

YOUNG SCIENCE WRITER AWARD 2026

**FIVE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY SPONSORSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES**



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



WHAT THIS IS

A national science writing competition for 14–16 year-olds in state-funded, non-selective UK secondary schools.



WHAT SPONSORS ENABLE

Prizes, mentoring, outreach to schools, entrant care, judging and editorial support, and a high-quality awards experience that celebrates achievement.



WHY IT MATTERS

Young people need the tools to interpret science responsibly—especially amid misinformation, fast-moving technologies, and major societal challenges.



WHAT SPONSORS RECEIVE

Meaningful brand association, credible public-facing impact, and structured opportunities to engage young people, educators and science communicators—grounded in measurable outputs.



ABOUT THE ABSW



WHO WE ARE

Established in 1947, the ABSW champions independence and excellence in reporting science, medicine, engineering and technology. We support science writers and journalists across career stages through events, mentoring, professional resources and awards.



WHY WE RUN THE YSWA

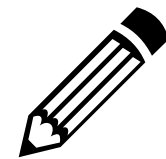
High-quality science communication is not optional—it is foundational to public understanding, accountability and trust. The YSWA is one way we build long-term capacity: by investing early in young writers and widening access to opportunity.



Alex O'Brien - ABSW Vice-Chair, Paulina Rowińska, Anna Demming and Richard Fisher. Panel Session 2024 Awards.



THE PROGRAMME



WHAT STUDENTS DO

Students submit an original essay (800 words) on any STEM topic.

Assessment Criteria:

- ✓ Clarity and structure
- ✓ Accuracy and use of evidence
- ✓ Originality and insight
- ✓ Connecting science to real-world implications



WHAT FINALISTS EXPERIENCE

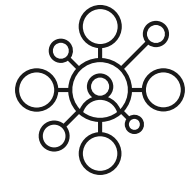
Finalists are celebrated through an awards event and a structured programme of recognition, mentoring, and visibility.

Programme Benefits:

- ✓ Publication opportunities
- ✓ Networking with science communicators
- ✓ Cash prizes and in-kind gifts
- ✓ Professional mentoring opportunities

THE 2026 FIVE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

STRATEGIC GOALS FOR 2026



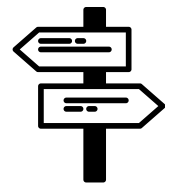
EXPAND REACH

Significantly increase the number of non-selective, state schools reached and supported.



STRENGTHEN DEVELOPMENT

Enhance mentoring and editorial development programmes for all finalists.



BUILD PATHWAYS

Create a clearer pathway into science communication careers and opportunities.



DEEPEN IMPACT

Improve evaluation and reporting to better evidence impact for our sponsors.



Victoria Gill, BBC Science Correspondent and Michael Forson, 2023 Winner.

AUDIENCE & REACH

CONNECT WITH A HIGHLY ENGAGED NETWORK OF YOUNG INNOVATORS, EDUCATIONAL LEADERS, AND SCIENCE COMMUNICATORS ACROSS THE UK.



1200+ ENTRANTS

The students we engage with come from diverse backgrounds and abilities across all four UK nations.



3000+ SCHOOLS

We work with state-funded, non-selective institutions across the UK including students who are home schooled due to disability.



800+ EDUCATORS

Teachers and Librarians are actively involved in encouraging entrants to submit essays.



500+ PROFESSIONALS

Science writers, science communicators and journalists in the ABSW network.

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

"JOIN US IN CELEBRATING AND SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SCIENCE COMMUNICATORS."





