



## Designer to the stars backs Leonardo funded awards

Zandra Rhodes to judge  
European Fashion Designer 2010



Lifelong Learning Programme

Also  
inside:

15 Years of the  
Leonardo programme

Sharing best practice  
in prison education

Apprenticeships and  
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# Welcome

## A social inclusion success story!

I want to use this space to congratulate Chris MacCormac and the team at Morthyng Group Limited in Rotherham whose Leonardo Mobility project was among 20 European success stories to be shortlisted for the 2010 European Awards for Lifelong Learning, recognising their contribution to this year's theme of social inclusion.

The project enabled 56 UK vocational trainees – many with physical or learning disabilities – to gain workplace experience in other European countries.

I would also like to congratulate the many other UK organisations involved in Leonardo and Grundtvig projects led by other European countries – also among the shortlisted projects. Your work is close to my heart since I'm currently involved in a European working group to prepare for the new generation of programmes. The UK wants to make the LLP more accessible and inclusive for people with fewer opportunities.

Well done to you all!



KURSAT

**Kursat Levent Egriboz**  
Director

UK National Agency  
Leonardo, Grundtvig and  
Transversal Programmes

View all the shortlisted projects at: <http://bit.ly/socialinclusion>  
To read about the winning projects go to <http://bit.ly/siwinners>



## Notice board

### Information Days

Take your first step towards a successful Leonardo, Grundtvig and Transversal application by attending one of our Information Days – to be held at nine UK locations between September and November.

We will write to all our mailing list subscribers with details of how to register as soon as venues and dates are confirmed. If you are not already subscribed, please do so at <http://bit.ly/lpmailinglist>



Over 50 people from 13 European countries, including National Agency representatives and policy

makers, met in Helsinki on 11 June. The purpose was to discuss the issues of social inclusion in the Lifelong Learning Programme and to identify practical solutions to making the LLP more inclusive and increase equality and diversity.

This event marked the first phase of the Inclusion initiative, which ECOTEC manages. The seminar theme was to 'Think! Open your mind...' about Inclusion in the LLP.

Follow the developments at [www.lpinclusion.eu](http://www.lpinclusion.eu)

### Leonardo funds opportunity of a lifetime for UK fashion students

Newham College in London has organised an international fashion competition with funding from Leonardo.

**European Fashion Designer 2010** is open to teams of fashion students across Europe.

The winners' garment will be constructed by a top fashion house in Lithuania before appearing on the catwalk at London Fashion Week in September this year. Students were asked to take their inspiration from a single piece at the celebrated Medieval and Renaissance galleries at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

"This is a great opportunity for fashion students who aren't studying a university or degree course in Europe to show their design ideas during London's Fashion Week" said Zandra Rhodes, the iconic British designer and competition judge.

Registration is now closed but you can view a full list of participants at <http://www.cipsonline.com>

“ I'll be looking for originality whilst still linking to our past. The winners will be a team who show they have really captured the style and energy of the medieval and renaissance period whilst incorporating their own unique and modern style. ”

Zandra Rhodes, Fashion Designer

### Bringing down barriers to employment in Europe

#### Finnish National Board of Education news

Leonardo da Vinci project promoters from North Glasgow College recently returned to the UK from Finland, where they attended the launch of the final phase of their Transfer of Innovation project.

Along with other UK organisations, the college will now begin to work with six Finnish vocational training providers to pilot the Finnish-European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training (FINECVET) on three vocational qualifications. The system will make it easier for qualifications to be recognised between countries.

Download all the event materials at:

[www.oph.fi/opetushallitus/kansainvalinen\\_toiminta](http://www.oph.fi/opetushallitus/kansainvalinen_toiminta)

#### News flash

We can help you promote your news, websites and publications.

Email your stories to: [llp@ecotec.com](mailto:llp@ecotec.com)

# Leonardo da Vinci



## “Were he alive today, Leonardo da Vinci might have been on a Mobility placement”

This year marks 15 years of the Leonardo Programme. Karine Jacques, Head of Leonardo in the UK, reflects on the programme’s achievements, and asks: what would Leonardo da Vinci himself have made of it all?

