

# Spirit of Manchester Awards 2024

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Thursday 3 October 2024, 7pm – 10:30pm

The Sheridan, Manchester



# Spirit of Manchester 2024

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We held our 12th Spirit of Manchester Awards, at The Sheridan, on Thursday 3 October 2024.

The ceremony was hosted by Mike Wild (Chief Executive, Macc). Mike was joined on stage by the Lord Mayor (Councillor Paul Andrews) and Martin Preston (Deputy Chief Executive, Macc).

Run as a hybrid event, with the generous support from Visair, we livestreamed the ceremony to over 1700 people on YouTube. As our largest Spirit of Manchester yet, 350 people joined us in the room on the evening to celebrate the fantastic work carried out by the VCSE sector across the city of Manchester in the past year.

For each person, whether watching the livestream or joining us in the room, everyone had the opportunity to vote for the winner of each award (excluding the Young Volunteer of the Year and Dr Sylvia Sham Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Voluntary Sector where the winner was chosen in advance by our judges). A Slido poll was opened for a limited time for each award category for the audience to vote for their winner.

**Watch the livestream:** [youtu.be/3M7R9uOCvbo](https://youtu.be/3M7R9uOCvbo)



# Lord Mayor

## Councillor Paul Andrews

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The Lord Mayor of Manchester, Councillor Paul Andrews, joined Spirit of Manchester 2024 to highlight the importance, dedication and celebration of the VCSE sector in supporting vulnerable communities in Manchester.

The Lord Mayor presented each shortlisted nominee and winner with a certificate and had his photo taken with each organisation/individual.

We thank the Lord Mayor for joining the evening of celebration!



# What did you have to say?

## On social media

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**mcrsocent** Such an inspiring night! Seeing a thriving #VCSE sector growing & reaching more people in our communities, increasing equality, diversity, and inclusion was amazing!

Thank you for inviting us, and we are already looking forward to what next year brings! #SpiritofMcr24 #SocEnt #manchester



**furqan\_naeem** Inspirational evening at the #SpiritofMcr24 Awards celebrating the very best of community in our city 🐼

Great to be with the wonderful volunteers at @mcrfoodbank and a huge recognition for all their work as they were shortlisted for an award.

Congratulations to all the winners, those shortlisted and all those making a difference in the community. Big up @mcrcommcentral and team 🙌



**Mona Moussa** • 1st

Northern Power Women Award | One To Watch Finalist 2024 🙌 | Social Justice...  
1w • Edited • 🌐

This week was full of joy! I had the pleasure of attending the #SpiritOfMcr24 Awards as a trustee of Macc, celebrating the incredible achievements of #VCSFE groups and volunteers. It was truly inspiring to hear about all the amazing work happening across Manchester.



**Maria Romanenko** (She/Her) • 2nd

Ukrainian presenter, activist, and writer | Winner of UK Prime Minister's Points ...  
1w • Edited • 🌐

Oh my, it was a night to remember, wasn't it?!

Such a beautiful night last night at the #SpiritofMcr24 Awards

# What did you have to say?

## On social media

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**Afzal Khan MP**   
@AfzalKhanMCR




I had a great time celebrating the incredible work that has been carried out by Manchester's voluntary and community sector at the [#SpiritofMcr24](#) awards.

Congratulations to all of those shortlisted and the winners for 2024! 



**Joanna Midgley** @JoMidge · Oct 4



Fantastic [#SpiritofMcr24](#) Awards tonight. Uplifting & heartwarming as always to hear about contribution, achievements and impact of so many brilliant [#VCFSE](#) groups & volunteers in our city. Thanks [@MikeWildMacc](#) [@McrCommCentral](#) for supporting & championing the sector so well 



**Caribbean & African Health Network** @cahn\_uk · Oct 3



We are thrilled to be attending [@McrCommCentral](#) [#spiritofmcr24](#) awards ceremony! Celebrating the hard work and dedication of Individuals and organisations positively impacting lives of Mancunians.



