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Press Release

STUDENTS USE RETRO ART TO TRANSFORM SHOP WINDOW DISPLAY

Three talented arts students at Cambridge Regional College have transformed the windows of a Cambridge shop with a stunning ‘retro’ display of vintage camera bags – winning their way into the finals of a prestigious international competition.

The young artists, all studying fashion and textiles at the College, reinvented old camera and lens cases for a window display at Campkins Camera Centre in Rose Crescent.

Their superb work caught the eye of judges in the Society of Dyers and Colourists Design Competition and a place in the finals at London Metropolitan University, competing against third year degree students.

Jessica Smith, 20, Jessica Bradbury, 17, and Ayesha Moazzam, 19, were the only Further Education students to enter the competition, and their work was praised by judges for its high standard and good use of recycling.

Textiles lecturer Roger Prime said: “Our students were the youngest in the competition and the only ones who had entered from an FE College - all the rest were third year degree students. They held their own against the other competitors, who were amazed that they were only National Diploma students.



Ayesha Moazzam, Jessica Bradbury and Jessica Smith with Barry Howell outside Campkins

“We’re very proud of them. All competitors had to meet the judges to talk about their work and were then given feedback, which the students thought was great and very helpful.

“The judges were also impressed that they were still studying on a BTEC National Diploma Art & Design Level 3 course and that we had instilled the importance of recycling and sustainability into our curriculum.”

The students used Campkins’ stock of vintage camera bags to create the window display, which features photographs, prints of fabric designs used in the project, and two completed samples.

Barry Howell, the owner of Campkins – one of the oldest independent photographic retailers in the country – said it was wonderful to see how old items had been transformed by the students.

“It is wonderful to see things recycled. We live in an age of waste, even with cameras, and anything that involves recycling and rejuvenating is good,” he said.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES

For more information, please contact Lynn O’Shea, Communications & PR Manager, on 01223 418773 or email loshea@camre.ac.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

Cambridge Regional College is the second largest provider of full-time further education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has more than 4,000 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. The College offers the largest and most comprehensive range of vocational courses in Cambridgeshire, and has one of the largest work-based learning contracts in the Eastern Region.