A. About the Awards

Lemos&Crane working with The City of London Corporation’s Charity, The City Bridge Trust presents The Growing Localities Awards. Total prize money of £2,500 is offered for projects based in London that demonstrate excellence in using nature to enhance and improve local communities and in particular the lives of vulnerable or socially excluded people, generating positive outcomes such as health and well-being, new skills and knowledge, new relationships, and a sense of purpose and belonging.

To apply for the award you will need to describe what your project already does and to explain how the prize money would be spent to further your work.

This year entries are invited for projects and initiatives in any London borough that involve any one or combination of:

- **Gardening and growing food**: for communal eating and small-scale enterprise
- **Introducing young people to nature**: encouraging young people to develop an interest in nature through bird-watching and similar activities
- **Keeping animals**: bees, chickens, pigs, etc for the experience of care but also to farm
- **Nature-themed arts and crafts**: woodcraft, photography, film-making, writing, etc
- **Reclaiming and developing wasteland**: especially led by residents and tenants
- **‘Green’ exercise**: groups for walking, cycling, running, etc with a nature theme
Entries are invited from non-profit organisations such as:

- Homeless agencies
- Supported housing (providing mental health services, substance misuse, etc)
- Social housing providers
- Residential care providers
- Health organisations
- Hospices
- Prisons
- Churches and faith groups
- Other community-based and voluntary organisations.

Entries will be judged based on criteria including:

- **Originality** – the distinctiveness and memorability of the project idea
- **Replicability** – how others could be inspired by and run similar projects themselves
- **Reach** – the numbers of people involved in the project, particularly in engaging the wider community
- **Diversity** – of people engaged, particularly those who are ‘hard to reach’ or have challenging needs and who are brought together with the local community
- **Impact** – of the project (demonstrated qualitatively or quantitatively) on people’s health, well-being, relationships, skills, knowledge, sense of purpose and belonging.

### B. Timetable

- Deadline for entries – **Wednesday 17 December, 2014**
- Shortlist announced – **End of March 2015**
- Winners announced – **June 2015**

### C. Rules and procedures
1. Entries must be completed using this entry form and submitted electronically here.

2. Receipt of all entries submitted online will be automatically acknowledged.

3. Entrants may be asked to provide further information.

4. The judges' decision is final. Awards will be made at the judges' discretion and no correspondence will be entered into concerning any decision. Not all the awards advertised may be awarded if the judges consider the criteria have not been met. Additional commendations may be made at the judges' discretion.

5. The content of any entry may be used for informing other practitioners and also for publicity purposes unless the entrant withholds their consent to this in writing.

6. Entrants are deemed to have accepted these rules and procedures and to have agreed to be bound by them when entering this competition.
D. Your Entry

Please do not exceed 1500 words in total.

1. Name of project you are entering for The Growing Localities Awards

Skip Garden outreach projects

2. Describe your project in one sentence

Portable organic bio-diverse and edible planters in public spaces involving local young people in gardening, cooking and serving

3. Specify the setting(s) where your project is delivered (e.g. homeless agency, social housing, prison, community, etc.)?

Public Realm spaces on the Kings Cross Development Site including restaurant terraces

4. What are the project’s objectives?

Enabling young people to:

- gain new skills relevant to finding jobs, training, volunteering opportunities, starting entrepreneurial projects that contribute to the green economy

- engaging young people with their environment; inspiring and enabling action

Training young people in carpentry, gardening and cooking

Training local chefs in seasonality and organic production

Providing a platform for community cohesion

Improving the built and natural environment in an urban setting
5. What are the project’s activities?

- Engaging with the construction companies to gather materials suitable for turning into planters

- Running carpentry workshops for young people and other members of the community to create planters out of up-cycled construction waste – e.g. scaffold boards

- Involving disadvantaged young people work experience that includes:
  - the organic production of edible and bee friendly plants, in collaboration with Cultivate London
  - the installation and maintenance of planters outside restaurants on the edge of granary square
  - Cooking and serving food off a mobile cafe
  - Doing work experience in the participating restaurants

- Involving local chefs as volunteers and enabling them to connect with the environment and build relationships with local young people
6. What has been the impact / achievement of the project?

**Young People (70 per annum)**

- Self-esteem through contributing to the environment
- Creativity and resilience through engaging in the patterns and rhythms of nature
- Understanding themselves e.g. values, attributes and aspirations
- Increased capacity to face fears and challenges
- Building confidence and practical skills
- Development of entrepreneurialism
- Access to employment – (1 restaurant job, 7 young people doing work experience in restaurants, all young people doing work experience in the gardens, cooking and serving on the mobile café bike)

**We (young people, 4 construction companies, 4 restaurants)**

- Connecting to nature as common ground that brings different people together
- Communication and Team working skills
- Developing collaborative cross sector practice – e.g. young people, business, horticulture, construction and hospitality industries
- £22,000 Generated in the last financial year

**The Planet**

- Soils, waters, plants and animals benefit as more humans recognise we are all part of one community
- Creating habitats and bird and insect forage in commercial and public realm spaces.
- Reduced food miles
- Up cycling construction waste into products to sell – resulting in less waste
7. How would you spend any prize money to further your project/initiative?

It would go towards setting up a new carpentry workshop with more tools suitable for upcycling construction waste into planters.

E. Submitting your entry

Please return this entry form by 5pm, Wednesday 17, Dec 2014 by uploading it on this page.

Please add any documents, photos, videos or other media that are relevant to your entry and email them to awards@lemosandcrane.co.uk quoting ‘Growing Localities award entry’ and your organisation name in the subject heading.

If you have any problems uploading your entry please also email awards@lemosandcrane.co.uk.

Thank you for your time and effort which is much appreciated. Good luck!