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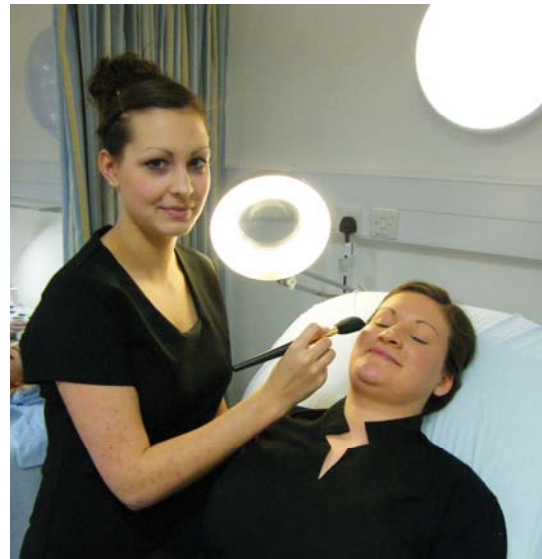
Press Release

KATIE AND LAURA TAKE GOLD AND SILVER AT WORLDSKILLS UK FINALS

Outstanding young beauty therapist Katie Wright and media make-up student Laura Nicholas are celebrating after winning gold and silver at the national finals of the prestigious WorldSkills UK competition on Saturday (26 June).



Laura working on her creation



Katie practising her skills

The two talented students from Cambridge Regional College impressed the judges during a rigorous assessment of their skills, with Katie taking gold in the Advanced Beauty Therapy competition and Laura winning silver for her stunning entry in the Media Make-up final.

Celia Weir, Head of the Catering, Hair and Beauty Academy at CRC, said she was absolutely delighted at the achievements of the two girls.

“These are superb results for the girls and the College,” she said. “I am very pleased that Katie won the gold medal for the Advanced Beauty skills - it is an amazing achievement for her and her tutors.

“Laura’s success in winning silver in the Media Make-Up competition is another wonderful result, particularly as it is the first time we have entered this area of the competition. They are two outstanding students and we are delighted that they have done so well.”

Eighteen year-old Katie – who was one of the students chosen to meet Prince Andrew during his visit to the College last month - has just finished her course at CRC and hopes to set up business as a beauty therapist near her home in St Ives.

“We had to think on our feet during the competition and adapt our treatments to suit particular clients. I’m over the moon to have won gold – it’s fantastic,” said Katie, who lives in Ansley Way, St Ives. “As well as the gold medal, I won a two-day break at a spa in Staffordshire – so I’ll be relaxing while someone else does the treatments!”

Laura, who lives in Gannets Close, Haverhill, won the silver medal for her amazing creation of an alien’s costume. The theme of the final was metamorphosis, and Laura spent several weeks working on an alien-like costume created with different pieces of latex body art which she put together and painted on the day of the competition under the watchful eye of the judges.

The 19 year-old Media Make-Up student – who last month was chosen to present a gift of a mask to Prince Andrew when he visited the College – hopes to use her special effects talents to develop a career in films when she completes her course.

Fellow CRC student Rachel Hine, who also won through to the finals of the Advanced Beauty competition, performed extremely well but was not among the medal-winners.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For more information, please contact Lynn O'Shea, PR & Events Co-ordinator, on 01223 418773 or email loshea@camre.ac.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

Cambridge Regional College is the second largest provider of full-time education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has around 3,500 full-time and 6,000 part-time students. Students come in from a 40-mile radius, covering Cambridge and its surrounding villages, eastern Bedfordshire, northern Essex and western Suffolk.

Over 80 per cent of full-time students are aged 16 to 18 years old and come to the College after secondary school; the rest are mature students, studying on a range of Access to Higher Education and vocational programmes.