**Manchester Social Entrepreneurs** @MCRSocEnt · Oct 3






An absolute pleasure to be at the [#SpiritOfMcr24](#) awards by [@McrCommCentral](#) listening from [@MikeWildMacc](#) about the history and all the nitty gritty of how the event will run! Excited to hear all the inspiring stories from the [#VCSE](#) sector [#SocEnt](#) [#PurposeDriven](#)



**Dawn Yates-Obé** @Dawn\_boltoncvs · Oct 3



Replying to [@Dawn\\_boltoncvs](#)

Topped off with an evening celebrating the phenomenal VCSE sector in Manchester. Celebrating people who change lives through their relentless work in the heart of communities [#Spiritofmcr24](#)   

# Your night

## In photos

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# Your night In photos

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# Partnerships

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## Meet the Mancunian Podcast

For 2024, we partnered with 'Meet the Mancunian Podcast: Social impact stories from Manchester', hosted by Deepa Thomas-Sutcliffe.

For Season 9 of the podcast, Deepa hosts a special Spirit of Manchester series dedicated to telling the stories of the shortlisted nominees and winners of the awards.



**Tune in for a weekly episode:** [www.meetthemancunian.co.uk](http://www.meetthemancunian.co.uk)

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## Visair

We express our sincere thanks and gratitude to Visair for their expertise, support and guidance in order for us to run the event hybrid.

**For more information on Visair services visit:** [www.visair.co.uk](http://www.visair.co.uk)





# Partnerships

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## Hip Pop

Thank you to Hip Pop for their generous donations of Hip Pop Kombucha Drinks for guests on the night of the awards.

**Read more about Hip Pop:** [www.drinkhippop.com](http://www.drinkhippop.com)

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## Photographer: Anthony Owaeghianye

Thank you to our volunteer photographer, Anthony (Villa5Studioz), for taking the time on the evening with his colleague to capture the buzz and excitement of the room.

**Instagram:** @Studio\_Villa5

**LinkedIn:** owae

**TikTok:** @villa5studioz

**Facebook:** @villa5studioz

**Website:** [www.v5s.co.uk](http://www.v5s.co.uk)



# Nominations and shortlisting

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This year's Spirit of Manchester Awards had 14 categories, two of which were decided in advance by the judges – Young Volunteer of the Year Award and the Dr Sylvia Sham Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Voluntary Sector. We introduced our newest category, the Community and Business Collaboration Award.

Nomination submissions opened in March and required a 200 word description along with their application. Closing at the start of June, we, once again, received our largest amount of nominations, reaching over 200 submissions.

Our team of five judges deliberated and chose three nominations from each category to shortlist. All shortlisted nominees were informed and asked to produce a one minute film showcasing their nomination. Macc offered a range of support, including filming and editing training. All films form part of the voting process for the winners on the night.



## View the shortlist:

[www.manchestercommunitycentral.org/spirit-of-manchester/spirit-manchester-awards](http://www.manchestercommunitycentral.org/spirit-of-manchester/spirit-manchester-awards)

## Watch the films: [www.youtube.com/playlist?](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWMgtSLNNsUmlG_58SIO4bVhMIVgwM2-s)

[list=PLWMgtSLNNsUmlG\\_58SIO4bVhMIVgwM2-s](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLWMgtSLNNsUmlG_58SIO4bVhMIVgwM2-s)

# Meet the judges

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**From left to right:** Jeremy 'Jez' Myers (Chair), Keisha Thompson, Samuel Remi-Akinwale, Nakib Narat, Alexandra King-Byatt

**Read our judges biographies:**

[www.manchestercommunitycentral.org/spirit-of-manchester/spirit-manchester-awards-judges](http://www.manchestercommunitycentral.org/spirit-of-manchester/spirit-manchester-awards-judges)

## Inclusive Media Ambassador Ellie Eckersley, Macc Intern

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This year we were fortunate in recruiting Ellie through the University of Manchester Student Enterprise Internship programme.

Starting in June, Ellie was instrumental in supporting the team with the co-ordination of the awards. We send our thanks to Ellie for all of her support and wish her well with her future studies.



