

SCOTTISH



CIVIC  
TRUST

My  
Place

2020





# CELEBRATE TAKE ACTION ADVOCATE

## Our Vision:

*Thriving, beautiful and well cared for  
buildings and places, which help to  
support and sustain a high quality of life.*

## Our Mission:

*To celebrate Scotland's built environment, take action for  
its improvement and empower its communities.*

The Scottish Civic Trust's My Place Awards, Photography Competition and Mentoring are part of our work to get people in all of Scotland's communities involved in our built environment.

## Contents

<b>My Place Awards</b>	<i>page 3</i>
- Shortlist	<i>page 5</i>
- Nominated projects	<i>page 11</i>
<b>My Place Photography Competition</b>	<i>page 17</i>
- Primary School Category	<i>page 20</i>
- Secondary School Category	<i>page 23</i>
- Young Persons' Choice	<i>page 26</i>
<b>My Place Mentoring</b>	<i>page 27</i>

**To find out more, visit:  
[myplacescotland.org.uk](http://myplacescotland.org.uk)**

*Image (left): 'Reflections of Autumn' by Carla M.*

# My Place AWARDS 2020

The My Place Awards recognise community-led built environment projects that have transformed their locality.

The My Place Awards judge excellence in terms of design, community involvement and impact.

*"The My Place Awards celebrate local places and spaces and aim to empower Scotland's communities. The 2020 entries are inspiring examples of the difference passionate, determined communities and good design can make to Scotland's places."*

– Colin McLean, Chair of Judging Panel

*"The My Place Awards are such an important part of Scotland's celebration of places across the country, and the contribution communities have made to improving local areas. The Awards recognise very positive project outcomes for communities as well as highlighting challenges and the way in which these have been successfully overcome."*

– Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs, The Scottish Government

## How do I take part?

Nominations can be made by community groups responsible for built environment projects.

We encourage members of the public to get in touch with us on social media or by phone to suggest built environment projects that have made a difference in their town. We then contact the projects about submitting a nomination.

For further details and to see previous shortlisted entries visit:  
[myplacescotland.org.uk/about-my-place-awards](http://myplacescotland.org.uk/about-my-place-awards)

