

Thursday, 10 September 2020

Comment on EuroSkills Squad Announcement

Three of Scotland's college students have been selected to join the Team UK Squad for the upcoming EuroSkills Graz 2020, taking place from 6-10 January 2021. Joining the fourteen strong squad are:

- Greta Volungeviciute, 22, City of Glasgow College – Visual Merchandising
- Lewis Batchelor, 21, New College Lanarkshire – Mechanical Engineering CAD
- Lewis Dymock, 23, New College Lanarkshire – Chemical Laboratory Technician (demo).

Team UK – selected, trained, and mentored by education and skills charity WorldSkills UK – will be heading to Austria in January to do battle with more than 500 competitors from 27 Countries who practice 45 different skills disciplines.

The competition in Graz, which was postponed due to the COVID-19 crisis, is seen as an important indicator as to how the UK's skills systems measure up against key economic competitors across Europe.

Commenting on the EuroSkills Squad Announcement, outlined today (Thursday), Shona Struthers, Chief Executive of Colleges Scotland, said:

“It is fantastic to see Scotland's colleges once again represented on the European stage. This is yet another example of the continued excellence that Scotland's colleges are demonstrating through WorldSkills competitions, and builds on the strong showing at WorldSkills UK Live competition in November of last year, when three of Scotland's colleges placed on the medal table, and with New College Lanarkshire and City of Glasgow College securing the top two places in the UK league table.”

“I am sure that EuroSkills in Graz this coming January will give Greta, Lewis and Lewis the opportunity to benchmark their skills against the very best in Europe and the rest of the World, and I wish them all the best of luck as they prepare for the competition.”

Martin McGuire, WorldSkills UK Director, Scotland said:

“It is fantastic to see Scotland once again represented on the European stage. Insight from both the European and WorldSkills Competition in Shanghai next year will enable us to benchmark the skills of young people in Scotland against the very best in Europe and the rest of the World. “I wish the team members from Scotland the best of luck as they prepare for EuroSkills.”

Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science, Richard Lochhead MSP, said:

“Scotland has a long tradition of scientific, engineering and creative innovation. It is great to see, once again, that Scottish students are excelling in these specialisms. Well done to all three – you are doing the country proud and I wish you all the best in this competition.”

ENDS

For further information, please contact:

Will McLeish, Head of Communications and Public Affairs:

Tel: 01786 892063

Mobile: 07712 404 397

Email: will.mcleish@collegesscotland.ac.uk

Joanne Buchan, Communications and Public Affairs Officer:
Tel: 01786 892012
Mobile: 07590 229 707
Email: joanne.buchan@collegesscotland.ac.uk