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### Place to be Proud of Award for Art and Culture

For the second year running, The Making scooped Basingstoke's **Place to be Proud of Award for Art and Culture**. This year, our youth arts coordinator, **Zara Hamid** won the award for 'making a real difference to the lives of many young people, often in hard-to-reach groups'.

Zara runs our **Street Art** programme for young people aged 11-19 years in priority wards in Basingstoke and Deane. Street Art aims to enable young people to make positive contributions to their local communities, to improve their confidence, skills and aspirations and to work towards reducing street crime and anti-social behaviour. Through outreach work, Street Art project-coordinator, Zara has been able to identify the needs of the young people and try to meet them by providing positive diversionary projects. In particular, she supports young people to develop their own art-based activities and events led by professional artists and designers.

Street Art also offers participants the chance to achieve a nationally recognised qualification through The Arts Awards and sign-posts participants on to further skills and training through Vinvolved youth volunteering scheme

Zara has been working for The Making for the past two years. A professional artist and arts educator, Zara specialises in participatory and sensory art mediums - creating interactive structures and installations from recycled paper. Zara has worked with a broad range of people and organisations including disadvantaged children, visually impaired audiences, and adults with learning difficulties with arts organisation Artscope.

Street Art *is* funded by The Big Lottery Fund.

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### NOTES FOR EDITORS

Based in Basingstoke, **The Making** is an award-winning arts charity that promotes high quality contemporary craft and design and inspires new audiences to engage in the art of making. It takes art to where people are, delivering popular and innovative events and participatory programmes for children, families and young people.