Hepworth Wakefield named Museum of the Year 2017

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Hepworth Wakefield Gallery

Congratulations to the team at the National Lottery-funded Hepworth Wakefield.

The Hepworth Wakefield has fought off tough competition to take the converted title of Museum of the Year 2017.

What the judges said

The competition judges praised the gallery for a year of “breathtaking” exhibitions, booming visitor numbers and the creation of an important award for contemporary sculpture.

The gallery celebrated its fifth birthday last year and saw a 21% rise in visitors following its National Lottery funded revamp. It launched a major new award for British sculpture and staged exhibitions by Martin Parr, Stanley Spencer and Anthea Hamilton.

The impact of the National Lottery

The Hepworth Wakefield, which takes home £100,000 prize money, joins fourteen previous winners of Museum of the Year (previously the Art Fund Prize and Gulbenkin Prize) that are National Lottery-funded. They include the Scottish National Gallery which won in 2004, the British Museum in 2011 and last year's winner, the V&A Museum.

In fact, four of the five shortlisted contenders of this year's prize were all National Lottery funded. The Lapworth Museum of Geology; the National centre for Horseracing and Sporting Art; and the Sir John Soane's Museum were all in the running, and all receive £10,000 as runners-up.

What next?

To find out more about the Hepworth Wakefield and the Museum of the Year 2017 competition, visit the Art Fund website or use the hashtag #MuseumOfTheYear.

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Heritage Lottery Fund welcomes the opening of The Hepworth Wakefield

The gallery site has been developed at a cost of £35million as part of the £100m regeneration of Waterfront Wakefield. It includes the restoration of former mill and warehouse buildings, the development of new residential, office and leisure facilities, and outdoor landscaping with a new pedestrian
18/05/2011

Professor Alice Roberts at Lapworth Museum

News

Finalists revealed for Museum of the Year 2017

The finalists vying to be named Art Fund Museum of the Year have been announced.
28/04/2017