# My Place Awards



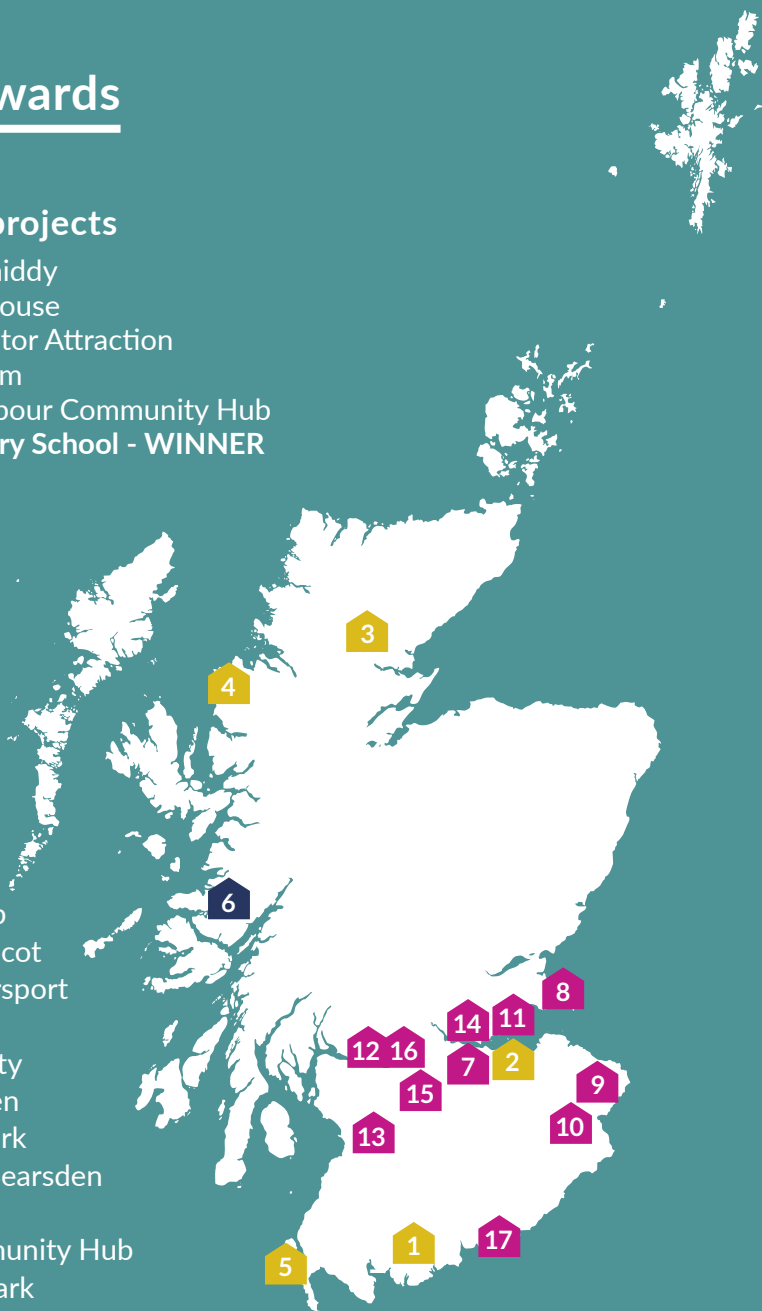
## Shortlisted projects

1. Balmaclellan Smiddy
2. Bridgend Farmhouse
3. Falls of Shin Visitor Attraction
4. Gairloch Museum
5. Portpatrick Harbour Community Hub
6. **Strontian Primary School - WINNER**



## Nominated projects

7. Broomhouse Community Hub
8. Crail Priory Doocot
9. Jim Clark Motorsport Museum
10. Kelso Community Memorial Garden
11. Kirkcaldy Old Kirk
12. Milngavie and Bearsden Men's Shed
13. Ochiltree Community Hub
14. Pierhead Play Park
15. Tolbooth Lanark
16. West Highland Way
17. WWI Centenary Memorial







1



*Images © Alan Smith*

#### **NOMINATED BY:**

Galloway Glens  
Landscape Partnership

#### **DESIGNER:**

John Crallen Architect

#### **CLIENT:**

Glenkens Community &  
Arts Trust

## **BALMACLELLAN SMIDDY**

### **Dumfries & Galloway**

This formerly derelict Galloway cottage has been given new life as a vibrant community hub. Recognising a sense of redundancy and neglect in the centre of Balmaclellan village, the community came together to brainstorm their needs for a new space. The people of Balmaclellan outlined a sustainable, accessible space that celebrated local heritage, provided training opportunities and offered space for local groups. The new building delivers all this and more, and has become the centre of village life. The building also enhances Balmaclellan's special sense of place by retaining the original Galloway Cottage exterior, complemented by a new-build extension to provide more space.

2



Images © John Nowak

### NOMINATED BY:

Bridgend Farmhouse

### DESIGNER:

Malcolm Fraser  
Architects, delivered by  
Halliday Fraser Munro

### CLIENT:

Bridgend Farmhouse

## BRIDGEND FARMHOUSE

### Edinburgh

Bridgend Farmhouse sits at the crossroads of three large housing estates, an area that has experienced high unemployment and poverty which has left a legacy of poor health, lack of affordable facilities and isolation. The farmhouse had fallen into disrepair in the early 2000s, until local residents recognised the site's key location and came together to pitch the idea of a community hub. Today, the sustainably-renovated farmhouse has saved a piece of local history and revamped the site with timber charring, interior designs and perimeter walls completed by volunteers. The space now has a kitchen providing healthy meals; a host of different workshops for woodworking, arts and crafts and bike hire; and over 80 regular volunteers.



3

**NOMINATED BY:**

Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust

**DESIGNER:** Catriona Hill  
of CH Architecture

**CLIENT:**

Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust

## FALLS OF SHIN VISITOR ATTRACTION

### Highland

The Falls of Shin are known for being one of the best places in Scotland to view salmon leaping upstream. After the original visitor centre was destroyed by fire in 2013, the local area suffered with the loss of a leading local employer. Recognising the need for regeneration, Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust secured funding to rebuild on the site and consulted the community about the new design. The new visitor attraction was opened in 2017 and is built mainly in timber, connecting the building to the surrounding pine forests. The site also includes educational panels, a restaurant, woodland trails and play area and has hosted events from business breakfasts to family fun days.

