

# PRESS RELEASE

## dot-art Schools Competition Winners 2014

The winners of the 2013/14 dot-art Schools Competition were announced at a prize-giving ceremony at the Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool on Light Night, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May. As well as the overall winners, the top three students from each of the participating schools were all presented with a certificate by the Lord Mayor, Councillor Gary Millar.

Over 1000 works by 46 schools were shortlisted by a panel of three judges including: Sandra Penketh, Director of Art Galleries at National Museums Liverpool; Sarah Pickstone, winner of the John Moores Painting Prize in 2012; and Jenny Porter, Project Manager, Metal and Liverpool Art Prize.

The overall judge for the competition was Liverpool Art Prize Winner, Tabitha Moses. "I would like to congratulate everyone who took part in the competition, I had a very difficult time choosing the winners. This competition inspires students to think about art and design as a career option, and its great to see such a variety of art and design in schools using adventurous materials. This is a brilliant opportunity for students to exhibit in the Walker Art Gallery so early in their career"

The two runners-up from primary schools were Tilly Rogan from Arnot St Marys and Holly from St Michael and All Angels Primary School, with the Winner being announced as Daniel Canning from Christian Fellowship School.

The two runners-up from secondary schools were Erin Ball from Holly Lodge Girls College and Leigha Slevin from St Augustine of Canterbury, with the Winner being announced as Lottie Hulse from St Hildas.

A special 'Highly Commended' Prize was awarded to Kirsty Vidamour of Range High School.

Each artist won exclusive ticket's to see Tate Liverpool's Mondrian Exhibition as well as vouchers for art materials from Rennies Gallery and books from the Walker Art Gallery.

As well as this, our secondary winner, Lottie also received a scholarship to dot-art, giving her a year's membership to dot-art's network, allowing her to showcase and sell his work alongside professional artists.

Lucy Byrne of dot-art said: "The selection of the overall winner of the first dot-art Schools Programme was an incredibly difficult process, as the standard of work submitted was absolutely fantastic."

Lord Mayor of Liverpool Gary Millar added: "Well done to all these schools for taking part and inspiring the amazing young people to get involved... Its not every school child who gets to see their work on the walls of a gallery!"

dot-art Schools is grateful for the generous support of the Liverpool One Foundation, Community Foundation Liverpool, Cassell Moore Solicitors and Rennies Art Gallery.

An exhibition of the winning artworks entries is at the Walker Art Gallery until 8<sup>th</sup> June (Open Daily 10am-6pm)

## ENDS

### Notes to Editors

#### dot-art

dot-art Schools is an annual, interactive, inter-school art competition, open to primary and secondary schools based in the Liverpool City Region, designed to nurture talent, raise ambition, and take art out of the classroom and into the real world. With the current threats to creative subjects on the national curriculum, dot-art Schools offers a way of keeping young people engaged in the arts, allows them to see a creative career path, and encouraging them to attend exhibitions outside of school.

Schools are each invited to submit 25 pieces of art work by students in year 6 and year 9, which are then subject to an online public vote. Over 380 entries were submitted this year, and can all be viewed online at [schools.dot-art.com](http://schools.dot-art.com).

**dot-art Schools is currently looking for both primary and secondary schools across the Liverpool City Region who would like to take part in the next programme, which starts in September 2014. Teachers interested in getting involved can find out more and complete an Expression of Interest form on the dot-art Schools website: <http://schools.dot-art.com/register>**

Information about entering the 2014/15 prize can be found here: [schools.dot-art.com](http://schools.dot-art.com).

#### National Museums Liverpool

National Museums Liverpool comprises eight venues, including some of the most visited museums in England outside of London. Our collections are among the most important and varied in Europe and contain everything from Impressionist paintings and rare beetles to a lifejacket from the Titanic.

We attract more than 2.7million visitors every year. Our venues are the International Slavery Museum, Lady Lever Art Gallery, Merseyside Maritime Museum, Museum of Liverpool, Sudley House, Border Force National Museum, Walker Art Gallery and World Museum.

One of the finest art galleries in Europe, the Walker Art Gallery is home to renaissance masterpieces, Tudor portraits and one of the best collections of Victorian and Pre-Raphaelite art in the country. An outstanding display of contemporary art includes work by David Hockney, Lucian Freud and Bridget Riley.