As we reach our 15th anniversary, I decided to delve into the history books to see how true the programme has remained to Leonardo da Vinci himself. Having done so, I think I can safely say that Leonardo would have been proud to see the thousands of organisations, working together in his name, to bring about measurable benefits for learners, organisations and employees involved in training across Europe.

Of course, we all know Leonardo the artist, but first and foremost he was an innovator and a scientist. It was his intellectual curiosity and his fascination with the details and the mechanics of the world that were the foundation of his work. His grand ideas, including helicopters and solar panels, have received a lot of attention. However Leonardo also contributed to notable inventions that entered the world of manufacturing during his lifetime – for example tools to test the tensile strength of wire and to grind convex lenses.

These examples make me think of the many ‘quiet’ innovations being developed and shared by Leonardo projects all the time. Such innovations, though unknown to most of us as we go about our daily lives, are nevertheless vitally important to a range of industries and professions.

For example, in the field of engineering, a UK organisation is working with partners to enable ship-building designers to develop their plans in 3D – allowing them to literally walk around their boat in virtual reality, before it has been built. Not only will this mean cost savings for industry, it will also have a tremendous impact on the creative process, as designs become living entities.

Similarly in medicine, doctors have developed software to enable trainees to practice certain new surgery techniques on technology, instead of on real people. There are softer outcomes too. If you are the parent of a child with autism, your family may have benefited from a new support package, also developed by a Leonardo project.

Leonardo was one of the first true Europeans, since his projects spanned the continent. He would have no doubt been pleased to see Turkey welcomed into the Lifelong Learning Programme, since he was once commissioned to design a 720ft bridge for Sultan Beyazid II of Istanbul. If he were alive now, he might even been a Leonardo participant. His time spent living and working in France could have been funded by a Leonardo Mobility grant!

Of course, Leonardo was not short of financial support, since he received most of his commissions from royalty, and the Medici dynasty in Florence. At that time, learning was only available to a privileged few. Today, the Leonardo programme is committed to allowing all vocational learners, whatever their personal circumstances, to follow in Leonardo's footsteps and experience vocational training across Europe.

In the UK alone this has meant that nearly 1,000 organisations – including colleges, local authorities, public services, businesses, and voluntary bodies – have benefited from Leonardo funding over the last three years. In the same period around 15,000 UK vocational trainees, apprentices, teachers and trainers have received funding to attend work and study placements across more than 30 countries.

I am proud to be responsible for involving the UK in this great meeting of minds. At a time when Europe is facing increasing financial uncertainty and growing competition from around the world, the Leonardo programme can help us face this challenge together by sharing ideas and learning from one another.

Through our collective endeavours we can achieve so much more than we could on our own. As Leonardo said: *"I have been impressed with the urgency of doing. Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Being willing is not enough; we must do."*

Then and now...

## Leonardo Mobility

Leonardo da Vinci lived and worked in Amboise, France (pictured) in the last years of his life at the request of King Francis I.

Each year approximately 5,000 vocational trainees and staff are able to experience life living and working in other European countries with **Leonardo Mobility** funding.



## Leonardo Transfer of Innovation

From 1510 to 1511 Leonardo collaborated in his studies with the doctor Marcantonio della Torre (pictured) on a theoretical work of anatomy - published 160 years after his death.

**Transfer of Innovation** allows organisations to work together to transfer and adapt specialised training for their sector – although the products of the partnership need to be produced during the project, not over a century later.

## Leonardo Partnerships

Many of Leonardo's great masterpieces are, in all probability the product of partnerships. His earliest known paintings include the Annunciation (pictured), which he painted with Verrocchio. Verrocchio's workshop brought together the finest painters of the day including Ghirlandaio, Perugino, and Botticelli.



