# **Northampton College Virtual Library Awards Ceremony 2022**

# **Transcript**

Hello and a very warm welcome to the Northampton College Libraries Awards ceremony 2022, our 11th end of year ceremony. To get to 11 awards ceremonies is remarkable and goes to show the importance of the library service to students and staff across the whole college.

Once again, this last academic year has been met with many challenges, but you have all continued to participate in the library schemes to the best of your abilities, never letting the pandemic get in the way of your dedication to learning.

This virtual ceremony is an opportunity for the library to say thank you and congratulations to all of the students involved, so we'll be recognising those of you that have excelled in many of the library schemes, such as Word Detective, Maths magician, Reading Ahead, and Digital Skills, as well as those of you that have participated in our creative and literary competitions throughout the year. So sit back, get your popcorn out and please enjoy.

We would like to begin today's celebrations by congratulating all of our students who have participated in and completed the library's award-winning Maths Magician and Word Detective schemes. We all know that numeracy and literacy are really important for our students to progress, so we are delighted to see our students demonstrate such a high level of commitment and determination to succeeding, especially during periods of remote studying. Well done to all our Word Detective and Maths Magician award winners.

Hello. I'm Hannah Painting, Academic Librarian at Northampton College. I'm here today to congratulate the students who have completed their Platinum Award in digital skills. There's a massive shortage in digital skills across the UK today. Just about every single job requires the use of a device or a digital application. Our pioneering and award-winning program aims to develop students' digital skills and capabilities to enable them to complete their studies and to boost employability.

Those who have essential digital skills do better in the world of work. They have better opportunities, better jobs and higher pay. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the staff that have contributed to the digital skills program. You've made a real difference to students lives and enhanced all their skills. Thank you. It's a genuinely huge achievement for all the students that have completed platinum, and we know that they feel their computer skills have improved. Their names will appear on the screen shortly, so that's all for me. Congratulations, well done, thank you.

Hello everybody, it's lovely to see you all again. Although it is a bit of a virtual see. Even so it is really nice to be able to speak with you and to be asked to say a few words on the occasion where we normally get together of course for the awards but as we can't, I just want to say very well done and congratulations to all of you who've completed Reading Ahead and all of you that have taken part and possibly won in the poetry and the short story competitions.

It's really a nice thing to speak for me to speak about writing and books, since they have actually been my whole life. So the fact that you have improved your reading so very much and hopefully along with that have gained some enjoyment from the written word, means that you're going to have something that you will treasure and love and enjoy for your entire life. I still read every single day. I don't mean on my phone or on the TV, even newspapers. I mean actual books, not even virtual books which fine, nothing wrong with a virtual book, but I actually enjoy the feel and the smell and turning the pages over, everything about books.

So I wish that for all of you, I wish you joy in the written word and a wonderful, happy congratulatory day.

Hello and congratulations on completing your reading challenges for Reading Ahead. Reading is such a wonderful gift and it's such a wonderful skill that will help you through your life in every way. On your daily routine and in your work and help you to develop. Reading offers you the biggest opportunity to widen your knowledge and your enjoyment and we all know that when things are really difficult as they have been in the last two years, reading is there for us to live in the book and to develop our skills to help us to complete courses and to help us to just generally understand what is happening in the world.

For all of you who have completed your reading, whether it be poetry or stories, fiction, documentaries, or history, or coursework. I want to say, well done. I hope that you will continue to develop your reading skills. And I hope that you will continue to enjoy reading, as I do. I noticed very much those people in the college who have invested in their reading. And through reading you develop your language and you also develop your written work because you can see how it is done. So well done for what you've done. And do enjoy the rest of your time with us here at Northampton College.

I'm back to say a big thank you to our students at Daventry who have taken part in Work Experience in the library this year. Student duties have included desk work, returning books and shelving and it's great to see an increase in students' confidence and the fact they keep coming tells us they actually quite enjoy it. Well done and thank you to the following students for all your help this year.

Hello, I'm here to share the names of our winners from the library's array of creative and literary competitions from this year. We have had over 50 entries and the high standard of these made it incredibly hard for judges to decide upon the winners.

For the Daniel Stannard literary competition, students were invited to submit entries relating to the theme of college life. Entries could be either as a poem or a short story, and our students certainly did not disappoint. Here are a few of the entries we received from students who we would also like to congratulate as winners.

For the art competition, the library accepted entries in any artistic medium using the theme, The Art of the Book as inspiration, the winning masterpieces showcase the creative talents of college students and staff using a range of styles that match the theme perfectly. A big well done to all our art competition winners.

This year's Creative Writing competition encouraged as many students as possible to get involved by writing an alternative ending to their favourite book, film or television show. This resulted in submissions from students which demonstrated their brilliant literary skills. Here are the winning entries for this competition and a big congratulations to you all.

And last but not least, is the library's photography competition. Using ‘Reflections’ as this year's theme, students were encouraged to enter via the library website straight from their phones. What resulted is a collection of interesting and dynamic images that we will be sharing with you on the screen now.

And now we would like to recognise the top three students to have borrowed the most items from the library this year. In at number 3 we have Marshall Hunt who has borrowed a very respectable 38 items from Booth Lane Library. At number 2 we have Nadia Kalwhati who has borrowed a giant 54 items from our library at Lower Mounts.And in top spot is Louie Wilson, who has borrowed a whopping 63 items this year from Daventry Library. By Reading and using such an unbelievable number of books this year, these students have demonstrated an extensive use of the library and a high level of commitment to their independent learning. Thank you and well done to all.

Wow, what an absolutely fantastic celebration this has been. It's been an absolute delight to see the progress of our students in the last academic year, especially given the difficult and sometimes uncertain circumstances because of the pandemic. We look forward to our return to physical ceremonies next year, but in the meantime, a huge congratulations once again to all our students featured in today's ceremony. And thank you so much for watching.