

The Student Experience Awards 2026

Nominations Criteria

Student Awards

The Outstanding Student Rep Award

Overview: This award is for a Student Rep who is dedicated to representing their fellow students and who goes above and beyond to do so. Committed to finding innovative and sustainable solutions, this student will have engaged with relevant meetings and maintained contact with their peers, academic staff and The Students' Union. The winner of this award will have made significant contributions to implementing impactful changes in a positive and professional manner.

Eligibility: All Student Reps

Nominees could include:

- Student Reps who are visible and well-known to their cohorts
- Student Reps who have built strong partnerships with staff and students
- Student Reps who have raised feedback which has led to positive, impactful results.

We will give one award per college:

Outstanding Student Rep Award – CATE

Outstanding Student Rep Award – CBL

Outstanding Student Rep Award – CHSS

The Outstanding Lead School Rep Award

Overview: This award is for a Lead School Rep who has excelled in their role. A great leader with a clear vision, this student will have supported and inspired others, paving the way for positive changes. The winner of this award will have good networking and communication skills, the ability to balance the interests of all stakeholders and real dedication to representing the student voice at School-level.

Eligibility: Lead School Reps only (all Schools)

Nominees could include:

- LSRs who have implemented impactful sustainability or EDI projects
- LSRs who have utilised innovative feedback mechanisms or instigated creative collaborations

- LSRs who have brought their School together in a sense of community and belonging.

The Student Staff Award

Overview: This award celebrates the amazing students who are also staff at UWE or the Students' Union. These are students who work with dedication and passion to enhance the experience of their fellow students.

They might be behind the bar in Union 2, or in a yellow t-shirt during Welcome. They could even be one of your elected part-time officers, working on a volunteer basis to represent you at every level of university life.

Eligibility: Any student who is also staff.

Nominees could include:

- Student Ambassadors
- Students' Union shop or bar staff
- Peer Assisted Learning Mentors
- Students' Union casual staff

The Wellbeing Award

Overview: This award aims to recognise a student's contribution to wellbeing and welfare, empowering and educating others. They're passionate about wellness and helping other students to stay safe while at UWE. This student will have had a positive impact on others, either throughout the academic year or through the delivery of an event or activity.

Eligibility: All students

Nominees could include:

- Students involved with Late Night Do It Right
- Students in steering groups with our specialists: MJ Andarcia-Bravo and Becky Risley
- Students involved in society wellbeing activity, like fundraising for November.

The Sustainability Award

This award celebrates a student who has made a significant sustainable impact at UWE Bristol. Whether it's by tackling the climate emergency or promoting social justice campaigns in their community, they have paved the way for long-lasting change. A

green leader who is full of eco-friendly ideas, this student isn't afraid to tackle the big issues and has inspired others to make a difference – either through ongoing initiatives or impactful one-off events. The winner of this award will likely have actively worked to promote the UN's Sustainable Development Goals – directly or indirectly – generating awareness and action within the student community.

Eligibility: All students.

Nominations could include:

- Green Team members
- Super-engaged Reps
- Any student who has been actively involved in helping UWE Bristol or The Students' Union to achieve their sustainability goals.

The Inclusivity and Diversity Award

Overview: This award celebrates a student who has championed inclusivity and equal opportunities for all. Driven by equality, diversity, and inclusivity, this student will have raised awareness and fostered a sense of belonging by helping others to understand and celebrate our unique differences. This might also look like removing barriers for others, so that every aspect of UWE life is accessible to underrepresented groups.

Eligibility: All Students

Nominations could include:

- A student who makes sure sober socials are just as fun as non-sober ones,
- A student who fundraised for adaptable sports equipment, making sure everyone can play.
- A student who collaborated with other societies for culture exchange socials.

The Community Award

This is an award for a student who works to make their community stronger. They're someone who provides resources or opportunities to help their community flourish, or someone who advocates for their community either on or off campus. We recognise that some forms of activism carry more risk for particular groups, so this award aims to celebrate all the different forms of community activism, not just frontline protesting.

Eligibility: All students

Nominations could include:

- A Student activist who wrote to their MP, or took part in a vigil or memorial

- Maybe they organised an event for their community: maybe they started a wheelchair basketball league, led a taboo-breaking session on menstrual products, or started a queer choir.
- A Student who highlights their community or shares their perspective through poetry or art.

The Vice-Chancellor's Award

Overview: This award is for a student who has thrived at UWE Bristol, in the face of personal challenges. Embodying strength, resilience and perseverance, this student has overcome adversities and yet shown dedication to achieving their goals, either in academics or extracurricular activities. The winner of this award will be a true inspiration to others and a clear example that anything is possible.

Eligibility: All students.

Nominations could include:

- International students
- Mature students
- Disabled students
- Student parents
- Student carers
- Those in receipt of support from UWE Cares
- Any other student that The Vice Chancellor feels is an example of what success through hard work and determination can look like.

Staff Awards

The Outstanding Teacher Award

Overview: This award is for teaching staff who consistently produce outstanding teaching and learning experiences. They will fully embrace the latest technology and teaching methods to make their lectures immersive and interesting. They will be inventive and original in their style of teaching to enhance learning and teaching. The winner of this award will have used their skills, knowledge and creativity to become a truly inspirational teacher.

Eligibility: Teaching staff only

We will give one award per college:

The Outstanding Teacher Award - CATE

The Outstanding Teacher Award - CBL

The Outstanding Teacher Award - CHSS

The Teaching for Sustainability Award

This award is for a staff member who embraces education for sustainable development. This person will understand how students are exposed to the concepts of sustainable development across their programme of study and will encourage awareness of thinking from other disciplines and implement sustainability into their learning and teaching frameworks. They will ensure that students are given opportunities to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes which support sustainable development.

Eligibility: Academic staff.

The Support Staff Award

Overview: This award celebrates all those staff members who you don't see in the classroom but work tirelessly to ensure that every element of life at UWE Bristol runs smoothly. A friendly face who always has the time and space to offer their support – whether it's through answering students' questions or boosting their confidence, this staff member helps to make sure that students get the most out of their time at University.

Eligibility: Non-teaching staff only.

Nominees could include:

- Security
- Lab technicians
- Administrative staff
- Wellbeing practitioners
- Student Success Coaches
- Librarians
- Anyone else who has gone above and beyond to support a student during their time at UWE Bristol.

The Student Voice Award

Overview: This award is for a staff member who champions the student voice and encourages their students to have their thoughts and ideas heard. They actively engage

with the Representation system and create supportive spaces for students to deliver feedback. This staff member will demonstrate an understanding of the importance of putting student voice at the heart of decision making at UWE Bristol.

Eligibility: All staff.

Awards for Students and/or Staff

The Collaboration Award

Overview: This award celebrates a team of both students and staff who have worked together to deliver a campaign, project, activity or initiative that has had a positive impact on the student experience. They will have worked collaboratively and utilised the diverse perspectives and knowledge that a student and staff partnership can provide.

Eligibility: Groups/teams, faculties, or cross-institutional groups and networks that feature student-staff collaboration.

Nominations could include:

- Established student/staff groups such as committees or steering groups
- Individuals who have come together to create initiatives together as students and staff.

The Aisha Thomas Award

Overview: This award is to credit and recognise the members of our UWE community who have driven the work on decolonising the University so far, and who contribute to our institution-wide commitment to becoming actively anti-racist.

Eligibility: Any student or member of staff.

Nominations could include:

- Someone who contributed to the No More Silence Zine

- Someone who organised cultural showcase work.
- Someone who fundraised for charities that do anti-racist or decolonising work
- Someone who enriches their Club or Society through the exchange of culture.