Today hundreds of organisations are involved in small-scale **Leonardo Partnerships** every year. Partners work together on a theme of mutual interest and share experience and working practices in vocational education and training. Many involve trainees and apprentices in the project, as Leonardo did.

# European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion

## Special event: celebrating success in prison education

In February 2010 the European Commission held a major European conference in Budapest on education and training in the context of prisons and the resettlement of offenders. Co-hosted by the Hungarian Prison Service, the event brought together some 240 people from over 30 European countries, including all EU Member States. The conference involved stakeholders with an interest in prison education and training, including both practitioners and policy-makers from across Europe.

The UK was well-represented, with Grundtvig and Leonardo project promoters in attendance, as well as some high-profile delegates from the Ministry of Justice and the devolved authorities. The keynote speech was delivered by Professor Tom Schüller, author of the recent report on “Crime and Lifelong Learning” and director of the high-level UK “Inquiry into the Future for Lifelong Learning”.

**Tip!** Our catalogue of previous Leonardo and Grundtvig prison Partnerships is a great source of inspiration for anyone thinking of applying for funding in this area.

Download it at:

<http://bit.ly/prisonprojects>

This conference was organised as part of the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion 2010. The year is about challenging stereotypes and collective perceptions by giving a voice to the concerns of people who live with poverty and social exclusion.

## PAN Project Exhibition

The conference included the ‘Travelling Exhibition of Prison Art’ by the Prison Arts Network (PAN) - a network of organisations involved in adult arts education for prison inmates and ex-offenders across Europe. The artwork was a true testament to how creativity can be found in unlikely places, given the right opportunity and motivation.

For more information on their work visit the website [www.panproject.org](http://www.panproject.org)





HM PRISON Isle of Wight

## Q&A with Jackie Bradshaw

Education Department, Her Majesty's Prison (HMP) Isle of Wight

### Tell us a bit about your Grundtvig Partnership project.

"My project was called 'By Learners for Learners'. The coordinating country was Hungary and the partners were from Belgium, Portugal and the UK. All of the partners in the project work with students with specific learning difficulties or with students whose first language wasn't English. They were all very reluctant writers. Our aim was quite simple – we wanted to motivate the reluctant writers by giving them a purpose, and that purpose was that their work was going to be published and it was going to be read by learners in other countries. We also had a Yahoo group website, and this meant that the families and friends of the prisoners who had written the work could access it and see what they had achieved."

### What is the relevance of the Grundtvig programme to prison education?

"It gives us the chance to think outside of the box, we can be creative and we can come up with ideas to inspire the prisoners, which we might not otherwise be able to do, so it is vitally important for prison education."

### How have you benefited personally and professionally from attending the conference?

"The ability to be able to talk to fellow professionals from other prisons - sometimes we feel a bit isolated! But it's just so motivating, to talk to other people, who are inspired by prison education and are passionate about it, and to share ideas."

If you would like to find out more about Grundtvig Partnerships or about opportunities to attend European conferences, seminars or training courses on any aspect of non-vocational Adult Education, please visit the Grundtvig website [www.grundtvig.org.uk](http://www.grundtvig.org.uk)

To find out about Leonardo Partnerships visit [www.leonardo.org.uk](http://www.leonardo.org.uk)



### Did you know?

Jackie attended the conference with a Grundtvig Visits & Exchanges grant, which covered her travel, accommodation and subsistence costs.

Find out more about Grundtvig Visits & Exchanges grants at <http://bit.ly/grundtvigvande>

# Leonardo Mobility

## Give your apprentices a European experience with Leonardo Mobility...

If you are already employing or training apprentices within your organisation you can apply for funding under the Leonardo Programme to complement their training plan with European work experience.

Leonardo Mobility funding supports apprentices to undertake a work placement abroad to acquire new skills, training and work experience which is relevant to their apprenticeship.