BRONZE PARTNER

ENTRY LEVEL SUPPORT

Custom

Starting Contribution

CORE BENEFITS

-
-  Logo placement on deck/website and event signage
 -  Thank-you mention across ABSW channels
 -  Inclusion in sponsor mentions at the awards
 -  Post-award impact note (headline metrics + activity summary)





SILVER PARTNER

DEEPER ENGAGEMENT

£10,000

+VAT

EVERYTHING IN BRONZE, PLUS

-
-  Sponsor Spotlight: Short Q&A or case study on ABSW channels
 -  Opportunity to provide one approved item for finalist packs (book, resource, etc.)
 -  Nominate two representatives to attend awards & meet finalists
 -  Inclusion in one press release quote (subject to editorial control)

GOLD PARTNER






Most Impactful

LEAD SUPPORTER STATUS

£25,000

+VAT

EVERYTHING IN SILVER, PLUS

-
-  **"Lead Partner" positioning** on deck/website with tiered branding
 -  Short address or filmed message at the awards
 -  Option to co-host a skills session for finalists
 -  Enhanced PR visibility with quotes and acknowledgements
 -  Structured end-of-year sponsor report with photos & evaluation

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

"JOIN US IN CELEBRATING AND SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF SCIENCE COMMUNICATORS."

AWARD CATEGORY SPONSORSHIP

5 OPPORTUNITIES

£3000

+VAT

We have several award categories which are available for sponsor.

-
-  Climate, Environment & Sustainability
 -  AI, Data & the Digital World
 -  Health, Medicine & Life Sciences
 -  Engineering, Physics & the Built World





EXHIBITION STAND

5 OPPORTUNITIES

£1000

+VAT

We are offering the option for organisations to set up an exhibition stand to inform delegates of their company, research and/or products.

-
-  Exhibition space near the Lecture Theatre of the Science Museum during the YSWA. Chairs and tables provided (no cloths or other dressings).
 -  One member of staff in the exhibition area.
 -  Website link through logo on the awards sponsors page.
 -  Logo acknowledged in printed conference materials provided to delegates.





DELEGATE BAGS

Excellent Exposure

1 OPPORTUNITY

£2500 +VAT* / £1,500 +VAT**

Your organisation can provide 100 bags for awards delegates. The bag will include the ABSW logo alongside your logo.

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-  Bags can contain one piece of literature and promotional item.
 -  Bags will be provided to delegates on arrival, and will contain literature from other sponsors and the ABSW.
 -  Website link through logo on conference sponsors web page.
 -  Logo acknowledgement in printed conference materials provided to delegates.

Design and production can be organised by the ABSW or the Sponsor**.

WHAT SPONSORS FUND

"Directly underwriting the resources needed to inspire, support, and celebrate young science writers."



CASH SPONSORSHIP

CORE FUNDING



STUDENT PRIZES & CERTIFICATES

Rewarding excellence and recognising effort for all finalists.



MENTORING & DEVELOPMENT

Editorial support for winners and finalists to refine their skills.



EVENT PRODUCTION & ACCESSIBILITY

Travel support, entrant care, and awards logistics.



JUDGING & DELIVERY

Expert assessment panels and programme administration.



IMPACT EVALUATION

Annual impact summary and data analysis shared with sponsors.



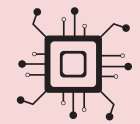
IN KIND SPONSORSHIP

OPTIONAL

Add value beyond financial contribution through resources and expertise:



BOOKS & EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES



TECH KITS & SUBSCRIPTIONS



VENUE SUPPORT



WORKSHOPS & MENTORING HOURS



PROMOTIONAL AMPLIFICATION

OUR WINNERS



**YOUNG SCIENCE WRITER
AWARD WINNER 2022**

**ZARA HUSSAN
PLASHET SCHOOL IN EAST HAM,
LONDON**

[READ ZARA'S ESSAY](#)



**YOUNG SCIENCE WRITER
AWARD WINNER 2023**

**RICHAEL FORSON
EASTLEA COMMUNITY SCHOOL
IN NEWHAM, LONDON**

[READ RICHAEL'S ESSAY](#)



**YOUNG SCIENCE WRITER
AWARD WINNER 2024**

**JASMIN NOTARANGELO
MUSSELBURGH GRAMMAR
SCHOOL, EAST LOTHIAN**

[READ JASMIN'S ESSAY](#)



