



Shortlist announced for the Women of the Future Awards 2010

Raina Zarb-Adami, Surgical Research Fellow at RAFT will battle it out to be crowned a Woman of the Future at a high-profile ceremony in London this November.

Founded and chaired by Pinky Lilani OBE, organised by Caspian Publishing and held in association with Shell, the awards celebrate the rising stars of business, the arts, science, technology and media, honouring women aged 35 and under who are making an impact in their chosen fields. The Women of the Future Awards are supported by Real Business magazine.

Raina has been shortlisted for The Professions Woman of the Future Award.

A judging panel led by HRH Princess Badiya bint El Hassan will meet Raina and other finalists on October 8 in London. Winners will be announced at a glittering ceremony on 9 November.

This year a new category is introduced, recognising the most talented female MBA students - The MBA Star award.

Since their creation in 2006, the Women of the Future Awards – whose patrons are Her Highness Princess Zahra Aga Khan and Cherie Blair - have unearthed glittering young talent such as online retail supremo Holly Tucker of notonthehighstreet.com, and the stars of West End musical Wicked – Dianne Pilkington and Alexia Khadime.

The 2010 shortlist also includes Thea Green, founder of cosmetics company Nails Inc, Cathy Bishop, one of the brightest engineering sparks at multi-disciplinary design group BDP, Lisa Smosarski, editor of Stylist magazine and Anna Bance, founder of online fashion retailer Girl Meet Dress.

Those in the running for the Young Star Award include award winning event rider Emily Llewellyn and Carly Ward, the 20-year old founder of the Young Entrepreneurial Society.

High flyers from the corporate world are also vying for an award, including the most promising female talent from the likes of HSBC, BT and Asda.

The awards ceremony takes place at the London Marriott Hotel Grosvenor Square on Tuesday November 9, 2010.

Last year's magnificent event was attended by David Cameron, Her Royal Highness Princess Badiya bint El Hassan, novelist Salman Rushdie, and actress Anna Chancellor.

Pinky Lilani said: "Young women are achieving more now than ever before. The Women of the Future Awards champion these women and give them a platform from which they can go even further."

“This year we’ve got an exceptional shortlist of candidates for each of the ten awards, including our new MBA Star category, which identifies women who have demonstrated exceptional promise and vision throughout their studies to be the trailblazers of tomorrow.”

Paul Milliken, VP, Human Resources, UK, Ireland & Nordics, at Shell, the awards’ long-standing sponsor, said: “This year’s shortlist exemplifies the talent that young women can offer to UK industries. Each of the shortlisted nominees has already achieved something significant and it is vital that we recognise their ability and encourage them to strive even further.

“The awards prove to the next generation of young women that they can achieve their goals and should not be deterred because of age or gender. Shell is proud to be the longest standing sponsor of a ceremony which champions our future innovators and entrepreneurs.”

Matthew Rock, co-founder of Caspian Publishing and editor-in-chief of Real Business, said: “The Women of the Future shortlists are a glimpse into a bright future for business. Enterprise is everywhere – in large businesses and small, right across British life. Unleash this talent, and Britain’s future is truly exciting.”

For information on the awards, visit: <http://wof.realbusiness.co.uk/>

ENDS

Press information

For more information please contact:

LEONOR STJEPIC
Chief Executive
RAFT
Leopold Muller Building
Mount Vernon Hospital
Northwood
HA6 2RN
Tel. +441923 835815
Fax. +441923 844031
Mob. +447814 706144
Email. ceo@raft.co.uk
www.raft.ac.uk

Notes to Editors:

The Women of the Future Awards are hosted by Caspian Publishing and Real Business magazine, in association with Shell.

The Women of the Future Awards are also supported by: Aviva, Asda, Barclays, Visa, Sodexo, Hobbs, Booz & Company, KPMG. Media partners are: Financial Times & CNBC. Educational partner is: Cambridge Judge Business School.