These work placements will benefit your apprentices by:

- Providing them with a unique opportunity for exposure to new and advanced training and techniques.
- Opening their minds to practices and systems in other European countries.
- Giving them a unique high quality apprenticeship experience.

For more information on how to send your apprentices abroad visit [www.leonardo.org.uk](http://www.leonardo.org.uk)

### Did you know?

Improving opportunities for apprentices is a national and European priority. This year you will be awarded extra points on your application if you are applying for Leonardo Mobility funding in order to send apprentices abroad.

Contact us for more information on 0845 199 2929.

### Interested in a Leonardo Mobility project for your apprentices?

#### Think about...

##### What you want to do and how you are going to do it?

What skills would you like your apprentices to develop and what work placements would be suitable?

##### Where will your participants be going and why?

You can send your participants to any of the participating European Union Member States, EFTA/EEA countries, Turkey, Croatia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

##### Who you want to work with?

Find suitable partners using your own networks or search our Partner Search Database of over 3000 organisations from across Europe: [www.leonardo.org.uk/partnersearch](http://www.leonardo.org.uk/partnersearch)

##### What resources do you have available?

Think about who will organise the project and how much time is required. Leonardo Mobility is a light touch programme using lump sums of funding making it easy to manage and report on.

# SIEMENS

## UK engineering apprentices spend two weeks at Siemens in Germany

Twelve advanced engineering apprentices from Durham went on a two-week work placement to Siemens AG Energy Sector Training Centre in Germany with funding from Leonardo Mobility.

Whilst at Siemens they worked on a competitive design project and were tutored by Siemens graduate engineering apprentices.

The project co-ordinator in the UK, South West Durham Training Ltd, organised mandatory German language preparation and cultural lessons for participants to attend four months prior to their work placement. This helped prepare them for living and working in Germany and ensured they were able to make the most of their experience.

During the two week placement the apprentices worked on a variety of tasks and activities, including Computer Aided Design, technical drawing and material and resource procurement.

As well as coming home with greatly improved engineering and communication skills the apprentices received certificates acknowledging their individual achievements and the outcomes of the placement.

“ Under the guidance of some excellent Siemens AG Energy Sector Apprentices I managed to gain an advanced level in Computer Aided Design and made some great friends in the process. I had never been to Germany before but loved every minute, we had great fun with trips to Bonn, Cologne, Essen and Bottrop. I had some amazing experiences whilst on the programme and will remember it as one of my best trips for the rest of my life! ”

Mark Coatsworth, Apprentice



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# Thematic Networking

## Thematic Networking

### Thematic Networking Groups link lifelong learning practice to policy development



Our latest Thematic Networking Event was held on the 25 May 2010 at Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh. This was our first event in Scotland and over 70 delegates heard from Hugh McAloon, Deputy Director for Employability and Skills at the Scottish Government about the refreshed skills strategy for Scotland.

Jonathan Piggins from the Joint International Unit of the UK Government spoke about the role and the work of the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development). Delegates also heard about the exciting Inclusion project led by the UK National Agency.

Thematic Networking Groups (TNGs) provide an opportunity for interested stakeholders to share information, exchange innovative practice and work together to make sure the Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) is relevant to, and influences, current or future policy. Members meet twice a year to discuss policy developments and network with other organisations involved in the Lifelong Learning Programme.

“ This was my first Thematic Networking Group meeting and I was impressed by the wide range of expertise the event was able to gather together under the very well-organised auspices of ECOTEC. The TNGs are an important forum for practitioners and policy-makers to exchange ideas and best practice in order to develop and improve the Lifelong Learning Programme. The Edinburgh event was a great example of putting these aims into practice. ”

**Jonathan Piggins,**

Contract Manager, International Education Organisations and EU Programmes DfE, BIS, DWP Joint International Unit

## Join the debate!

Anyone can sign up to become a virtual member of the Thematic Networking Groups and receive bi-monthly updates and event reports. You can also get involved in sending us any relevant news relating to the topic of discussion.

