



V&A Innovate National Schools Challenge

Feedback on entries

Camden School for Girls

Binbedded

This group have clearly and creatively demonstrated their design process throughout, from exploring the theme through to their final idea. They outlined the negative impact of litter on the environment and identified a need to keep our streets clean. Through exploring the question 'what's wrong with our current bins?' they have shown excellent secondary research skills. Their primary research through the survey clearly helped them to understand the problem further. They have come up with an imaginative, creative redesign of the bin that could definitely help with some of the problems they have identified. The idea of adding the planter to the top of the bin is appealing and sinking down mechanism to benefit street cleaners has real potential as shown by the positive feedback from the school groundskeeper. Did the group think about how the bin would be emptied? If it goes down deep into the ground, how high would it need to come back up to be emptied out? The team have shown excellent iteration through sketching, annotated drawings, CAD and prototyping. They have shown great skill in creating the functioning cardboard model and creative use of lolly sticks to represent the bamboo exterior. They have also reflected on some of the difficulties they faced throughout, including using polymorph, and how the project overall has affected their own everyday behaviour. It would have been good to see how the team worked together on their idea: did they take on different roles in the project? Overall, we would like to commend the team on their excellent work. It was a very tough decision for the judges. Finally, 'Binbedded' is a very witty name that deserves praise!

On Pointe

SELECTED AS FINALISTS

This is an impressive project - thoughtful, creative and well-communicated. They have done a great job of understanding the intersectionality of the problems they have identified: sustainability, inclusivity, and development of young dancers. They have clearly and creatively demonstrated their design process throughout, from exploring the theme through to their final idea and reflection. Their research process is detailed and meaningful through excellent secondary and primary research, including sharing statistics and through observation (Royal Opera House poster). The team have shown excellent iteration through sketching, annotated drawings, and prototyping. Making the prototype shoe shows great skill and helped the team to refine and test their idea. They have considered the environmental impact of their idea throughout. They have explored different durable and more eco-friendly material options, and it is an ingenious idea to have replaceable parts within the shoe to reduce waste. They have thought carefully thought about users, including clearly explaining the need for more



affordable shoes in a range of skin tones. This entry was also highly commended for its innovation and originality, as there were no other entries like it in this year's challenge.

The judges were really impressed and are looking forward to hearing from them at the Pitching & Awards Day.

For the Pitching & Awards Day, the judges would like to hear how they worked together as a team? Did they have any particular roles? They also wondered whether they would be able to get any feedback on their idea to help inform it further? The judges felt their idea could be greatly impactful with the right choice of materials and would like to hear a bit more about why cork and neoprene were chosen.

Sensory Celebrations

This is a very well-considered and communicated idea. The team have presented their design journey and ideas clearly and creatively. The group have shown very advanced primary research skills, through sending out a survey, speaking with Jean to understand her experience of greeting cards and by visiting Centre 404 to gain more understanding of user needs and taking feedback on board. The judges were very impressed by this market research and genuinely person-centred approach. They have researched existing designs and have considered how they will make more inclusive, sensory cards. The environmental impact has been considered and it's great to see where the materials were sourced. It would have been great to see whether they could have taken this further and perhaps found all the materials second-hand? A particularly impressive part of this entry is their reflection on their collaboration and their journey as a team – this is some of the best reflection on teamwork from all of the entries this year. Overall, this is a great entry with lots of potential. It was a very tough decision for the judges this year.

Wheeldrobe

This is a thoughtful design that is a clever, creative adaptation of an existing product that could improve the everyday lives of wheelchair users. The group have undertaken some good secondary research and have shown good awareness of sustainability through researching materials for each aspect of their Wheeldrobe design. They have shown their design journey clearly from initial sketches to prototype, which looks well made. This really helps bring the entry to life and describe their idea. The group has shown good reflection skills by sharing ideas that did and didn't work out and what they could do for future iterations. It would have been good to see whether they researched any existing wardrobes made for wheelchair users and how their design is different. For example, are the modular parts or the detachable laundry basket ideas that aren't currently on the market? These are both ingenious ideas. It would have been great to hear how they worked together as a team on their design journey: did they all have different roles? Overall, this was another strong entry with potential to have a really positive impact.