The City of London Growing Localities Awards 2014/15

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

   Youth Offending Team (YOT) Garden Project

2. Describe your project in one sentence

   Fruit and Vegetables garden providing reparation and learning for young offenders, produce sold to workers, proceeds donated to Victims Support.

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

   Garden of the YOT offices in Leytonstone.

4. What are the project’s objectives?

   To provide new skills and knowledge to young people who can be vulnerable and socially excluded.

   To set up horticulture courses.

   Reparation of young people giving community payback to Victims Support.

   Learning new skills and understanding of where food on your plate comes from.

   Help to give young people a sense of purpose.
5. **What are the project’s activities?**

- Building raised beds.
- Sowing seeds and planting seedlings.
- Tending garden and maintaining it throughout the seasons.
- Harvesting produce.
- Garden clearance.
- Creating and maintain compost.
- Delivering training and education in horticulture.

6. **What has been the impact / achievement of the project?**

- Provides reparation hours for young people on a reparation order. Resulting in young people successfully finishing reparation orders.
- For four years donated all proceeds of sales of produce to victims support.
- Providing fresh organic produce to workers in the offices.
- Positive outlook to gardening by the young people.
- Possible job and further education prospects for young people, eg on young person in 2014 has gone on to joining a course full time at Capel Manor training college.
- Tools and health and safety training and understanding.
10 young people in 2014 received a certificate of attendance at a week's horticulture course run at the YOT Garden.

7. How would you spend any prize money to further your project/initiative?

- Equipment and plants to further enhance the garden.
- To provide additional raised beds.
- More in the garden, as above, enables more young people to complete reparation hours.
- More produce grown, equals more money to donate to victims support.
- Additional horticulture courses to be run, with support from Chelsea Physic Garden and Community Links.

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!