



For immediate release

“Window on Another World” – An Art Competition for Oxfordshire children

Oxford, 13 October 2014 – Primary school children across Oxfordshire could see their artwork reproduced on a wall in Jericho, Oxford, thanks to a new art competition launched this week. The competition, called “Window on Another World,” has been inspired by the construction of a new building in Jericho, in the heart of Oxford, which will soon make Oxford University’s Blavatnik School of Government (BSG) neighbours with Oxford University Press (OUP). BSG and OUP have teamed up with construction and engineering company Laing O’Rourke to launch the competition, which will see selections of children’s artwork reproduced on the hoardings that currently surround the BSG building site.

The “Window on Another World” competition aims to help children set their imaginations alight with what other worlds could look like. Children’s pictures will be judged for the most imaginative, bright and exciting visions of another world. As well as receiving a selection of prizes, including books and an iPad mini, the winners of the competition will see their images appear on a wall alongside the much-loved children’s book characters, Winnie the Witch and her black cat Wilbur, in a bespoke illustration created for the site by Winnie’s illustrator, Korky Paul. The Winnie the Witch book series is published by Oxford University Press, and therefore ties to a long history of association with OUP and the community of Jericho.

The Blavatnik School of Government is a global school, attracting exceptional graduate students from all over the world to study in Oxford. When Winnie the Witch appears on the construction hoardings, peeking through the peepholes onto the site for BSG’s new building, she’ll be taking a glimpse into the emerging world of BSG. With this art competition, Oxfordshire primary school children are invited to imagine what they would see if *they* could peer through a “Window on Another World”.

What could another world look like? Perhaps children will choose to draw an amazing underwater scene, or invent an awesome cityscape, or imagine a prehistoric world of dinosaurs, or a fabulous fairy-tale kingdom of knights and dragons. Wherever children’s imaginations take them, it is hoped this competition will be a fun and engaging way of connecting them with the idea that there are many different worlds of opportunity for them to explore.

Korky Paul, illustrator of the Winnie the Witch books and lead competition judge, said:

“As an Oxford resident, watching this new building rise up from behind the hoardings, I’ve been curious about the results of all the construction activity. To me, it just called out to have Winnie and Wilbur peeking through the windows onto the site as they wonder what might be growing there.”

Ngairé Woods, Dean of the Blavatnik School of Government, said:

“Our students come here from many different countries and backgrounds to share and learn from different experiences. We love the idea of working with our new neighbour, OUP, to help inspire children to imagine other worlds and opportunities.”

Steve Holland, the BSG Building Project Leader at Laing O’Rourke, said:

“It’s important to Laing O’Rourke to be able to add value to the communities in which we work. ‘The Window on Another World’ competition offered a great opportunity to connect Oxfordshire children with the exciting work we’re delivering at the university, and we are really pleased to be able to offer our support. We’re looking forward to seeing just how imaginative the results can be and working with Korky Paul to bring them to life.”



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Notes to Editors

The **Blavatnik School of Government** is a global school with a vision of a world better led, better served and better governed. Founded at the University of Oxford in 2010, the School was made possible through a £75 million donation to Oxford by American philanthropist Leonard Blavatnik. The School offers a distinctive global approach to public policy, within a rich, multidisciplinary curriculum delivered by world-class faculty. Programmes of study include a full time one-year Master of Public Policy, a full-time three-year doctorate in Public policy and a range of executive courses on different specialist topics for leaders in government, business and non-profit sectors. www.bsg.ac.uk

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Laing O'Rourke is an internationally-focused engineering enterprise with a heritage spanning over 165 years. Committed to a sustainable future, Laing O'Rourke is re-thinking the way the built environment is designed, delivered and operates - collaborating with world-leading industry and academic partners, bringing innovative new solutions, ensuring the most efficient long-term engineering solutions.

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About the competition

- Entries will be judged for the most imaginative, bright and exciting visions of another world by a panel led by illustrator Korky Paul.
- The competition will be judged in two categories: Reception to Year 2 (ages 4-7) Years 3 to 6 (ages 7-11)
- The winning pictures (up to 12 in total) will be displayed on the Blavatnik School of Government building site hoardings from January to June 2015.
- All 12 winners will receive a selection of OUP books and a goody bag from Laing O'Rourke.
- One top winner from each category will also receive £150 worth of OUP books or resources for their school and the overall competition winner will receive an iPad mini from the Blavatnik School of Government.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES TO BE RECEIVED IS FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2014.

Additional information

- Entries should be made on an A4 sheet of white paper.
- Artwork can be created in felt tip pen, crayon, paint, or coloured pencil. Please no glue, staples, or three dimensional collage elements.
- Please do not include any lettering or words on artwork.
- Each entry must be clearly labelled on the back in block capitals with the child's name, age, year, and school.
- Entries should be posted to: Window on the World Competition, Oxford Children's Books Department, Oxford University Press, Oxford OX2 6DP.