Joint winners announced for Sustainable Project of



The Scottish Crannog Centre and Manchester Museum and Museum Development England's North team were crowned sustainability award winners at the 22nd annual Museums + Heritage Awards.

The winners were announced at an evening ceremony in London on 15 May, recognising their inspirational approach to managing and communicating the impact of the climate crisis.

Congratulations to Manchester Museum, Museum Development North and The Scottish Crannog Centre for their winning projects.

The winners

Manchester Museum and Museum Development North, Roots and Branches



Manchester Museum staff on their pop-up stand at Ardwick Climate Action Day. Photo: Manchester Museum.

Knowledge sharing is at the heart of this initiative and the judges were impressed by the huge impact it has had, and continues to have, on the heritage sector. The panel said: "It's a rallying call to action for all museums!"

Roots & Branches creates opportunities for museums to gain and exchange skills and knowledge, and test initiatives which advance and embed sustainable thinking.

Manchester Museum hosts **Roots** from its experimental Top Floor, a testbed for how museums can harness their civic responsibility and convening power to support collective action and positive change in response to the climate and ecological crisis.

Branches, managed by Museum Development England's North team, developed the first Carbon Literacy for Museums Toolkit with the Carbon Literacy Project, and has implemented a successful training programme for staff, volunteers and board members across museums of all sizes.

The toolkit can be easily accessed and adapted by the sector for low cost, and there are now more than 1,000 certified Carbon Literate Museum learners across the UK.

The Scottish Crannog Centre, 1000 Fingerprints 1000 Voices



A key component of an Iron Age roundhouse is a basket frame structure for the roof made from hundreds of hazel rods. Photo: The Scottish Crannog Centre.

The judges were impressed by the creative and inspiring way this organisation is engaging in climate changes. The panel commented: "It is strongly rooted in place, and has embedded sustainability throughout."

Following a devasting fire in 2021, it has built a new museum using locally-sourced and sustainable materials and skills.

The centre grows its own food, has its own water source and develops coppice sites on the local hillsides working with local farmers and landowners.

All the materials used to construct the Iron Age village were built from resources within travelling distance for those who would have once lived in the loch dwellings.

The project's lasting legacy is to inspire others with its sustainable model.

See all winners for the Museums + Heritage Awards 2024.

Run a sustainable heritage project

We want all types of heritage projects to do their best in mitigating against and adapting to climate change and to help nature recover.

To help you prepare your application, read our step-by-step guidance on environmental sustainability.



efyd mewn ...



Project of the Year 2024

Meet the Changemakers event on Manchester Museum Top Floor. Credit: Manchester Museum.



Some of the team stand in front of the newly completed roundhouses. Photo: The Scottish Crannog Centre.

Case study: The Scottish Crannog Centre