of the youngest players born this century to play in the Championship. About the feeling of stepping onto the pitch for the first time, Jan said:

"I was so excited and also a little bit nervous. When I stepped onto the pitch I started to feel like in a normal game and also, my teammates helped me a lot."



Meanwhile, Jason has been shortlisted for the Community Education Football Alliance (CEFA) at the prestigious English Football League Awards.



Ten students from our Brentford FC Elite programme have signed professional contracts with teams such as Leeds, Bournemouth, Stevenage and Brentford. Others have signed semi-professional terms or embarked on 100% scholarships at American colleges.

To find out more about the Brentford FC Elite Development programme, visit our website west-thames.ac.uk or phone 020 8326 2020.

FOOTBALL TRIALS WILL BE ON 30 AUG

APPLY TODAY!

Apprentice wins prestigious bursary

Starting in the 16th century, the Carmen – a livery company and historic guild of the City of London – has supported training in many fields, including transport.

The Carmen has been looking to present a livery bursary to a logistics apprentice who has demonstrated exemplary work. They chose Sarah Griffiths, Level 3 Freight Forwarding Apprentice at the college's Skills+Logistics Centre, as the first recipient of a £500 bursary towards work-related costs.

In July Master Carmen Stephen Britt presented Sarah with the award and Mike Brown, Commissioner of Transport for London, congratulated her for her hard work, praising her "exemplary skills through the 60 tasks she is completing."

MP Nusrat Ghani spoke about the importance of new apprenticeships offered through partnerships such as the Logistic Skills Alliance based at West Thames College. "We need to attract talent from all areas...the sector has made progress in diversity and inclusion."

For more information about apprenticeships, please visit west-thames.ac.uk or phone 020 8326 2020.



Start here, go far



The Like Switch by
Olivia Cox, Level 3 Art & Design

Future Events

See our website or
follow us on social
media for more details.



2019

Isleworth Open Days

Wednesday 16 October
5-7pm

Saturday 9 November
10am-1pm

Thursday 5 December
5-7pm

Feltham Open Days

Thursday 5 November
5-7pm

Aspire Careers Event

Wednesday 11 December

2020

Isleworth Open Days

Wednesday 5 February
5-7pm

Saturday 14 March
10am-1pm

Wednesday 24 June
5-7pm

Feltham Open Days

Thursday 6 February
5-7pm

Thursday 12 March
5-7pm

Tuesday 23 June
5-7pm

Aspire Careers Event

Friday 6 March



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