*Images © Kyle of Sutherland Development Trust*



# GAIRLOCH MUSEUM

## Highland

Gairloch Museum opened in 1977 to preserve and promote the history, culture and beauty of Gairloch. But by 2011, the original museum building, a converted farm steading, had an increasingly leaky roof and an irrevocably-ending lease. The museum needed a new home, so staff jumped on the opportunity to innovatively renovate Highland Council's redundant Roads Depot, originally a Cold War-era bunker. Through the generosity and determination of the community, Gairloch Museum raised money to re-clad, insulate and to cut cores in the 600mm-thick reinforced-concrete to let in natural light. Local people also contributed ideas for new displays and activities and the museum boasts a team of over 120 local volunteers.



**NOMINATED BY:**  
Gairloch & District  
Heritage Company Ltd

**DESIGNER:** LDN  
Architects: Peter McIlhenny

**CLIENT:**  
Gairloch & District  
Heritage Company Ltd



Images © Mark Appleton Photography





5



Images © Portpatrick  
Harbour CBS

### NOMINATED BY:

Portpatrick Harbour  
Community Benefit  
Society

**DESIGNER:** Robert Millar

**CLIENT:** Portpatrick  
Harbour Community  
Benefit Society

## PORTPATRICK HARBOUR COMMUNITY HUB

### Dumfries and Galloway

A row of old harbour sheds in Portpatrick have been transformed into a lovely community hub with a workshop, storage, harbour office, laundry/kitchenette and multi-function event space. The project was begun in 2015 with the formation of the Portpatrick Community Benefit Society, who used community shares to buy back the harbour from a property developer who had allowed the harbour to fall into disrepair. The society has 554 members who take an active role by patronising a weekly open forum to discuss maximum utilisation of the space. From car boot sales, quiz nights, barbeques and local heritage displays, there's something for everyone at the hub.

© Rona McIntyre



6



© Anthony MacMillan

**NOMINATED BY:**

Sunart Community  
Council

**DESIGNER:**

Kearney Donald  
Partnership

**CLIENT:**

Strontian Community  
School Building Ltd

## WINNER: STRONTIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

### Highland

Faced with the possibility of the village school becoming temporary modular units, parents and residents worried that the future of the Strontian was on shaky ground. Working with the Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust, they came up with a provocative idea: what if the community built a school and leased it to the Council? They set to work fundraising and tendering the construction, eventually choosing a design based on the footprint of four housing units. This gives the site the flexibility to be converted to quality, affordable housing in the future. The new school has transformed the educational experience of the pupils by providing more space, facilities, light and green space.

# BROOMHOUSE COMMUNITY HUB

Edinburgh

**NOMINATED BY:**

The Broomhouse Centre

**DESIGNER:** Russell Baxter Norr

**CLIENT:** The Broomhouse Centre

This new-build community centre replaced a smaller, existing one on the premises. Floor space has been doubled to include a large hall, cafe, commercial kitchen, studio, meeting space and more. The hub empowers the community to take control of the services and spaces that matter to them.



# CRAIL PRIORY DOOCOT

Fife

**NOMINATED BY:**

Crail Preservation Society

**DESIGNER:** Simpson & Brown

**CLIENT:** Crail Preservation Society

Crail Doocot is an A-listed, 16th century doocot (a structure for housing birds). Restoration began in 2014, when local school pupils assisted an archaeological dig on-site to inform the design. The doocot is now open to the public, with a repaired sandstone roof, new floors, lighting and interpretation panels to improve access.

# JIM CLARK MOTORSPORT MUSEUM

Scottish Borders

**NOMINATED BY:** Live Borders

**DESIGNER:** Ray Cherry / Scottish Borders Council

**CLIENT:** Live Borders

The museum celebrates Scotland's first Formula One world champion. Originally built as a villa in the Duns Conservation Area, the building has been extended and refurbished, providing an open floor plan for exhibitions. The new museum drew a record-breaking 13,000 visitors in 2019 and is supported by a team of local volunteers.