1. The full list of shortlisted nominees is as follows:

Arts and Culture Woman of the Future

Bola Agbaje, playwright of Gone Too Far
Gemma Boaler and Faye Hunter, Underdogs Management
Kishani Jayasinghe, Soprano
Leila Jones, Roundhouse
Gemma Tuley, Manson Restaurant
Samantha Ward, Pianist

Business Woman of the Future

Maggie Berry, womenintechnology.co.uk
Eleanor Blagbrough, ECI Partners
Lucinda Garrett, Centrica
Emma Harris, Asda
Katie Milligan, BT
Carol Paterson Smith, Rothschild Blackpoint

Entrepreneurial Woman of the Future

Anna Bance, Girls Meet Dress
Kirsty Goodger, Elemental Herbology
Thea Green, Nails Inc.
Janan Leo, Cocorose, London
Victoria Wills, NuBeginnings

Media Woman of the Future

Catherine Bray, Film4.com
Jessica Huie, JHPR
Lisa Smosarski, Stylist
Sonal Thakrar, Cisco
Lucy Tobin, Evening Standard

The Professions Woman of the Future

Dr Ogo Eze, Dentist@W2
Misha Patel, Clifford Chance LLP
Francesca Pierce, BSkyB
Karen Ward, HSBC
Dr Raina Zarb Adami, RAFT

Science and Technology Woman of the Future

Cathy Bishop, BDP
Maria Chiara Laganà, RWE npower
Danielle George, University of Manchester
Lynne MacKenzie Fraser, Centrica
Rina Madlani, Cisco UK & Ireland

The MBA Star Award

Asma Ahmed, University of Bath

Kathryn Farmer, London Business School

Carolina Gonzalez-Bunster, The Walkabout Foundation (Said Business School, Oxford)

Jo Kelly, Renewable World (Cranfield School of Management)

Stephanie Leung, Genie Solutions (Cambridge Judge Business School)

Kanini Mutooni, Myazimia.org (Cass Business School, London)

The Young Star Award

Suraiya Chowdhury, Mulberry School

Zeenat Islam, University of Warwick

Tabitha Manzuangani, Norwood School

Emily Llewellyn, Event Rider

Carly Ward, Young Entrepreneur Society

Mentor of the Year

Mike Coupe, J Sainsbury

Valerie O'Connell, The Prince's Trust

Lynne Owens, Metropolitan Police

Phil Smith, Cisco UK & Ireland

Chris Southam, Chillout UK

The Woman of the Future Corporate Award

Bank of New York Mellon

ICAEW

The Olympic Delivery Authority

Santander

2. The judging panel includes:

Chair of the judging panel, Her Royal Highness Princess Badiya bint El Hassan

- Shima Barakat, research and teaching fellow, Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning, Cambridge
- Guy Black, executive director, Telegraph Media Group
- Mick Buckley, president and CEO, EMEA, CNBC
- Aidan Connolly, chief executive, Sodexo UK and Ireland
- Sarah Deaves, managing director, affluent banking, The Royal Bank of Scotland Group
- Nicky Dulieu, chief executive, Hobbs
- Emma Kitchener Fellowes
- Lucy George, publicity manager, Chic Outlet Shopping Villages, Value Retail
- Kathryn Gramling, principal, Booz & Company
- Trish Halpin, editor, Marie Claire
- David Harrison, vice president, Visa Commercial, Visa Europe
- Ben Hughes, global commercial director and deputy CEO, The Financial Times
- Sally Martin, consultancy manager and chair Shell Women's Network UK, Shell
- Ruby McGregor-Smith, CEO, MITIE Group

- Judith McKenna, chief financial officer, Asda
- Birgit Neu, COO, corporate development, HSBC
- Richard Reid, London chairman, KPMG LLP
- Jean Sharp, chief taxation officer, Aviva
- Carla Stent, chief administrative officer and deputy CEO, Virgin Management
- Bob Stefanowski, chairman and managing partner, North America and Asia, 3i Corporation
- Sue Vinnicombe OBE, professor of organizational behavior and diversity management, Cranfield School of Management
- Bernadette Wightman, director channels and SMB, Cisco Systems
- Vanessa Wright, communications director, Chivas Brothers Ltd

3. The full list of categories is as follows:

- Business Women of the Future
- The Professions Women of the Future
- The Arts and Culture Woman of the Future
- Media Woman of the Future
- Entrepreneurial Woman of the Future
- Science and Technology Woman of the Future (Sponsored by Shell)
- The MBA Star Award
- The Young Star Award
- Mentor of the Year – open to men and women with no age limit
- The Women of the Future Corporate Award

Shima Barakat, research and teaching fellow, Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning, Cambridge

