

dot-art Schools Exhibition 2015 at St George's Hall

The third annual dot-art Schools Exhibition, showcasing work by talented school children from across the Liverpool City Region, will take place at St George's Hall from Friday 5th to Saturday 20th June. The competition has grown year on year and in 2015 will include winning art works from around fifty year 6 and year 9 pupils.

dot-art Schools was launched in 2012 and is designed to nurture talent and raise ambition by taking art out of the classroom and into the real world. This year's art competition attracted around 50 primary and secondary schools from the region and we are very pleased to be partnering with the wonderful St George's Hall to bring the winning artworks to a wide audience. Over 20 schools are getting involved for the very first time, alongside 30 schools returning to the dot-art Schools programme for the second or third successive year. The diverse range of schools includes local authority maintained, independent, and church schools, as well as residential and special schools from across Liverpool, Halton, Wirral, Sefton, Knowsley and St Helens.

Schools initially submitted up to 25 student works back in February. The artwork was then shortlisted by a panel of judges featuring representatives from Tate Liverpool, the Walker Art Gallery and Metal Culture; who selected their top three entries from each school ready for the public vote. During April, students, teachers, families and the general public were encouraged to vote online for their favourite piece from each school.

dot-art Schools Project manager, Carolyn Murray commented: *"Not only did we have the largest number of submissions to date this year, with over 800 artworks showcased online, the public vote was a huge success, with almost 3500 votes cast."*

The piece of work with the most votes from each participating school will now be part of the exhibition at St George's Hall. Before the opening event, guest judge Susan M. Coles will choose the overall winners and runners up for both primary and secondary. Susan is known to many art teachers as the President of the National Society for Education in Art & Design in 2014 and Secretary of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Art Craft and Design Education.

On Thursday 4th June two very special prize giving events will take place in the stunning surroundings of the Concert Room of St George's Hall, where each shortlisted student will be presented with a certificate by the Lord Mayor of Liverpool. In addition the overall winners will be announced and prizes awarded.

John Robinson the Managing Director from dot-art Schools Principal Sponsor for 2015, David M. Robinson, commented: *"We are really happy to be involved in this project. Children of all ages, backgrounds and ability need the opportunity to be creative and innovative; values which we treasure in our organisation and in society as a whole."*

dot-art reaches out to the children in such a clever, diligent way, and as a result, have our full backing here in the North West.



David M Robinson would like to thank all the other companies in our region who also make a contribution to the development (and funding) of our vibrant Arts scene."

**The exhibition is free and open to the public from Friday 5th to Saturday 20th June.
Please enter through the Heritage Centre. Opening times: 10am – 5pm**

See: <http://schools.dot-art.com> OR <http://liverpoolcityhalls.co.uk/st-georges-hall/whats-on/dot-art-schools-exhibition-2015/> for more details.

The dot-art Schools project would not be possible without the very generous support of our principal sponsor David M. Robinson, additional sponsor Rathbones PLC, funders The Liverpool One Foundation and Community Foundation Merseyside and partners St George's Hall, Liverpool City Council and Merseyrail.

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Editors Notes

The annual dot-art Schools programme was launched in 2012 and was developed by dot-art, a Liverpool based independent and multifaceted arts organisation which has been supporting artists and developing innovative and creative visual arts projects and initiatives since 2005. Through the scheme, they aim to use their skills, experience and expertise to give the young people of the region access to an exciting new public platform for their creative output, and a taste of the way the art world works.

[dot-art](#) was founded in Liverpool in 2005 and specialises in affordable, high quality, locally sourced art. We work with over 100 artists to provide an unrivalled choice of original art and limited edition prints for home or business, as well as offering a range of complementary services including; commissions, art rental, art consultancy, exhibition planning and implementation, bespoke framing, art valuation and restoration and artist sourcing. @dotart

All our work supports our not-for profit arm, [dot-art Services CIC](#), which exists to support North-West based visual artists, both emerging and established, through a range of services and opportunities designed to help them develop their careers and gain exposure and promotion for their work, as well as delivering a programme of art classes at Liverpool's creative hub the Bluecoat (see: dot-art.co.uk/art-classes); and [dot-art Schools](#), our innovative inter school art competition, launched in 2012.

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