

PRESS RELEASE

LAWRENCE CARD NAMED RTS YOUNG TECHNOLOGIST OF THE YEAR 2019, SPONSORED BY NETGEM.TV

Jake Brightman announced as runner-up and recipient of the Coffey Award for Excellence in Technology 2019

London, 15 July 2019 – The Royal Television Society (RTS) has unveiled the winner of its annual **RTS Young Technologist Award**, sponsored by netgem.tv, leaders in internet TV service, and presented in memory of A.M. Beresford-Cooke. Lawrence Card, Broadcast Engineering Trainee at BBC, was chosen to receive the prestigious award by a panel of industry expert judges, chaired by Digital Media Consultant **Terry Marsh**.

Lawrence has spent the last two years on the BBC Broadcast Engineer Trainee graduate scheme, working towards his MSc in Broadcast Engineering. During this time, Lawrence has worked with the Radio Projects, World Service Distribution and Research and Development's Immersive and Interactive content team. Lawrence is currently investigating how AI and machine learning can assist programme teams who require vision monitoring for his final project.

Prior to joining the scheme, Lawrence studied a Masters in Electronics Engineering and gained a distinction, leading to his first industry role as an Operations Engineer at ITV. He also volunteers as the Engineering Team Leader at St Albans based community radio station "Radio Verulam".

Terry Marsh, Chair of the RTS Young Technologist Award jury, said: "We are thrilled to name Lawrence the RTS Young Technologist of the Year and celebrate the wealth of talented young individuals entering the field. The standard of entries was remarkably high this year but Lawrence's broad industry perspective and wide technical knowledge, coupled with his self-motivated, tenacious and confident approach makes him a very worthy winner."

Lawrence Card added: "Winning the RTS Young Technologist of the Year Award is a great accolade and sense of achievement that I am proud of. I hope my enthusiasm and desire to

win the award helps encourage others to both go the extra mile with everything they do and consider applying for the award themselves."

Catherine Summer, Programme Manager, BBC New Talent Tech Schemes said: "Throughout the scheme, Lawrence has displayed an enthusiasm to harness new technology and provide the production teams with tools to enhance the way they engage audiences, and this determination and innovative thinking is why he's thoroughly deserving of the Young Technologist award."

Sylvain Thevenot, Managing Director, netgem.tv added: "It was an honour to sponsor the RTS Young Technologist of the Year Award, and we were very impressed with the passion for TV and technical knowledge of the candidates. We are very supportive and grateful to the RTS for encouraging young talent in the UK TV industry."

The runner up and recipient of the Coffey Award for Excellence in Technology 2019 is Jake Brightman, Studios Technical Assistant at ITN. Jake became an apprentice at ITN in 2017 and went onto to secure a full-time role in ITN's studios and technology department working across output for international clients including BBC, ITV, Channel 4, Discovery, NBC Universal and Netflix.

The Young Technologist Award was established by the RTS with funds received from the family of A.M. Beresford-Cooke – a distinguished engineer who contributed much to the development of British broadcasting technology through his work on towers and masts for VHF and UHF transmission. The aim of the award is to advance education in the science, practice, technology and art of television and its allied fields. The winner is awarded an all-expenses paid trip to IBC in addition to an invitation to the RTS Cambridge Convention 2019, while the runner-up receives the Coffey Award and a technical book of choice.

The RTS Young Technologist of the Year Award 2019 will be presented to the winner at the RTS Craft & Design Awards, which will take place on Monday 25th November at the London Hilton on Park Lane.

For further information visit: <https://rts.org.uk/awards/young-technologist-award>.

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Notes to Editors:

About The Royal Television Society:

From glamorous award ceremonies to lively debates, the RTS embraces all aspects of television, and is open to anyone with an interest in the medium.

As an educational charity, we encourage and celebrate work in television and its related fields, from finding out how the nation's favourite shows are made in our Anatomy of a Hit series, to celebrating burgeoning talent at our annual Student Awards.

The industry's most talented individuals give us an insight into the work that goes into making cutting edge contemporary TV. From Government ministers and CEOs to workshops with great runners, our events look at every part of the business.

Our annual Television Journalism, Programme, Craft and Design and Student Awards, celebrate achievements across the broadcasting industry.

Education is key to what the RTS does. Each year, we offer Television Production and Technology bursaries to help those from less affluent backgrounds get a foothold in the industry and Masterclass sessions bring together students, academics and industry heads.

RTS Futures, which is aimed at those in their first two years of employment, organises an exciting roster of discussion, training and social occasions. Recent events have included workshops on learning to format shows and how to survive as a freelancer, and expert panels explaining how to be the best researcher and how to make it on-screen.

Each year global television leaders gather to discuss what the future holds for television at our London Conference or the RTS Cambridge Convention.

Alongside our engaged community of over 4600 full members, the Society is supported by Britain and the world's biggest broadcasters, producers and consultants, including Principal Patrons BBC, BskyB, Channel 4 and ITV.

Originally founded as the Television Society in 1927, the Society was granted its Royal title in 1966 and HRH The Prince of Wales became Patron of the RTS in 1997.

Today, 14 regional and national groups curate lively events and awards around the UK and Ireland, from Glasgow to Galway.

About netgem.tv:

netgem.tv is: Your TV. Reinvented. The best of live TV, catch-up & on-demand streaming, all in one place, in a smart, relevant and personalised way.

netgem.tv is the result of 20 years of experience pioneering connected home entertainment, with viewers at the heart of innovation. It started with: the first connected TV box with ITV Digital in 2000, then BT iPlayer in 2002, the first connected PVR box with Fetch-TV in 2008, and more recently innovating with the advanced multiscreen EE TV since 2014. In 2018, netgem.tv expanded its Product portfolio with further innovations both in terms of Smart Devices (first all-in-one Soundbar & TV box with 'SoundBox') and Content: Freeview live TV, catch-up shows as well as the best from Premium On-Demand with first to market launching Freeview Play, Amazon Prime Video and Youtube combined on a TV box. netgem.tv is launching the personalised TV experience via a sophisticated mobile App - supporting recommendations, live and recording viewing, and cast the most popular On-Demand content. Netgem group is listed on NYSE Euronext Paris.