There are four TNGs that you can be involved in:

### Group 1:

Transparency of qualifications and skills, including recognition of informal and non-formal learning

### Group 2:

Continuous training of learning professionals

### Group 3:

Meeting training and skills needs

### Group 4:

Working with under-represented groups

The topics of the groups reflect current debates in UK national policy and at European level.

Contact our helpline on **0845 199 2929** for details or visit [www.transversal.org.uk/thematicnetworking](http://www.transversal.org.uk/thematicnetworking)

## Q&A with Bonnie Dudley-Edwards

Edinburgh University Settlement



We caught up with Bonnie Dudley-Edwards, a member of TNG 1, following the group's meeting at our Edinburgh event. The group had just been discussing recent developments in ECVET (the European Credit System for Vocational Education and Training) – a system that makes it easier for people to get their qualifications recognised when they travel between European countries to find employment.

### How does your job link to Thematic Networking?

"My job is Development Officer at the Edinburgh University Settlement (the charitable organisation founded in 1905 by the University of Edinburgh). Since 2005 I have been working as a partner in European projects funded centrally from Brussels which have a strong link to the Thematic Networking Group 1 theme."

### What do you think are the benefits of being involved in Thematic Networking?

"I can keep abreast of developments in Europe and the UK in the Thematic Networking Group 1 field. It helps me to play my part effectively in the progression, dissemination and exploitation of relevant Lifelong Learning Programme ideals and initiatives."

### What are your overall thoughts about Thematic Networking?

"It is very important that ECOTEC are reporting on developments in all thematic fields and bringing key stakeholders together. Otherwise, progress in the UK in these fields may be ad hoc and random, and may occur along parallel lines rather than in harmony. In particular, people who are working in projects funded directly from Brussels, with lead partners not from the UK, need to be able to see an overall UK dimension."



You can find out more about Thematic Networking and download all the presentations from the Edinburgh event at: [www.transversal.org.uk/thematicnetworking](http://www.transversal.org.uk/thematicnetworking)

# First steps to funding

## Step 1: get in touch

Our websites contain detailed information about all of the opportunities available. If you have any questions just give us a call.

Our dedicated team will find out a little bit about you and will help you find the activity that's right for you.

## Step 2: see what others are doing

Our websites contain a 'Projects around the UK' map which allows you to view case studies from organisations similar to your own. Reading about others' experiences will give you a clearer idea about what you could do.

## Step 3: stay in the loop

Be sure to subscribe to our monthly e-flash bulletins. This way you'll receive plenty of advance warning about application deadlines, new guidance documents and forthcoming events.

Subscribe now at <http://bit.ly/llpmailinglist>

We'd love to know what you think about edUKation. To comment on an article or suggest topics for future editions, please get in touch at [edUKation@ecotec.com](mailto:edUKation@ecotec.com)

## Useful contacts

**Leonardo** is for you if you're involved in vocational education and training:

**Website:** [www.leonardo.org.uk](http://www.leonardo.org.uk)

**Email:** [leonardo@ecotec.com](mailto:leonardo@ecotec.com)

**Helpline:** 0845 199 2929

**Grundtvig** is the place to look if you're involved in adult education:

**Website:** [www.grundtvig.org.uk](http://www.grundtvig.org.uk)

**Email:** [grundtvig@ecotec.com](mailto:grundtvig@ecotec.com)

**Helpline:** 0845 199 1919

If you plan or oversee education or training provision, you may be able to go on a week-long **Transversal** Study Visit:

**Website:** [www.transversal.org.uk](http://www.transversal.org.uk)

**Email:** [studyvisits@ecotec.com](mailto:studyvisits@ecotec.com)

**Helpline:** 0845 199 3939

For general enquiries, call 0845 199 2929 or email [llp@ecotec.com](mailto:llp@ecotec.com)

For information about the Comenius (schools) or Erasmus (Higher Education) programmes see: [www.lifelonglearningprogramme.org.uk](http://www.lifelonglearningprogramme.org.uk)



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