



New competition helps children re-imagine the great outdoors

'See What I See' asks five to 16-year olds to set their imaginations free and re-think their built environment

Prizes up to £600

Competition launched in partnership with Bath Spa University and the Royal Fine Art Commission Trust

A new competition for five to 16-year olds has been launched today to help children feel more connected to the outside world during the coronavirus lockdown.

See What I see, which has been created by the Royal Fine Art Commission Trust (RFACT) in partnership with Bath Spa University, asks children to think about what they miss most about their built environment, how it might be redesigned to bring people together and which place or building they'll visit first once coronavirus restrictions have been lifted.

The competition activities have been designed for different age groups, each with a monetary prize attached (first prize £600, second prize £300 and third prize £100).

- **Five to eight-year olds:** an opportunity to show their artistic skills and creativity in the form of 3D models, drawings and any other formats they can think of
- **Nine to 12-year olds:** an opportunity to explore and creatively re-make the world around us by re-imagining their local community and use their imagination to design changes to the environment to make it a better place to live
- **13 to 16-year olds:** a category for aspiring designers, those with unlimited imagination and critical eye for detail. Entrants might imagine themselves as an architect, an urban designer or a civil engineer exploring their built environment

Kyriaki Anagnostopoulou, Head of the School of Education at Bath Spa University, said:

"Being made to stay indoors can often be associated with punishment for young children, so we wanted to give them something positive to think about that would let their imaginations run wild. At a time when we suddenly find ourselves separated from the outside world, our desire to engage with our environment has become stronger than ever, so this is a perfect opportunity for children to rethink the surroundings that we often take for granted and re-imagine bold, new solutions that inspire new ways of living together."

Robert Bargery, Executive Director at RFACT, which promotes visual awareness and public appreciation of high-quality design, added: "We want children to use their endless creativity to imagine how they would transform and improve our built environment while we're observing it from the outside in. We hope this competition acts as a helpful resource for teachers and parents to keep their children feeling engaged, happy and creative while the lockdown continues. The opportunities are endless and we can't wait to see the entries as they come in!"

The entries will be judged by a high-profile judging panel comprising the esteemed design critic [Stephen Bayley](#), the famous architect [Sir Terry Farrell CBE](#), the award-winning exhibition designer [Dinah Casson CBE](#) and [Professor Kyriaki Anagnostopoulou](#), Head of the School of Education at Bath Spa University.

Judges will be looking for three things: creativity, engagement with surroundings and imaginative design solutions that solve a problem or improve a local area. Winning entries will be showcased in an online gallery on the *See What I See* website.

The deadline for entries is 30 May 2020.

For more information visit: <http://www.seewhatisee.me/>

A parent, guardian, carer or teacher will need to enter on children's' behalf here: <http://www.seewhatisee.me/the-competition/>

About Bath Spa University

- Bath Spa University is where creativity and enterprise meet. Offering a wide range of modern courses across the arts, science, education, social science and business to 7,000 students, the University employs outstanding academic and technical staff to deliver innovative learning opportunities.
- Based in stunning countryside just a few minutes from a World Heritage City, Bath Spa University students graduate as engaged global citizens who are ready for the world of work. 96.1 per cent of graduates find themselves in work or further study within six months.

www.bathspa.ac.uk

About Royal Fine Art Commission Trust

- The Royal Fine Art Commission Trust is a registered UK charity that was set up in 1987 to promote design excellence in architecture and the built environment. Over the past thirty years, the Trust has sought to promote visual awareness and public appreciation of high-quality design, for example through educational initiatives, publishing books and occasional papers, organising lectures and seminars and a national architecture award. Today it advances its charitable objectives through commentary on design matters, by undertaking or commissioning relevant research and by partnering projects where its involvement can add value.

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