



Gary Francis Young Achiever Awards

Who is the Gary Francis Achievement Award for?

The award is open to all young people who meet the following criteria:

- Young people aged 16 - 25
- Young people who live or were born in Hackney
- Young people who have overcome a particular difficulty or barrier and then gone on to achieve by making a difference to their life or the lives of others
- Young people who have been enterprising in some way.

The young person has given consent to be nominated by a local voluntary and community organisation.

Here are two examples of what we are looking for:

1. Over the past 2 years, Daniel has become a real community leader for local young people. He was involved in our Hackney Wick Youth Voice project from the start, acting as a brilliant role model and leader on the Youth Voice Panel, and speaking publicly on numerous occasions in front of prominent decision-makers.

Daniel was instrumental in ensuring that a number of our recommendations

were enacted by the council, including the renovation of the MUGA by the Old Baths building in Hackney Wick.

Last year, Daniel became a paid youth leader role on Build Up Hackney, leading a group of young people to design & build a new public space. He was a key part of the project's success: he built brilliant relationships with participants of all ages, forming an especially strong bond with a shy younger participant, and enriched the project significantly with his extensive local knowledge.

2. Shenqie joined the youth construction charity Build Up in 219 as a very shy young person, unconfident in her abilities and nervous about the construction world.

Throughout the project, she faced her fears regarding confidence and then went on to support 60 young people with challenging backgrounds to face their fears in confidence too, supporting them to design and build a new inclusive public space in Hackney for everyone.

She then made a powerful film about it and addressed a crowd of 150 people about why it is important to involve young people in decision-making and to give them genuine power in their area.

Applications will be assessed using the following criteria:

- What the young person has achieved?
- What barrier or barriers the young person has overcome?
- What plans the young person has for the future?

Contact details

Still got questions about the Fund and need to talk to someone? Please contact Matt Bray, Communications Director, Hackney CVS, email: matt@hcv.org.uk, telephone: 020 7923 1962