# Winners

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## Volunteer of the Year

Winner: Sammy Minshull

Shortlisted: Holly Taberner  
and Maria Romanenko

## Volunteering Team

Winner: SHINE

Shortlisted: Caritas Salford  
and Manchester Central Foodbank

## Volunteer Involving Organisation

Winner: Home-Start Manchester

Shortlisted: MASH and  
LGBT Foundation

## Young Volunteer of the Year

Winner: Amelia McCallum

## Tackling Inequalities

Winner: Across Ummah CIC

Shortlisted: Europaia and  
Nurturing Foundations

## Inspiring Campaign

Winner: Future Directions  
Green Superheroes

Shortlisted: Lifeshare and SNUG



# Winners

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## **Creative Community Spirit**

Winner: Segment Arts, Moss Side Powerhouse and Crossing Footprints

Shortlisted: Rain Dance Colour Festival and Edge Theatre

## **Partnership and Collaboration**

Winner: Smart Works and AJ Bell

Shortlisted: Street Engagement Hub and GLL/Better

## **Trustee/Committee Member of the Year**

Winner: Colette Cronshaw

Shortlisted: Jane Carroll and Kotieba Ramadan

## **Service User Involving Organisation**

Winner: Future Directions CIC

Shortlisted: Coffee4Craig and Gaddum Engagement Team

## **Social Economy Champion**

Winner: She Leads for Legacy

Shortlisted: Beth Powell and The Old Abbey Tap House

## **Community Cohesion**

Winner: Happy Somedays

Shortlisted: North Manchester Community Partnership and Tree of Life Centre



# Winners

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## **Community and Business Collaboration**

Winner: Happy Somedays

Shortlisted: Peninsula Group and Greater Manchester Law Centre & Clyde & Co

## **The Dr Sylvia Sham Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Voluntary Sector**

Winner: Alma Chadfield (Tree of Life Centre)

# Trophies

ELLA MCINTOSH

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Thank you to the talented Ella McIntosh for designing and creating the trophies again for this year's Spirit of Manchester Awards.

Ella McIntosh is based in the Manchester Craft and Design Centre and specialises in contemporary pewter metal work.



[www.ellamcintosh.co.uk](http://www.ellamcintosh.co.uk)



[ella@ellamcintosh.co.uk](mailto:ella@ellamcintosh.co.uk)



# Raffle and auction

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For this year, we were fortunate to be able to hold both a raffle and auction, both of which were a major success.

Through the generosity of local organisations and businesses for donating a range of extravagant gifts, we raised

# £2505.00

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for our Spirit of Manchester Fund! Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket and congratulations to all who won a prize!

**Read about our Spirit of Manchester Fund grants:**

[www.manchestercommunitycentral.org/spirit-of-manchester/spirit-manchester-fund](http://www.manchestercommunitycentral.org/spirit-of-manchester/spirit-manchester-fund)



# With thanks to our award supporters

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Young Volunteer of the Year



Tackling Inequalities



Community & Business Collab



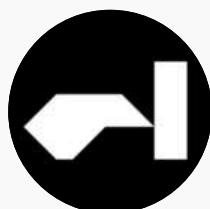
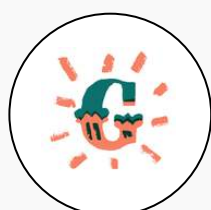
Partnership and Collaboration



Community Cohesion

# With thanks to our raffle and auction supporters

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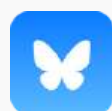


# Spirit of Manchester 2025

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Thank you to everyone who made our 12th Spirit of Manchester Awards possible. The atmosphere was electric this year and we could not be more happy to be fully back to in person events. It was great to see so much celebration of the essential VCSE sector in Manchester.

Make sure to stay connected with us for announcements regarding the Spirit of Manchester 2025!



McrCommCentral



McrCommCentral



SpiritOfManchester



MaccManchester

## Would you like to support an award in 2025?

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Help support one of our Spirit of Manchester Awards! Get in contact with [jo@macc.org.uk](mailto:jo@macc.org.uk) for more information.

**Read about how you can support us:**

[www.manchestercommunitycentral.org/spirit-of-manchester/spirit-manchester-supporters](http://www.manchestercommunitycentral.org/spirit-of-manchester/spirit-manchester-supporters)