9

© Tony Marsh  
photography



10

© Harry Tomczyk

# KELSO COMMUNITY MEMORIAL GARDEN

Scottish Borders

**NOMINATED BY:**  
Kelso Community Council

**DESIGNER:**  
Alistair Finnie & Stuart Young

**CLIENT:** Kelso Community Council

The people of Kelso came together to develop a creative, beautiful way to honour friends and family who had passed away and had their ashes scattered elsewhere. They designed a garden as a dedicated memorial space, where people could come for tranquil reflection and to remember loved ones.



# KIRKCALDY OLD KIRK

Fife

**NOMINATED BY:**

Kirkcaldy Old Kirk Trust

**DESIGNER:** Stephen Newsom & Tom Morton of Arc Architects

**CLIENT:** Kirkcaldy Old Kirk Trust

The B-listed kirk has formed the heart of Kirkcaldy's streetscape since the 15th century. In 2010, when the Church of Scotland declared it surplus to requirements, 1,200 local people petitioned for the church to become a community space. It now hosts a heritage centre, non-denominational congregation and other events.



© Anne McIntyre

11

# MILNGAVIE AND BEARSDEN MEN'S SHED

East Dunbartonshire

**NOMINATED & DESIGNED BY:**

Milngavie and Bearsden Men's Shed

**CLIENT:**

Milngavie and Bearsden Men's Shed

When the Men's Shed inherited the Pagoda building, originally designed as a 1970s tennis pavilion, it was inhabited by pigeons and ridden with holes. The men renovated the space, installing insulation and roofing and designing a social area and workshops. The Men's Shed now conducts life-saving work by combating social isolation and loneliness.



© Milngavie and  
Bearsden Men's Shed

12

# OCHILTREE COMMUNITY HUB

East Ayrshire

**NOMINATED BY:**

Ochiltree Community Hub

**DESIGNER:** anderson bell + christie

**CLIENT:** Ochiltree Community Hub

The design of Ochiltree Community Hub was led by a residents' survey which was delivered and collected from each local house. The new building opened in 2019 with great local interest and has been used for birthday parties, yoga, football, table tennis, training, meetings and more, establishing it at the heart of the community.



13

© Ochiltree Hub



14

© David Neill

## PIERHEAD PLAY PARK

Fife

**NOMINATED BY:**

North Queensferry Community Trust

**DESIGNER:** Sutcliffe Play (Scotland)

**CLIENT:** Fife Council

In 2018, Pierhead Play Park fell into neglect and risked closure until local residents formed a Community Project Group. They secured funding and worked with local school pupils to design new play equipment. Now the park is a well-loved space with a nautical theme that aptly fits its location next to the River Forth.

# **TOLBOOTH LANARK**

South Lanarkshire

**NOMINATED BY:**

The Guildry of Lanark

**DESIGNER:** Stellan Brand Architects

**CLIENT:** Tolbooth Lanark

The Tolbooth Lanark was saved in 1992 when various local groups purchased the derelict building and carried out maintenance work. In 2018, the Tolbooth Lanark Trust redesigned the downstairs and upgraded facilities to encourage more community use. It is now a vibrant exhibition centre for local arts groups and well-used meeting space for local clubs.



15

© Tolbooth Lanark

# **WEST HIGHLAND WAY**

East Dunbartonshire

**NOMINATED BY:** Milngavie BID

**DESIGNER:** Page\Park Architects

**CLIENT:** Milngavie BID

Previously, walkers from around the world converging on Milngavie to embark on the West Highland Way were met by a tarmac ramp and blank gable. Local groups, residents and authorities launched a project to revamp the area by welcoming walkers with these beautiful steel panels depicting some of the most iconic images along the Way.



16

© Page\Park

# WW1 CENTENARY MEMORIAL

Dumfries and Galloway

**NOMINATED BY:** Eastriggs, Dornock and Creca Community Group

**DESIGNER:** Alexander McKay

**CLIENT:** Eastriggs, Dornock and Creca Memorial Garden

Eastriggs was built during WWI to provide housing and amenities for those employed at a nearby munitions factory. To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the war and Eastrigg's founding, the community council put on a public event, commemorating the milestone with a new memorial and time capsule.



