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WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR THE BLACK BRITISH BUSINESS AWARDS 2019

Ground-breaking Awards celebrating members of the black British business community, whose drive and success in their industry makes them stand out and shine above the rest.

The winners of the Black British Business Awards (BBBAwards) have been announced today. This list recognises the rising stars and senior leaders who represent the frontrunners of the UK's vibrant business sector. These include figureheads in STEM, innovative entrepreneurs and top corporate professionals in international institutions.

For the sixth year in a row, the BBBAwards's have provided a spotlight on the breadth of impact black professionals have provided to our economy. By transcending stereotypes and challenging unconscious bias, the awards highlight not only the need to have diverse voices within every business, but the financial contribution this provides to organisations.

Melanie Eusebe, Chair and Co-Founder of the Black British Business Awards said: "I am enormously proud of the winning talent in this year's BBBAwards and to be able to showcase such a versatile range of business excellence. Huge congratulations to Gisela Abbam, our Businessperson of the Year who's been a key player in implementing science at the heart of society and culture. Creative excellence has also shone through this year, with Sharon Watson giving a stage to underrepresented voices in the arts, and Aicha McKenzie changing the modelling landscapes idea of beauty. I wish all the winners the greatest success in their onward journey".

Gisela Abbam, Chair, British Science Association said: "I am humbled and honoured to be the Person of the Year for the 2019 BBBAwards. Being the first black chair of the British Science Association and being a role model has been very important to me. I wanted to make a difference in people's lives. I think that's what has speared me on – having a purpose, a passion, inspiring people alongside and behind me to ensure there is more diversity in talent and thought in everything that we do".

The Daily Telegraph is the national media partner at this year's awards ceremony for the third year running. Major event sponsors include Baker McKenzie, Barclays, Bloomberg, Cisco, Facebook, Goldman Sachs, J.P. Morgan, MediaCom, Morgan Stanley, The Executive Leadership Council and Thomson Reuters.

The BBBAwards ceremony distinguished outstanding black business professionals and entrepreneurs from the top of their game into six diverse industry categories, which are divided into rising stars and leadership awards. The winners for this year's awards are as follows:



Black British Businessperson of the Year

Gisela Abbam, Chair, British Science Association

Image Award

Dorothy Koomson, Author and Journalist

Arts & Media Rising Star

Yomi Adegoke and Elizabeth Uviebinene, Authors, Slay In Your Lane

Arts & Media Leader of the Year

Sharon Watson, Artistic Director, Phoenix Dance Theatre

Consumer & Luxury Rising Star

Uzo Okwuosa, Designer, Frank Horn

Consumer & Luxury Leader of the Year

Aicha Mckenzie, CEO and Director, AMCK Group

Entrepreneur Rising Star

Jamelia Donaldson, Founder, Treasure Tress

Entrepreneur Leader of the Year

Born Barikor, CEO and Founder, Our Parks

Financial Services Rising Star

Olusiji Sanya, Director, Co-Founder and CFO, Tranzfar

Financial Services Leader of the Year

Ireti Samuel-Ogbu, Managing Director, EMEA Head Payments & Receivables, Citigroup

Professional Services Rising Star

Macky O'Sullivan, Senior Associate, King & Spalding

Professional Services Leader of the Year

Teresa Owusu-Adjei, Partner, PwC

STEM Rising Star

Kayisha Payne, Associate Scientist, AstraZeneca PLC

STEM Leader of the Year

Sharon Lee, Associate Director, Arup

Alongside the award ceremony, 2019 marks a unique partnership between the BBBAwards, Cranfield University's School of Management and The Network of Networks. This year, the 100 Women to Watch list have spotlighted - for the first time - fifty leading professionals from BAME backgrounds alongside the Female FTSE Board report.



BBBAwards Twitter: @TheBBBAwards - hashtag #TheBBBAwards

BBBAwards Instagram: [instagram.com/thebbbawards](https://www.instagram.com/thebbbawards)

BBBAwards Facebook: www.facebook.com/bbbawards

BBBAwards LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/the-black-british-business-awards

For information on further media enquiries, please contact Madeleine Mann at press@thebbbawards.com

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The Black British Business Awards (BBBAwards) are the only premium awards programme to celebrate both the exceptional performance and outstanding achievements of black professionals and entrepreneurs in global, small and medium enterprises operating in Great Britain.

Over the last six years, it has grown into a powerful change agent for the wider BAME talent agenda, creating a hub where businesses share ideas and take away concrete actions to create working environments for all talented individuals to succeed.

The BBBAwards are designed to transcend stereotypes and highlight the often-unsung contributions of black people to the British economy.

For more information, visit <https://www.thebbbawards.com/>