



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate use

Fife schoolgirl earns environmental accolade for reporting expertise

Dollar Academy student scoops Young Reporters Scotland award

Environmental charity, Keep Scotland Beautiful, has announced that Amanda Amaeshi from Dunfermline in Fife has won the 11-14 age category in the Young Reporters Scotland competition in recognition of her creative talents and investigative journalism skills.

Amanda, aged 12, celebrated her achievement at a ceremony held in Stirling last week (Thursday 30 March) to mark the success of the Young Reporters Scotland 2016/17 programme - which inspires young people to increase their knowledge and awareness of economic, social and environmental issues and gives them a platform to express their views.

The Young Reporters Scotland judging panel commended Amanda for her well-researched and informative account of food waste. Her written submission, titled *The Food Waste Crisis*, highlighted the causes and potential solutions to the problem. An image of Amanda and her award can be accessed [here](#).

Amanda, who won an Amazon Fire tablet, commented: "I wrote about Food because I find it very interesting and I am not a fan of waste. I really want to encourage others to cut waste and really enjoyed taking part."

Young Reporters Scotland is open Scotland-wide to those aged 11 - 21. The programme is linked to the international Young Reporters for the Environment (YRE)

initiative. Amanda's entry has been selected for the international competition which will be judged in May.

Derek Robertson, Chief Executive of Keep Scotland Beautiful, commented:

"Young Reporters Scotland provides young people from across Scotland the opportunity to become further engaged in the environmental issues that are closest to their hearts and minds.

"Keep Scotland Beautiful is proud to support this programme and help all entrants develop an understanding of the challenges facing Scotland's environment. All of the submissions this year are fantastic examples of investigative journalism and it is clear that there is significant interest in helping to address and raise awareness of Scotland's environmental challenges."

Further information on Young Reporters Scotland can be found at:

<http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/yrs>

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Notes to Editors

1. **Keep Scotland Beautiful** is the charity that campaigns, acts and educates on a range of local, national and global environmental issues to change behaviour and improve the quality of people's lives and the places they care for. We are committed to making Scotland clean, green and more sustainable. Further details at www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org
2. **Young Reporters Scotland (YRS)** aims to empower young people to take action towards an economically, socially and environmentally just world. Taking part in YRS is an exciting opportunity for young people to build life-changing skills and be part of an international group of young people creatively raising awareness of sustainability issues within their communities.

3. Young Reporters Scotland is part of the international **Young Reporters for the Environment** (YRE) programme which is in operation in over 25 countries. It is coordinated internationally by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE) and is managed in Scotland by Keep Scotland Beautiful.
4. **Media enquiries** to Peter Duncan 07740 469949/peter@messagematters.co.uk or Kirsty Leiper 07908 781 331/kirsty@messagematters.co.uk