## Judging Panel 2020

Colin McLean (Chair of Panel) – Chair, Scottish Civic Trust  
Ian Johnson – Retired strategic planner and heritage manager  
Beverley Ballin Smith – President, Archaeology Scotland  
John Mark Di Ciacca – Trustee, Scottish Civic Trust  
Les Scott – Senior Architect, Scottish Government  
Fiona Sinclair – Trustee, Scottish Civic Trust

## The My Place Awards are supported by:



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot



# My Place PHOTOGRAPHY

The My Place Photography competition is a Scotland-wide built environment photography competition for young people of school age. The theme for 2020 is water, in celebration of Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters.

The My Place Photography Competition encourages young people to explore the buildings, architecture and archaeology in the places they live, and experiment with using photography as a means of investigation and creative expression.

[myplacescotland.org.uk/  
my-place-photography](https://myplacescotland.org.uk/my-place-photography)



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**JESSOPS**  
image is everything



Photograph © Rachel Thibbotumunuwe

## How do I take part?

All young people of school age (4-18) in Scotland are eligible to enter this free competition. Entry is open not only to school classes, but also youth groups, clubs and home-educated young people. Group leaders or teachers must register as a member on [myplacescotland.org.uk](https://myplacescotland.org.uk) and then upload entries on behalf of their young people.

There are three awards categories:

- Primary school age
- Secondary school age
- Young Persons' Choice Award (judged by a young panel)

## Judging Panel 2020

Colin McLean – Photographer, and Chair of Scottish Civic Trust

Dr David Mitchell – Director of Conservation, Historic Environment Scotland

Phoebe Grigor – Photographer and Filmmaker

Katie Murray – Communities & Place Manager, Keep Scotland Beautiful

Calum Rennie – Architectural Designer, Civic Soup CIC



*The judges said, "The entries were a beautiful selection of images which demonstrate the creativity and perspective of young people, and their perception of the places and spaces where they live."*

