

The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights



The King's Silver Medal
Competition 2024

Since 1944 The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights has delivered The King's Silver Medal Competition, a demanding, interesting and very rewarding programme for final year apprentices from the maritime sector, the primary focus of which is personal development. The competition takes individuals out of their comfort zone and challenges them, but is specifically designed to ensure that every participant benefits from each stage of the process and develops as a result.



"I highly recommend this course! It encourages critical self-analysis and self-improvement. Never knowing what is around the corner is nerve wracking but just embrace the challenge and enjoy it!"

Callum Ferns of the RNLI. Winner of the King's Silver Medal 2023.

Every year the Shipwrights' Company invites well motivated apprentices from yards across the UK to apply for the programme. Eighteen applicants are selected to attend the week long Phipps Leadership and Development Programme at a purpose built camp on Kielder Water in Northumberland. The course, which is delivered by specialist tutors, is designed to be challenging but also to provide every participant with significant opportunities to learn and develop. Self-assessment and peer review play a vital role in the process and participants receive individual guidance from the tutors and a personal report.



"I'd definitely do it again! An incredible experience and I am proud to be able to say that I've done it."

Matt Snushall, RNLI. Winner of the Derek Kimber Medal 2023

Following the course the Shipwrights short list six successful participants for interviews in London with the Education and Charities Committee. These interviews are the culmination of the KSM Competition and result in the award of the following prizes:

The King's Silver Medal: £2000

The Shipwrights' Bronze Medal: £1500

The Derek Kimber Medal: £1000.

The prize for Most Notable Endeavour receives £750.

The prizes are presented to the winners by the Prime Warden with due ceremony in front of their invited guests in London.



"I have learnt that a lot of the things I did during this week I can use in my job everyday."

Kaylee McIsaac, BAE Systems, Barrow-in-Furness.

Winner of the Prize for Most Notable Endeavour 2023.

About The King's Silver Medal



In 1944 His Majesty King George VI, Permanent Master of the Shipwrights' Company, instituted a Silver Medal to be awarded to the Shipyard Apprentice of the Year. Kenneth Wood was the first winner of The King's Silver Medal.

The King charged the Shipwrights' Company with running the competition and it has been doing so ever since. In 1978 a Bronze Medal for the runner-up was included, followed in 1998 by a medal in memory of the late Derek Kimber OBE, Prime Warden and a noted shipbuilder with a great interest in apprentice training. A prize is also awarded to the candidate who displays the most notable endeavour at Kielder by having excelled in respect of at least one of the competition's main criteria.

The criteria against which applicants are assessed by the Shipwrights' King's Silver Medal Committee are:

- Willingness to Learn
- Diligence at trade and quality of output
- Teamwork Skills
- Good Citizenship & setting an example
- Leadership Qualities
- Problem Solving Skills



"The course was perfect for me as it challenged me in different ways and pushed my limits and now I know I can go out of my comfort zone to learn more about myself."

Tyler French, BAE Systems, Barrow-in-Furness. QSM Finalist 2019.

What's stopping you? Are you up for a challenge? Apply now and reap the rewards!

Who can apply? Final year apprentices from all trade backgrounds and disciplines, in small or large companies, are eligible. There is no longer an upper age limit. Are you interested?

Find out more at:

www.shipwrights.co.uk/education/kings-silver-medal

The 2024 KSM Competition Dates are:

By 31 May 2024 – Applications to be submitted

By 30 June 2024 – KSM participant selections confirmed

8-11 September 2024 – Phipps Leadership and Development Programme at Kielder Water

28 November 2024 – KSM Interviews in London

16 January 2025 – KSM Prize Winners' Lunch

We look forward to receiving your completed application by Friday 31 May 2024.

The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights

London has long been an important port and the trade of shipwright was one of the oldest in the City. There are no records of the origins of The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights but it is officially recognised as being prescriptive, so it originated before formal records began in 1199.

Today the Company prides itself on being the principal maritime Livery Company has members from every profession across the sector amongst its ranks including naval architects, lawyers, insurers marine engineers, sea-farers and brokers.





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