

**NEWS RELEASE! NEWS RELEASE! NEWS RELEASE!**

**COLLEGE STUDENT WINS PRESTIGIOUS APPRENTICE  
AWARD**

18 May 2008



**A young woman studying to become a professional painter and decorator, has been awarded regional winner of the Apprentice of the Year award in a prestigious competition run by the Learning & Skills Council (LSC).**

Charlotte Nelson (20) is currently studying on an Apprenticeship in Painting & Decorating at Cambridge Regional College. Charlotte works four days a week at property maintenance firm Smallworx in Saffron Walden, and attends College one day a week.

Charlotte was awarded the prestigious title by BBC Presenter Stewart White at the regional finals presentation ceremony held at the Radisson SAS Hotel in Stansted last week.

Charlotte says: "Since starting my apprenticeship I have gained much more confidence and I feel proud to have won this award, not only for me, but for the company I work for and the college training me. It is such a privilege to be recognised for all my hard work during the apprenticeship. I'm also the only girl out of nine men

in a painting and decorating company so it's even nicer that as a girl my work was recognised"

The Apprenticeship Awards are organised and funded by the LSC. They are designed to reward employers in the region who successfully use Apprenticeships to improve their business and to recognise the achievements of people currently on, or have recently completed, an Apprenticeship. Entries were up by over 30% for the Apprenticeship Awards and judges faced a tough decision when it came to choosing the winners.

Area director for the LSC, Janice Logie, said: "Charlotte has shown great talent and determination to succeed in a trade which normally doesn't attract young women. I hope she feels proud to not only win this award but also to be upheld as an example to other young women and men who are passionate about succeeding against the odds in their chosen career or profession."

CRC has had several successes in this competition in past years and has also just seen Hairdressing Apprentice Bethany Cainzos-Sola receive the Gold Medal award at the National Hairdressing Championships in Blackpool earlier this year.