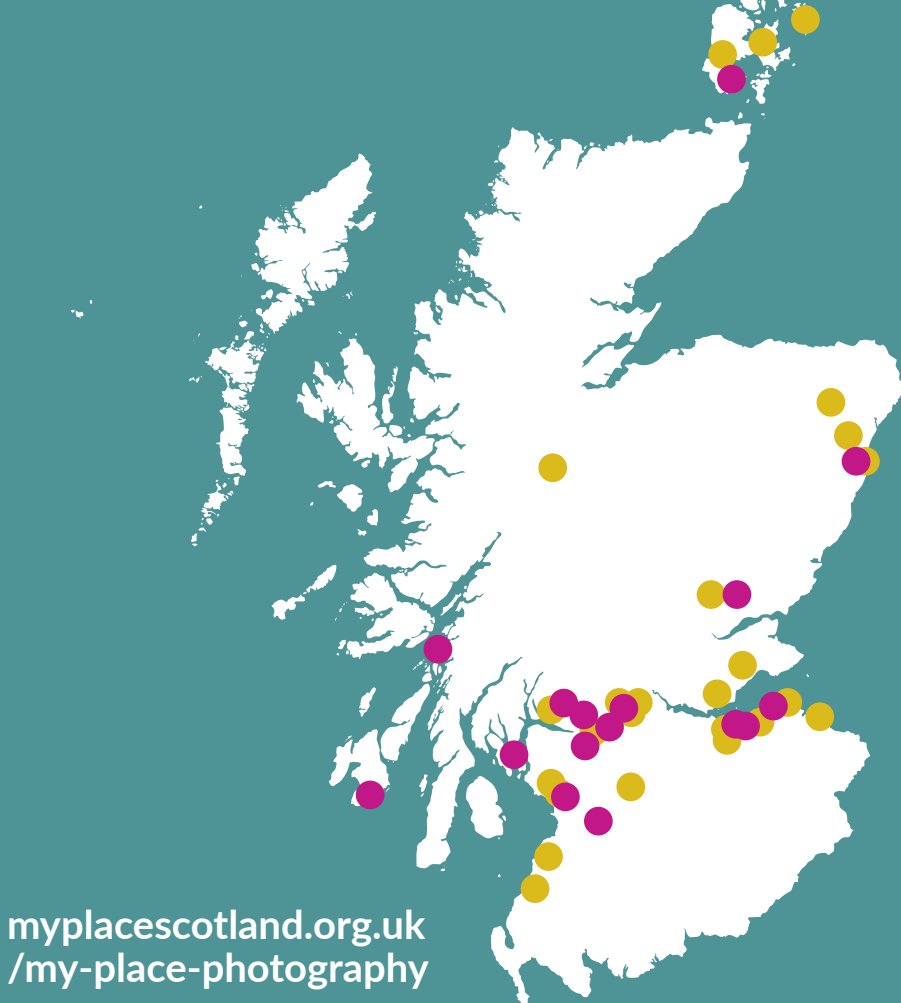
*Photograph © Rachel Thibbotumunuwe*

# Participating schools

The 2020 My Place Photography Competition saw a large number of schools participate with 17 primary schools and 28 secondary schools contributing a total of 635 entries. We are pleased to see schools from across Scotland participating, with a growing number of entries from the Highlands and Islands.

● Primary school

● Secondary school



[myplacescotland.org.uk](https://myplacescotland.org.uk/my-place-photography)  
[/my-place-photography](https://myplacescotland.org.uk/my-place-photography)



**PRIMARY SCHOOL  
WINNER  
WATERFALL**



Sophie H. (11)  
St Kevin's Primary,  
North Lanarkshire

*Sophie said, "I chose to use my umbrella in my photo because it reminded me of the sky. I had water thrown on it to represent the rain. I edited it in black and white because I liked the strong colour contrast."*

*The judges said, "This shot is wonderfully composed and to me tells a story about our changing climate and the built environment."*





**PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**HIGHLY COMMENDED**  
*PUDDLE JUMP*



Liam K. (7)  
St Kevin's Primary,  
North Lanarkshire



**PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**COMMENDED**  
*DRAIN*



Cara M. (10)  
Mearns Primary,  
East Renfrewshire



**PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**COMMENDED**  
*DISTORTED BUILDING*



Harry M. (8)  
West Coats Primary,  
South Lanarkshire



**PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**COMMENDED**  
*FLOTSAM & JETSAM*



Rhuraidh B. (10)  
Port Ellen Primary,  
Argyll & Bute



**SECONDARY SCHOOL  
WINNER**  
REFLECTIONS OF AUTUMN

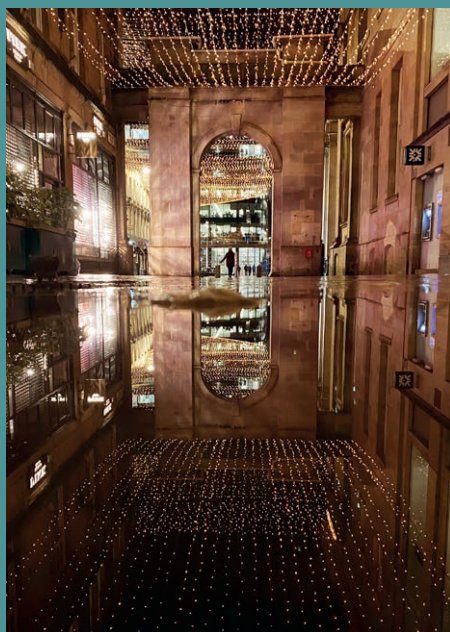


Carla M. (14)  
Preston Lodge High School,  
East Lothian

*Preston Lodge High School said, "Digital photography is a new short course for us and we have been impressed by the enthusiasm of our pupils. We are thrilled that Carla has won this year, it is a marvellous achievement for her and for our school. Our pupils enjoyed going into our local community and photographing images for the competition."*

*The judges said, "A beautiful image with the water reflecting the tree above, which is not obvious at first glance."*

