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Catalyst Award recognises some of Scotland's best start-up talent

Two young graduates have been recognised by a new award to help them start-up successfully in the West of Scotland.

The Catalyst Award, run by the Scottish Institute for Enterprise in partnership with the CMS Charitable Trust, will award each winner £4000 investment and two years of dedicated support for their early-stage businesses.

The winners are Glasgow graduate Saskia Goeres (Designed for Life Ltd) and Strathclyde Graduate Daniel Cain (Streamline Cycling)

Commenting on the competition finalists, SIE Senior Innovation and Business Advisor, Jonathan Tait, said:

“The pitches were of a very high quality and all of the finalists should all be very proud of themselves. Scotland’s students are full of ideas with real potential to have impact and contribute to local communities and our economy. We’ll be working closely with the winners to help them move things forward and make the most of their ideas.”

About SIE

The Scottish Institute for Enterprise is the national organisation for the promotion and support of enterprise and entrepreneurship in Scotland’s students. SIE works with Universities and Colleges to champion enterprise education and help their students start new innovative businesses. Since 2000, SIE has provided free one-to-one advice, enterprise workshops and business competitions. SIE’s services are open to all students and graduates in Scotland, up to two years after graduation. SIE is supported by the Scottish Funding Council and is part of the Scotland CAN DO framework.

The Catalyst Award

Run by SIE with a grant provided by the CMS Charitable Trust, the Catalyst Award provides 2 x £4,000 cash awards designed to provide two early stage entrepreneurs with financial support that will help them fast-track their innovative business idea towards commercialisation. In addition to the

cash awards, the winners will be assigned an SIE mentor who will provide continuity of support for two years. The Catalyst Award is designed for ideas that are on their way and will give them an extra push at this critical early stage.

Full list of competition finalists

Saskia Goeres (WINNER)

Graduate, University of Glasgow

Designed for Life

Sofaforlife is a more sustainable and user-friendly alternative to conventional sofas.

Daniel Cain (WINNER)

Graduate, University of Strathclyde

Streamline Cycles

A new design for interchangeable aerodynamic cycle wheels at an affordable price.

Dele Make

Robert Gordon University

PCOS Buddy

A revolutionary new health app to support women with PCOS

Pooja Katara

Graduate, Glasgow School of Art

SENSEcity

A digital guidebook design that uses Augmented Reality to bring cities to life.

Chris Andreucci

University of Strathclyde

THRONG

A new mobile app that maximises the overall live music event experience by offering ticket holders exclusive deals in local venues

Salma Khatun

University of Glasgow

SE/ME is an app designed to tackle the issue of rough sleepers and the consequences of an ever-growing cashless society

Joan Kangro

Graduate, University of Glasgow

A new robotic lawn mower designed for large terrains

Ross Fisher

University of Strathclyde

Loch Electronics Limited

A new design for a more environmentally friendly personal dishwasher to reduce water waste and energy consumption

Marwa Ebrahim

Graduate, University of Glasgow

Atypical Cosmetics

Customisation skin care products that lets users avoid ingredients that they are allergic to.

Charles Painter

Glasgow School of Art

Nudge

A new app to help people who stammer discover their speaking potential

Bartosz Soltowski

University of Strathclyde

A new technology to support off-grid renewable electricity supplies for local communities

Andrew Greene

Graduate, University of Strathclyde

A new digital solution for luggage storage and transportation

Yanik Nyberg

Graduate, University of Strathclyde

Seawater Solutions

Introduces wetland ecosystems onto coastal farms for climate resilience, growing crops like samphire using seawater