

PRESS RELEASE
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MPI announces internship prize for Vanessa Cotton Scholarship Award 2020

MPI UK&I are delighted to announce the launch of the 9th MPI Vanessa Cotton Scholarship Award, created in honour of the UK event industry veteran Vanessa Cotton.

The scholarship was created to recognise the industry's brightest and most ambitious students graduating from event management degrees and supporting their first step into the meetings and events sector.

This year we have the opportunity to award two scholarships. Each winner will receive a four-month, paid internship with Mash Media based in Kingston, Surrey. Winners will have the opportunity to work on a number of Mash Media events, including; 'The Event Production Show', 'International Confex', 'The PA Show' and the launch of 'The Publishing Show' at ExCel. There is the opportunity to work on site at all the shows.

In addition, winners will take up a position actively supporting the programme of activity driven by the MPI UK & Ireland Communications Committee.

Applications will be shortlisted by an MPI judging panel; the shortlist will then be presented to representatives from Mash Media who will select the winners. The judging panel are: Judy Elvey – MPI UK & Ireland President, Susan Arslan - MPI UK & Ireland President Elect, Jonathan Tok – MPI UK & Ireland Vice President of Young Leaders and Ruth Robinson – MPI UK & Ireland Secretariat.

Susan Arslan, President Elect of MPI UK and Ireland, said: "MPI UK & Ireland are delighted to be running this opportunity again this year, in spite of the difficulties our industry is currently facing. Vanessa Cotton did a huge amount for our industry, so it is fitting that this internship scheme is in her name. We're proud to be working with Mash Media to give not 1 but 2 events students a great opportunity and a worthwhile start to their career."

Liz Agostini of Mash Media said 'We are delighted to be involved with the Vanessa Cotton Scholarship, we've been committed to providing opportunities for new talent within the events industry for a number of years and many of our interns have returned to the business on completion of their studies to adopt key positions within marketing, operations, design, editorial and sales, in some cases rising over a number of years to senior managerial roles. We're excited about welcoming the 2020 scholars, the experience we can offer them and the ideas that they can bring'.

Students on event management and related courses at universities across the country are invited to apply and can download an application on the MPI UK & Ireland website or by emailing: ruth@mpiuki.org

The deadline for entries is Friday 15th January 2021. Shortlisting will take place week commencing 18th January 2021 with telephone interviews conducted week commencing 25th January 2021.

About MPI:

Meeting Professionals International (MPI) is the largest meeting and event industry association worldwide. Founded in 1972, MPI provides innovative and relevant education, networking opportunities and business exchanges, and acts as a prominent voice for the promotion and growth of the industry. MPI has a global community of 60,000 meeting and event professionals including more than 17,000 engaged members and its Plan Your Meetings audience. It has more than 90 chapters and clubs in 19 countries. More at: www.mpiweb.org and www.mpiuki.org.

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