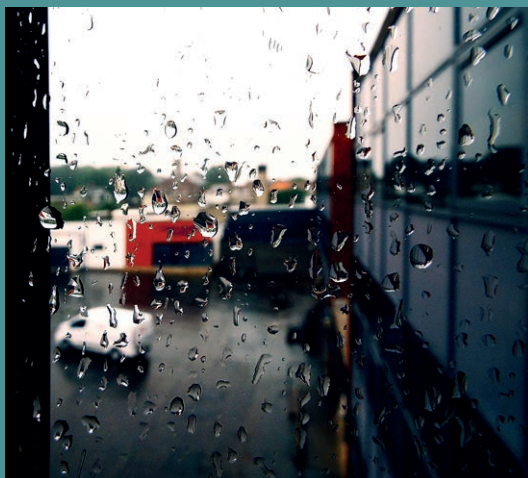




**SECONDARY SCHOOL**  
**HIGHLY COMMENDED**  
*ALTAR OF LIGHT*



Eva B. (13)  
 Kilsyth Academy,  
 North Lanarkshire

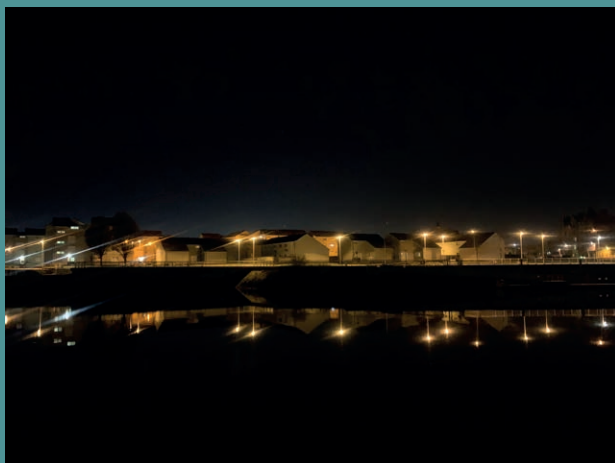


**SECONDARY SCHOOL**  
**HIGHLY COMMENDED**  
*TIME DELAYS*



Saskia H. (17)  
 Dunbar Grammar School,  
 East Lothian





**SECONDARY SCHOOL**  
**COMMENDED**  
*REFLECTION*



Jessica F. (14)  
Carrick Academy,  
South Ayrshire



**SECONDARY SCHOOL**  
**COMMENDED**  
*QUEENSFERRY CROSSING*



Reese M. (16)  
Tynecastle High School,  
Edinburgh



**YOUNG PERSONS'  
CHOICE AWARD WINNER  
CHRISTMAS AT  
PORT SETON HARBOUR**



Declan L. (13)  
Preston Lodge High School,  
East Lothian

*The judges said, "This striking shot brings the viewer such joy, with the hulking boats amusingly decked out in the Christmas spirit. The neon colours light up what would otherwise be a muted shot at dusk and you can almost hear the hustle and bustle of a town excitedly on the brink of Christmas."*

## **Young Persons' Choice Judging Panel 2020**

Remy Grossmann - Glasgow University intern  
Nicholas Runcie - 2019 Winner, Secondary School Category  
Erin Burke - Communications and Events Officer, SCT

# My Place MENTORING

Scottish Civic Trust's My Place Mentoring programme supports community groups across Scotland to increase the skills, knowledge and connections needed to get their heritage projects off the ground. Our priority is helping groups who are marginalised, due to remote location or because they are underrepresented in heritage (women; Black, Asian and minority ethnic people; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people; those in situations of economic disadvantage).

**Wondering if we could help you?** Some of our Mentoring groups have received help with: transforming a local building into a space for community use, engaging the community with their project, coordinating fundraising and strategising project development.

For more information, visit: [myplacescotland.org.uk/my-place-mentoring](http://myplacescotland.org.uk/my-place-mentoring)

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FOUNDATION**



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FUND**

## With thanks

The Scottish Civic Trust would like to thank:

- All groups, individuals, schools and pupils involved with the awards
- My Place awards judging panel
- My Place Photography judging panel
- Young Persons' Choice Award judging panel
- Eastern Digital Exhibition and Display
- The Lighthouse
- Rob McDougall, filmmaker

Design by Abigail Daly, Ruskin Lane Consulting

The Scottish Civic Trust is a charity registered in Scotland. No. SC012569

## Get in touch

SCOTTISH



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*Front cover image: 'Waterfall' by Sophie H.*

*Back cover image: 'Flotsam & Jetsam' by Rhuraidh B.*

