

Winning young reporters who made the headlines

by SOPHIA SLEIGH

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The best young reporters from across south London, Kent and Surrey were honoured at an awards ceremony organised by this newspaper and its sister titles.

They were chosen from 764 students taking part in our Young Reporter scheme that ran in 91 schools over the past year.

The 14 winners had all researched and written a series of articles, from interviews to features and breaking news, which they then published on our website croydonguardian.co.uk/young-reporter.

Skye Baker, 16, from Coloma Convent Girls' School in Croydon, has been inspired to become a fashion journalist after coming top in the events category with her article Croydon couture.

She said: "It is exciting. I wrote about a fashion event in Croydon - not many people came but it was a nice atmosphere. It was really good fun."

The judges said that this year's entries were the best since the scheme launched



four years ago, with fierce competition for the top slots in each category at both age groups, years 10 and 11 and years 12 and 13.

In the end Sylvia Donhue-Hibberd, of Bancroft's School, won the top award for the best reporter in the younger age group and Eleanor Larson, of Dartford Grammar School won it in the senior group.

They were both presented with Kindle Fires on the night while other winners picked up £50 gift vouchers or digital photo frames in the best picture category.

Miah Kaur of Oaks Park High School, won the award for the most read story, after 2,771 people read her online article about protests by the Sikh community in London against plans to execute a professor in India for alleged involvement in a bombing in 1993.



Making the news:
Skye Baker BT77240

Judge Andrew Parkes, group managing editor for Newsquest south London said: "The Young Reporter scheme never ceases to amaze me. This year's entries were without doubt the best yet and the project just continues to go from strength to strength."

"I'd like to congratulate everyone who took part and completed the project - well done to you all."

Read the articles by students at croydonguardian.co.uk/youngreporter

Young reporter of the year - winners

BREAKING NEWS

- 10/11 Zahra Ali, Brentford School for Girls
- 12/13 Emily Walford, Ursuline High School

- Nonsuch High School
- 12/13 Ella McLeod, Streatham and Clapham High School

BEST FEATURE

- 10/11 Sylvia Donhue-Hibberd, Bancroft's School,
- 12/13 Eleanor Larson, Dartford Grammar School

BEST PHOTOGRAPH

- 10/11 Molly Haynes, Bromley High School
- 12/13 Emma Johnson, Streatham and Clapham High School

BEST EVENT

- 10/11 Dylan Danno, Tiffin Boys' School
- 12/13 Skye Baker, Coloma Convent Girls' School

BEST VOX POP

- 10/11 Grace Hannaford, Beaverwood School for Girls
- 12/13 Titi Odusanwo, Wallington County Grammar School

BEST INTERVIEW

- 10/11 Mia Forbes,

EXTRA MILE AWARD

- 10/11 Eva Farenden, Waldegrave School
- 12/13 Emma Johnson, Streatham and Clapham High School

MOST READ STORY

- Miah Kaur, year 13, Oaks Park High School

BEST REPORTER

- 10/11 Sylvia Donhue-Hibberd, Bancroft's School
- 12/13 Eleanor Larson, Dartford Grammar School

Sign up for next year

Schools interested in participating in next year's Young Reporter scheme, which for the first time will include social media, should contact the coordinator, Diana Jarvis now. Mrs Jarvis said: "This is

an exciting and rewarding scheme.

"If you think your school may be interested contact me by email at djarvis@london.newsquest.co.uk or by telephone on 020 8722 6378."



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