**YOUNG SCIENCE WRITER
AWARD WINNER 2025**

**HASSET KIFLE
ST MARGARET WARD CATHOLIC
ACADEMY, STOKE-ON-TRENT**

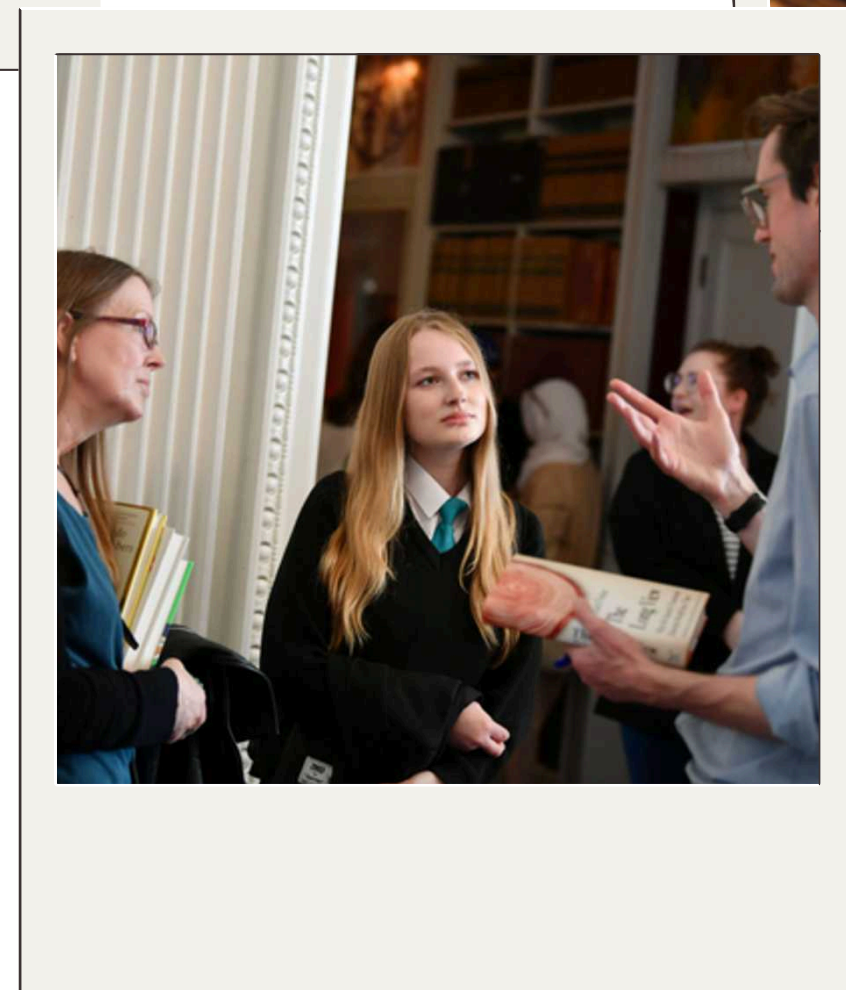
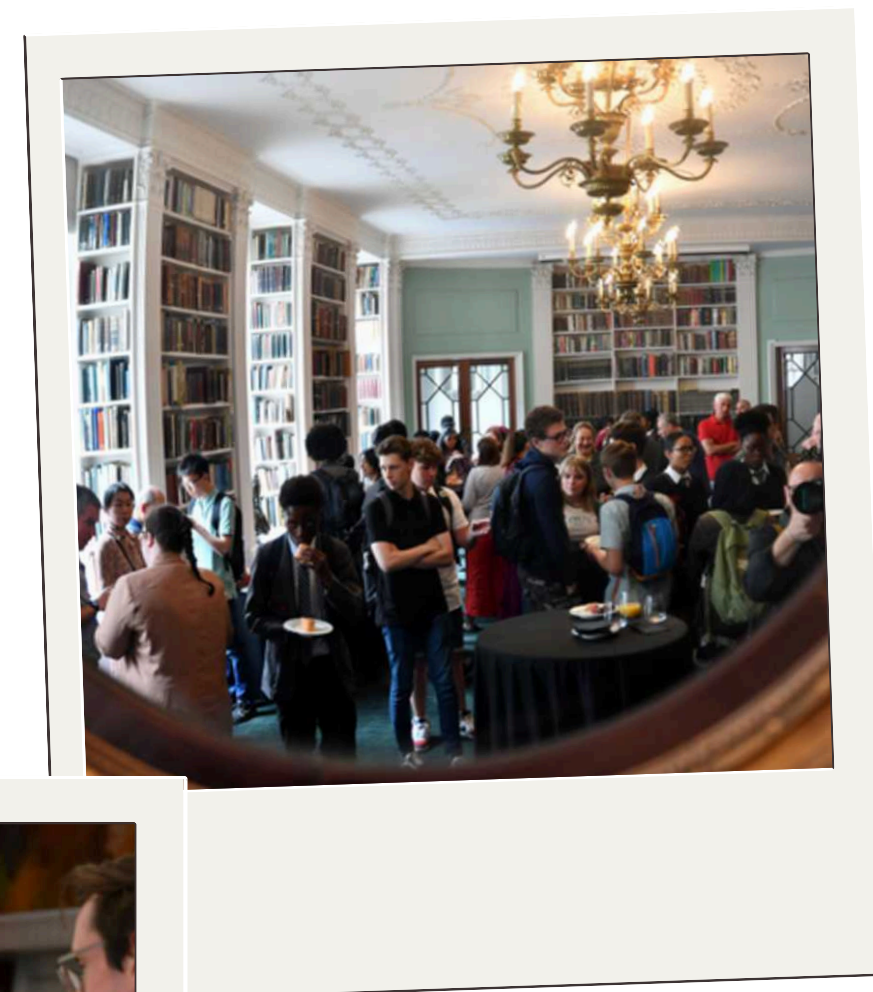
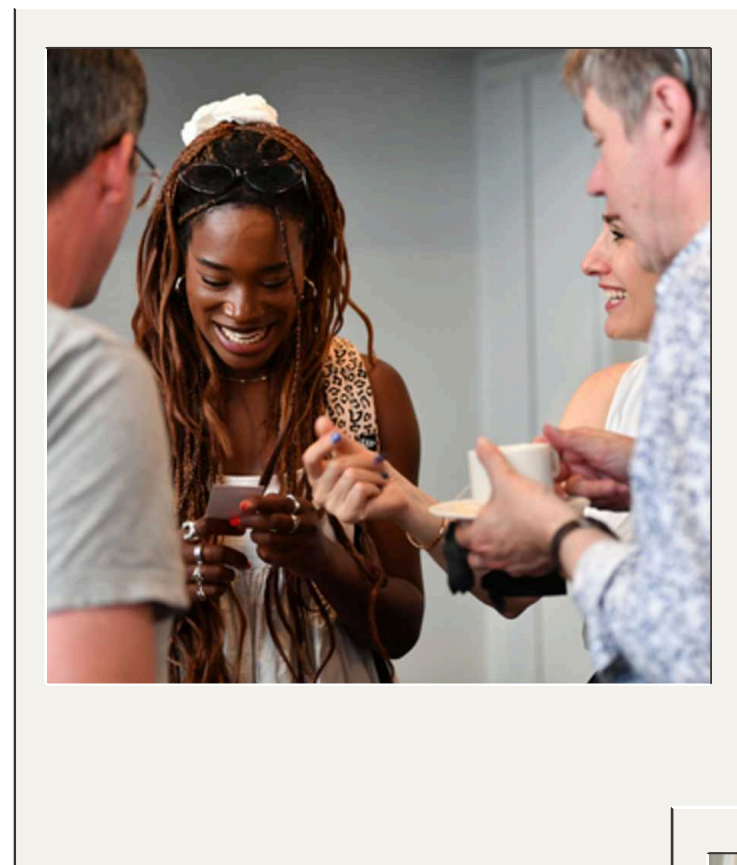
[READ HASSET'S ESSAY](#)

OUR PARTNERS & SUPPORTERS



Head of ideas.

SCIENCE
MUSEUM



YOUNG SCIENCE WRITER AWARD

MAISIE KEOGH
PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

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[Find out more about our work](#)

absw
ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH
SCIENCE WRITERS